8

Care and Maintenance of Fabrics

8.1 Introduction

We all know that the clothes we wear get dirty. They have to be washed, dried and ironed regularly for a neater appearance, personal cleanliness and their longer life. Not only should the fabrics be carefully selected, but they should be properly cared for throughout their life.

You also know that all fabrics are not washed by the same method. For some fabrics you use hot water, while others are washed only in cold water. Some are washed with detergents while others with mild soaps. Some fabrics are dried in the sun, others in the shade. Some are hung on the clothesline, others are dried flat on the ground and so on. This means, for different types of fabrics, there are different methods of washing.

Let us find out what these methods are and how to take care of various types of fabrics.

8.2 Objectives

After reading this lesson you will be able to:

- explain the meaning and importance of laundering;
- list the steps of laundering with significance of each step;
- explain the meaning and importance of stain removal;
- remove different types of stains from fabrics;
- describe the different methods of washing i.e., friction, pressure, etc;
select the best way of laundering fabrics like silk, wool, cotton and synthetics;

select appropriate methods of ironing and storing garments.

8.3 Meaning of Laundering

Most of us think that “laundering” means only washing of clothes. But actually it includes proper drying, finishing and storing as well. Therefore, we can say laundering consists of three main steps:

(i) washing the fabrics to remove the dirt.
(ii) Finishing the fabrics by use of starch, gum, blue, etc., followed by ironing and pressing.
(iii) Storing the fabric by properly folding it.

Laundering means removing dirt from clothes by washing and then finishing them (i.e., starching, ironing) thereby giving them a neat and clean appearance.

8.4 Importance of Laundering

Why do we launder clothes? Well, we all know that when we wear clothes they become dirty due to the dirt, grease, perspiration etc. The dry dirt can be easily shaken off the clothes, but greasy dirt requires a special treatment called laundering. If dirt is left on clothes:

(i) It is harmful for personal hygiene
(ii) The clothes do not look neat or fresh
(iii) It leaves a permanent mark called stain
(iv) It affects the strength of the fabric.

INTEXT QUESTIONS 8.1

State whether the following statements are true or false-

(i) Dirty clothes are harmful for personal hygiene.
(ii) Laundering is the same as washing clothes.
(iii) Sorting of articles is done only on the basis of their fibre content.
(iv) Soaking articles in water loosens the dirt.
(v) Stains should not be removed from the fabrics before washing.
8.5 Care and Maintenance of Fabrics

This care includes:

- Brushing and airing of garments.
- Mending of damaged garments
- Immediate stain removal
- Intelligent selection of laundry method
- Proper ironing
- Storage

Now let us study these individually.

8.6 Brushing and airing

Proper airing and brushing gives a long life to a fabric which is not washable and does not require frequent dry cleaning. It also keeps the fabric looking bright and attractive. You must have seen that any fabric with a piled surface, attracts a lot of dust. It not only dirties the fabrics but also weakens it. Let us list some such fabrics. They are velvets, cordury, cotswool, woollen fabrics, carpets, chenille, etc. Fig. 8.1

Hang these fabrics on a thick hanger-air them outdoors if possible. Other wise, you can take them out of your almirah, hang in a well ventilated room. Brush the fabric gently but firmly in the direction of the pile. The clothes brush should have soft but firm bristles. Clothes brushes are available in any good general provision shop.

8.7 Mending Damaged Garments

Always mend the torn fabric before further use or laundering. Temporary mending with the help of safety pins is not safe. Laundering can make the tears larger or cause fraying. You must have seen that not only is it more difficult to mend frayed fabric, it is also more visible after mending.

8.8 Immediate Stain Removal

You know that before washing garments, the stains should be removed from them. But what is a stain? We have seen various marks on clothes, other than dirt, for example, you may get a curry or pickle stain on your shirt while eating or an ink stain while writing or a paint stain if you accidently come in contact with a newly painted door. Such marks are called stains and if allowed to stay for long they make the clothes look ugly.

