

PeakPerformance®

HOW TO WASH DOWN



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Yes! You need to wash your down jacket even though it doesn't look dirty. When salt (sweat), dirt and oils get into the down and outer fabric it slowly loses its ability to insulate and the DWR (Durable Water Repellency) doesn't perform as well. In other words, clean down works better than dirty down. Follow these simple wash and re-proof instructions to reactivate the DWR and insulation.

Thinner down jackets worn when active and sweating need to be washed more often than thicker down jackets.

STEP 1 – PREPARE

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Always follow the wash instructions on your garment's care label. Prepare your down jacket by emptying all pockets, closing all zippers and Velcros, and turning it inside out. We recommend using a down specific detergent, like NikWax® Down Wash Direct or similar that doesn't strip natural oils from the down. Regular detergent can destroy the down. Do NOT use fabric softener or powder detergent.

STEP 2 – WASH

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Now that you are prepared, just pop your jacket in the washing machine and select a delicate cycle, 30°, and the lowest spin setting. Wash together with other down products but avoid overloading the washing machine. Take your jacket out as soon as the cycle ends unless you are planning to re-proof it (see step 3). For thick down jackets we recommend an additional spinning cycle (low setting).

STEP 3 – RE-PROOF (every 5–6th wash)

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After washing your jacket, you can choose to re-proof it, which means adding or restoring water repellency. Simply wash your wet jacket again, but with a technical down water repellent impregnation liquid this time, like NikWax® Down Proof. We recommend one that is PFC Free since it is better for the environment.

STEP 4 – DRY

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And now the critical part! Drying a down jacket takes time, so make sure you have a few hours to spare. Choose a low heat setting with low spinning on your dryer and get going. Take the jacket out every 30 minutes, pull the down clumps apart and redistribute the down by hand and by shaking it. By doing this you avoid water stains, potential nasty smell, and clotting. Leaving your down wet or damp can ruin the down.

The outer fabric will dry a lot faster than the down so don't let that fool you (or your dryer). Don't activate auto stop. When you think the jacket is dry, place it on a hanger over night before you hang it in a closet or use it again. We don't recommend using tennis balls!

STEP 5 – STORE

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We use our thin down jackets year around, but the real lofty ones are washed and stored after every winter. Store it on a hanger where the down is not compressed over a long period of time.

We know it's quite a lot of work but promise that it's absolutely worth it. Your down jacket will perform much better and last so much longer if you care for it regularly.

Good luck!