A stain is an unwanted mark of discolouration on a fabric caused due to contact with another substance, which can not be removed by the normal washing process and requires special treatment.
The basic principle of successful stain removal is not allowing the stain to become set. Since a fresh stain dissolves easily, care should be taken to remove it at the first opportunity. Different fibres and different types of stains require different types of stain removing. Use of incorrect stain removing agent can spoil a fabric. Identifying the stain is very helpful in the selection of appropriate stain removing agent and method.

**HOW TO IDENTIFY A STAIN**

Stains can be identified by their-

a) **Colour:** Every stain has a specific colour. For example, curry/pickle stains are yellow while coffee/tea stains are brown, grass stain is green, etc.

b) **Smell:** Some stains have a peculiar smell, eg, stains of egg or paint, by which they can be recognized.

c) **Feel:** Some stains also change the feel of the fabric and can be recognized on that basis. For example paint makes the fabric stiff to touch whereas Lipstick or shoepolish make the fabric feel slippery.

**ACTIVITY**

Take white fabric pieces 4" by 4". Stain them with lipstick, nailpolish, ink, shoepolish, curry, pickle, milk, blood, etc. Shuffle them and then try to identify them.

**HOW TO CLASSIFY STAINS**

Stains can be broadly classified as:

1. Vegetable stains - tea, coffee, fruits, etc.
2. Animal stains - milk, blood, egg, ice cream, curd, etc.
3. Grease stains - pickle, curry, shoe polish, lipstick, etc.
4. Mineral stains - rust
5. Grass stain
6. Miscellaneous stains - dye, ink, ball point pen, mildew, perspiration, etc.

**METHODS OF STAIN REMOVAL**

What happens when you spill some thing on yourself? You immediately try to clean it. How do you do it? You either wet another fabric and try to wipe the stain clean. We call this method **sponging**. What happens if the stain is very big or is spread all over your dress? You put the entire dress in a bucket full of water. Let us call this method **dipping**.

**Dipping** - Dipping is a method in which the entire fabric can be dipped in the stain remover. It is very convenient if there are many stains or there is a large stain on the fabric. You can choose the stain remover depending upon the type of stain. What is the most common stain remover? Yes, it is water.
Sponging: You know that it is the most common method of removing the stain, you are always using this method. Let us study the correct method of sponging.

Place an absorbent paper or fabric under the stain. This is called the blotter. It helps in absorbing the stain and the stain removing agent. It also prevents the stain from spreading. The blotter must be changed as soon as it starts showing staining. The blotter is placed on the right side of the stain and the sponging in done on the wrong side of the stain. Now, take a soft cloth, dip it in the stain remover, gently rub the stain. Starting from outer corner of the stain towards the center, use light, circular strokes.

Do you know why we sponge this way? So, that the stain does not spread to other areas.

Remember: It is important to wash the fabric well after the stain is removed so that all the chemicals used are completely removed, as the chemicals can weaken the fabric.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stains</th>
<th>White Cottons</th>
<th>Coloured Cottons</th>
<th>Silk and Woolens</th>
<th>Synthetics (nylons, polyesters, acrylics)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tea, Coffee/Chocolate</td>
<td>Fresh</td>
<td>Soak in warm water and borax (2 cups of water + ½ teaspoon of borax).</td>
<td>Same as for coloured cottons.</td>
<td>Same as for coloured cottons.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fruit</td>
<td>Old</td>
<td>Same as for white cottons.</td>
<td>Pour hydrogen peroxide solution and gently rub to remove stain.</td>
<td>Dip in warm water and a few drops of sodium perborate till the stain is removed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blood, Egg, Meat</td>
<td>Fresh</td>
<td>Same as for white cottons.</td>
<td>Same as for white cottons.</td>
<td>Same as for white cottons.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Old</td>
<td>Same as for white cottons.</td>
<td>Same as for white cottons.</td>
<td>Same as for white cottons.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Butter, Ghee, Oil, Curry</td>
<td>Fresh</td>
<td>Same as for white cottons.</td>
<td>Wash with warm water and soap.</td>
<td>Same as for silk for woollens.</td>
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</table>
### Stains

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<tr>
<th>Fabrics</th>
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<th>Coloured Cottons</th>
<th>Silk and Woolens</th>
<th>Synthetics (nylons, polyesters, acrylics)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Old</strong></td>
<td>Make a paste of soap and water and apply it on stain. Leave in sunlight until it is removed.</td>
<td>Same as for white cottons but leave in shade; not in sunlight.</td>
<td>Same as for coloured cottons, but use a mild soap.</td>
<td>Same as for silk and woollens.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: When stain is fresh, apply talcum powder on it and leave it for a few hours. Brush off the powder. This helps to absorb the grease in the stain. This can be done for all fabrics.

### Paint, shoe polish, nail polish, lipstick, ball pen

**Fresh**
- Scrape out all excess stain.
- (a) Rub gently with spirit or kerosene.
- (b) Sponge with turpentine.

**Old**
- Repeat the above method two or three times.

### Grass

**Fresh**
- Wash with soap and water.

**Old**
- Dip the stained portion in methylated spirit.

### Ink

**Fresh**
- Wash with cold water and soap.

**Old**
- (a) Soak in sour butter milk (lassi) for some time.
- (b) Bleach the stain
PRECAUTIONS WHILE REMOVING STAINS

Stains should be removed very carefully. If some general precautions are not observed, you might cause damage to the fabric itself. So, whenever you have to remove a stain, do the following:

1. As far as possible, remove the stain when it is fresh
2. Find out whether the stained fabric is cotton, woollen, silk, or synthetic
3. Try to identify the stain
4. For unknown stains, start the stain removal with a simpler process and then move on to a complex one
5. Use chemicals which do not damage the fabric
6. For delicate and/or coloured fabrics try out the chemical being used on a small portion of the fabric first. In case the fabric is damaged, do not use it
7. Repeated use of a milder reagent is better than a one-time use of a strong regent

8. Wash all fabrics with soapy solution at the end to remove all traces of chemicals from it

9. Dry fabrics in the sun as sunlight acts as a natural bleach.

**ACTIVITY**

Take two white cotton hankies. Apply four different stains on each corner.

(A) Remove the stains while fresh using suitable method of stain removal.

(B) Remove the stains when they are 2 day old.

Paste these samples in your note book.

**INTEXT QUESTIONS 8.2**

1. Unscramble the following jumbled words. Fill only one better in each box, to form types of stains.
   
i. LDOBO
   ii. RETUTB
   iii. TRUIF
   iv. KPLCIE

2. For removing each of the following stains, choose the most appropriate method out of the four given:
   
(i) Old tea stain on a white cotton fabric
    (a) Use salt water
    (b) Soak in glycerine
    (c) Soak in lime juice
    (d) Pour boiling water

(ii) Old blood stain on a coloured cotton fabric
    (a) Use salt water
    (b) Soak in glycerine
    (c) Soak in hot water
    (d) Wash with soap and hot water

(iii) Lipstick stain
    (a) Use salt water
    (b) Soak in glycerine
(c) Soak in methylated spirit
(d) Wash with hot water and soap

(iv) Rust stain
(a) Use salt water
(b) Use lime juice and salt
(c) Soak in methylated spirit
(d) Wash with soap and cold water

(v) Fresh butter stain on silk
(a) Wash with cold water
(b) Wash with cold water and soap
(c) Apply salt and leave in the sun
(d) Wash with warm water and soap

(vi) Nail polish stain on a polyester fabric
(a) Soak in methylated spirit
(b) Soak in warm water
(c) Soak in cold water
(d) Soak in warm water and soap

(vii) Fresh ink stain on a woollen fabric
(a) Wash with cold water and soap
(b) Wash with boiling water and soap
(c) Use salt and lime juice
(d) Soak in methylated spirit

### 8.9 Selection of proper laundry method

Properties of fibres should be kept in mind while laundering fabrics. Do you remember that cotton becomes stronger when wet while rayon loses its strength? That is why one can wash cottons by rubbing. But rayon has to be treated gently. Also, wool and silk need special care as woollens loose shape in water and silk loses strength.

There are a few steps we must follow while laundering clothes. These are-

- Sorting
- Soaking
• Washing
• Rinsing
• Blueing
• Starching
• Drying
• Ironing

Articles to be washed should be sorted out on the basis of the fibre type, colour and degree of dirt. i.e., cotton, woollens, silks, and synthetics should be separated. White articles should be washed separately from coloured ones. Also, very dirty articles like dusters should be washed separately.

After you have mended clothes, removed the stains, sorted and soaked the clothes, the actual washing starts. You know that some portions like cuffs and collars need extra rubbing because they become more dirty. The clothes worn next to the skin e.g., underwear absorb all the perspiration. This can weaken the fabric. So these articles must be washed everyday.

While selecting the method of washing the main factors to be considered are-

(i) How dirty is the fabric
(ii) What kind of fabric it is i.e., cotton, silk, wool, rayon, nylon, and so on
(iii) Whether it is coloured or white.

Laundering is generally done by:

I Friction washing
II Kneading and squeezing
III Washing by machines

Let us now discuss these methods in detail.

(I) **FRICTION WASHING**

This method is suitable for washing strong fabrics like cotton. Friction can be applied as follows:

a) Washing by hand friction: This means rubbing vigorously with the hand. It is suitable for cleaning very soiled small articles like small garments, handkerchief, etc. It is economical in the use of soap.

b) Friction by use of a plastic scrubbing brush: It is suitable for very soiled household articles made of strong fabric, eg., dusters.
c) Beating with a stick: Large articles like bed sheets are washed by this method but this might damage the fabric.

(II) WASHING BY KNEADING AND SQUEEZING

This method is used for delicate fabrics like silk, woollens, rayon, etc. This method does not damage the fabric or change its shape as only gentle rubbing with hands is done.

(III) WASHING BY MACHINES

Washing machine is a labour saving device, especially useful for large institutions. Now a days it is being used at home also. The washing time varies with types of fabrics and amount of soiling. Woollens take less time than cottons to get cleaned. The instructions with the machine should be read carefully before using it. Washing machines are available in two models - automatic and semi-automatic. The advantage of using washing machines is that you can dry the clothes in the spinner so that manual wringing of clothes is avoided. This is specially useful while washing heavy articles like bedcovers, curtains, etc.

8.10 Laundering Specific Fabrics

(A) COTTONS

Soaking

Soaking helps to loosen dirt from the fabrics. White clothes and the very dirty clothes are soaked in soap solutions. Remember to soak them separately. Soaking makes it easier to wash clothes and thus reduces the time and energy required for washing.

The precautions that you should take while soaking are:

(a) Use sufficient water for soaking.
(b) Use warm to hot water for soaking dirty articles.
(c) Do not put too many clothes together.
(d) Soak clothes only for an hour or two and not overnight.
(e) Do not soak coloured clothes at all, as the colour may get affected.

Washing

Use warm to hot water for very dirty and white articles and cold water for coloured articles (so that the colour does not fade). Use friction method of washing. For very dirty areas, use extra soap and rub hard with the hand or brush. Avoid using a very hard brush as it can damage the fabric. For embroidered cotton articles, wrap a cloth around the brush and then apply friction on the fabric. This will make the brush action milder. For white cottons use lukewarm water only.
Rinsing
After washing the articles, rinse them thoroughly i.e., put the articles as many times as necessary in clean water to remove the soap completely. You may use cold water for rinsing.

Stiffening
All cotton articles except undergarments and those garments which are close fitting (like blouse) can be stiffened by applying starch. Starching is done to give cottons a smooth, shining and fresh look. Starched articles do not get dirty easily.

To prepare starch: you will need 1 part of maida or ‘arrow root’ powder, cold water and 6 parts of boiling water. First mix the starch powder (maida or arrow root powder) with enough cold water to make a smooth, thin paste. When the water boils, add this starch paste to it. Keep stirring till it thickens and the starch becomes transparent. Remove from fire. Cool before using.

To starch clothes:
• Add some of the starch paste in a basin of water and mix well. If heavy starching is required add more starch and for mild starching add less starch.
• Open the articles, wet it in water then dip it in the starch solution.
• Squeeze the article well and hang it in the sun to dry.
• For heavily starched articles do not squeeze too hard.

Note: The amount of stiffness to be given is a matter of personal preference. But generally, table linen like mats, table cloth, tray cloth, napkins, etc., are heavily starched. Personal garments are lightly starched. Infant clothes and garments worn next to the skin, like undergarments are not starched at all.

ACTIVITY
Take a cotton dupatta. Starch half the ‘dupatta’ after washing it properly. Dry it in the sunlight. Note the difference between the starched portion and the non-starched portion. Tick the suitable columns.

1. Looks shining
2. Feels soft
3. Appears fresh

Blueing
Blueing is done only for white articles. Normally, when white clothes are washed, they lose some of their whiteness and begin to look yellow. So blueing is done to make them
look white again. The method is simple. A teaspoon or so of the washing blue is tied in a thin cloth and stirred in water. If the blue is in liquid form, then a few drops of it are added to the water. In both the cases, the water is stirred well. Then the article is opened out and dipped into the blue solution. After taking it out and squeezing it, it is dried in the sun.

If articles are to be starched and blued, then blue can be added to the starch solution itself.

Remember: If the article gets overblued, dip it in plain hot water with a few drops of vinegar or lime juice. The extra blue will get removed.

**ACTIVITY**

Take a white cotton hanky. Overblue it, dry it. Now dip the over blueed hanky in hot water with a few drops of vinegar or lime juice.

What do you see?

Write your observations.

**Drying**

After starching and blueing, the clothes are dried. Hang the clothing by its strongest part near the line. Remember the following points while drying clothes.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>White articles</th>
<th>Coloured articles</th>
<th>Heavy, coloured articles</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dried in sun</td>
<td>Dried in shade</td>
<td>May be dried in sun with wrong side facing out.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Articles dried in the sun should be picked up as soon as they are dry. Overexposure to sunlight can weaken the fabric and cause yellowness.

**Storing**

Remember, cottons fabrics get easily effected by mildew. Hence, while storing cottons make sure that they are completely dry, even if they are to be stored for a short time, as mildew forms very quickly on moist cottons.

**ACTIVITY**

Wash and finish a cotton saree or shirt.

**INTEXT QUESTIONS 8.3**

1. Fill in the blanks using the most appropriate words from those given in brackets;

   (i) Clothes must be ____________ before washing. (dried, mended, ironed, starched)
(ii) _________ articles should not be soaked before washing. (coloured, white, dirty, washed)

(iii) Soaking clothes helps to _________ dirt. (increase, decrease, loosen, prevent)

(iv) Starching is done to give cotton clothes a _________ look. (dull, shining, rough, yellow)

(v) _________ should not be starched. (table linen, saris, kameez, undergarments).

(vi) Coloured cotton articles should be dried in the ________ (sun, shade, daylight, night)

(vii) Overexposure to sunlight makes fabrics _________ (bright, weak, blue, yellow)

(viii) Ironing should not be done directly on the ___________ (collars, cuffs, sleeves, buttons)

(ix) When cotton articles are stored wet, they develop _________ (dullness, brightness, mildew, smoothness).

(x) Fabric that is not properly rinsed becomes (weak, yellow, bright, shining).

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(B) SILKS AND WOOLLENS

You have studied earlier about the properties of silk and wool. Both these fibres are affected by rubbing and high temperature (for example, use of hot water). Also, when wet, silks lose strength and tear easily and woollens lose their shape i.e., they either get matted together (shrink) or get stretched and become long. So, while laundering silks and woollens certain precautions need to be taken. The do’s and don’t are-

**For silks**

(1) Do not soak

(2) Use a mild liquid soap or reetha-nut solution in a tub of water and make a lot of lather (Do not use reetha-nut for white articles).

Do you know how to make reetha-nut solution? Well, all you need to do is

(i) break the reetha nuts (reetha nuts are available in most provision stores) and remove the seeds;

(ii) soak the now seedless dry fruits in water, overnight;
(iii) next day, heat till the fruits become soft;
(iv) mash;
(v) filter and use the solution for washing.

(3) Use luke warm water as it helps to remove dirt easily. Do not use hot water.

(4) Use light pressure for washing.

(5) Rinse out all soap in cold running water. Do not squeeze hard.

(6) Add a few drops of vinegar or lime juice in the last rinse. This adds lustre to the fabric.

(7) For stiffness, add gum water along with vinegar in the last rinse. (Amount of gum to be added is according to the amount of stiffness desired, which is a matter of personal choice.)

(8) Small articles can be rolled in a hand towel to remove excess water and ironed at once. Large articles like sarees may be placed on the clothes lines in the shade, till all the excess water is removed. Do not dry completely before ironing.

(9) Store when completely dry: for long term storing, wrap in newspaper and store.

Rayons like crepe and taffetta are laundered like silks. The only difference is that gum or vinegar is not used in the last rinse.

**For Woollens**

1. Before washing place the articles on a paper spread on a flat surface (floor or table) and draw its outline.

2. Follow the first steps as for silk, (i) do not soak; (ii) use a mild liquid soap or reetha-nut solution in a tub of water and make a lot of lather (Do not use reetha-nut for white articles), (iii) use luke warm water as it helps to remove dirt easily; do not use hot water. (iv) use light pressure for washing and (v) rinse out all soap in cold running water; do not squeeze hard.

3. For drying, place article back on the paper on a flat surface and pull it into the shape of the original outline drawn. This is done because the weight of the water pulls the woolens out of shape if they are hung up to dry.

If the woolen garment has been dried in the spin drier of a washing machine, it can be safely dried on a clothes line like other clothes. This is because all the water has been removed by spin drying.

4. Leave on flat surface, in shade, to dry.
5. Steam press the article if it requires ironing. This is done by placing a wet cloth on the dried woollen article and pressing with a hot iron on top.

6. Do not wash pure wool coats and big blankets at home, as they may lose their shape and are difficult to handle. Get them drycleaned.

7. For long term storage, store the woollen articles when completely dry, in an airtight box, with naphthalene balls or dried neem leaves.

**ACTIVITY**

Using the same method of laundering, wash and finish -

a) a silk scarf/blouse/dupatta  

b) a cardigan/shawl.

**(C) SYNTHETICS**

Orlon, which is commonly known as casmilon, is an acrylic fibre. It is mostly used for knitting sweaters and is often mistaken for wool.

While laundering casmilon, nylon and polyester:

1. Use luke warm or cold water. Do not use hot water as synthetics get damaged by high temperature. They melt easily and can lose their shape when exposed to heat.

2. Use any good soap.

3. Use light pressure and light rubbing while washing.

4. Rinse well in cold running water to remove soap completely. To avoid wrinkles, do not squeeze.

5. Dry, preferably on a hanger, to maintain the original shape.

6. When dry, iron only if necessary, with a warm iron and not a hot one, as synthetics get damaged by high temperature.

7. Store when completely dry.

Treat terrycot fabrics as synthetic fabrics.

**ACTIVITY**

During winter, visit a wool shop. Check the difference between casmilon (acrylic) and pure wool. Note down the care and instructions given on readymade woollen garments.

**8.11 Ironing**

Take a look at what happens to the clothes that have been washed and dried.
What do you see? They are wrinkled.

How to Iron?

Ironing helps to make your clothes smooth and attractive. Follow ironing instruction if any. Otherwise, follow this simple chart.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Temperature</th>
<th>Fibre</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Warm</td>
<td>150°C Wool, polyester, nylon, terelene</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hot</td>
<td>180°C Silk, rayon.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Extra Hot</td>
<td>200°C Cotton and linen.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Handy hints:

- Prepare the ironing table. Cover it with a blanket followed by a cotton bed sheet. Keep the height of the table comfortable. Usually 80cm high tables are very comfortable.
- Keep some water handy. Spraying water on cotton and linen produces good results.
  Take a plastic bottle. Make holes in the cap with the help of hot pins. Fill it with water. Your spray bottle is ready.
- Woollens are steam ironed. You have already studied about it.
- Sleeves collars, laces, etc., should be ironed first.
- Iron laces, buttons, hooks, embroidered clothes on the wrong side. The embroidery will stand out and look more beautiful.

**INTEXT QUESTIONS 8.4**

1. State whether the following statements are true or false. Correct the false statements.
   (i) Mild liquid soaps should be used for washing silks.
   (ii) Cold water should be used while washing woollens.
   (iii) A few drops of vinegar may be added in the final rinse for silks.
   (iv) Silks are stiffened with starch.
   (v) Woollens should not be steam pressed.
   (vi) Silks lose their shape while washing.
   (vii) Woollens are hung on the clothes line and dried.
   (viii) Synthetics are squeezed and dried.
   (ix) Synthetics are ironed, if necessary, with a warm iron.
   (x) Casmilon should be treated like woollens while laundering.
8.12 What You Have Learnt

For the sake of convenience here are the main points of the lesson for you.

**LAUNDERING**

- Clothes need mending
- stain removal
- Sorting
- steeping (for cottons only)

**Washing**
- friction-hand/brush
- suction
- kneading and squeezing
- machine wash

- rinsing

- starching
  - Cotton (arrowroot)
  - silk (gum)

- blueing
  - White cottons and linen

- drying

- finishing
  - Pressing
  - ironing
  - storing

8.13 Terminal Exercise

1. What does the word “laundering” mean?
2. Why is it important to launder clothes?
3. (i) List the two main methods of laundering.
   (ii) For which fabrics are they used?
4. What is a stain? How would you identify a stain?
5. What are the general precautions to be taken for removing stains?
6. How will you remove the following stains from a silk fabric?
(i) Coffee
(ii) Nail polish
(iii) Blue ink
(iv) Grass
(v) Paan (Betel leaf).

7. List the three basic steps to be followed for laundering any kind of fabric.

8. How will you wash a cotton garment? What precautions will you take and why?

9. Point out the differences in washing the following:
   (i) Silk and wool
   (ii) Wool and casmilon
   (iii) White and coloured cottons.

10. Answer the following questions:
    (i) Why should very dirty cotton fabrics be soaked?
    (ii) Why is light pressure used for washing silk?
    (iii) Why is vinegar added in the final rinse for silks?
    (iv) Why should woollens be dried on a flat surface?
    (v) Why should we not use a hot iron for ironing nylon?

8.14 Answers to Intext Questions

8.1  (i) True   (ii) False   (iii) False   (iv) True   (v) False

8.2  1. (i) Blood   (ii) Butter   (iii) Fruit   (iv) Pickle
     2. (i) (b)   (ii) (a)   (iii) (c)   (iv) (b)
        (v) (d)   (vi) (a)   (vii) (a)

8.3  (i) Mended   (ii) Coloured   (iii) loosen
     (iv) shining   (v) undergarments   (vi) shade
     (vii) yellow   (viii) buttons   (vii) mildew   (viii) yellow

8.4  (i) T   (ii) F   (iii) T   (iv) F   (v) F   (vi) F
     (vii) F   (viii) F   (ix) T   (x) F
     1) True   2) Lukewarm   3) True
     4) Gum   5) False (should be)   6) False (woollen loose)
     7) False (flat surface)   8) False (not be squeezed)
     9) True   10) True