

FASHION, SHOPPING & CARE™

The 3-Minute Newsletter for Men, Women & Teens

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CLOTHING CARE ... with Steve

FASHION & STYLE 411 ... with Pascale



Stain School - Summer Fabricare

Ok, you've decided to pull out the swimsuit collection. Maybe your suits look a little faded and tired? They may even have some discolored areas, perhaps some splotches and even some "dead" elastic that's lost its snap!

Here are some basic care tips and a few new developments.

Caring for Swimsuits

- After swimming, rinse your suit well in clear water, without detergent. This removes most of the chlorine residue and salt. Many times, that's all your suit needs.
- You can hand wash or machine the suit when it's time, but if you machine wash it, use a mesh net to protect trims and straps. *Silky Clean* is a great detergent for fragile items, available at www.clothingdoctor.com

Restoration

- If your suit is "tired" looking or faded, try soaking it in 4" of warm water with a few teaspoons of white vinegar. This will neutralize the chlorine and may bring some color back to the fabric. Never tumble dry swimsuits. If the elastic is "dead," and you want to save the suit, ask your drycleaner to replace it. (More on wetcleaning next week)

Shopping Savvy - Saving Time

Ask the salesperson for a quality hanger (wide plastic or wood) for your new purchase, and be sure to keep your garments on quality hangers whenever possible.

Beware of piping and trims made from leather, suede and vinyl. Check the care label on these garments and think about eventual washing and drycleaning.

Steve Boorstein is an author, clothier, drycleaner and radio host

Building a Wardrobe: Summertime!

Summertime means swimsuit time and, for some, that's a time for thought and experimentation. Go ahead and step out of your comfort zone to broaden your personal style.

Beach Survival Kit

Don't leave home without these must-have essentials!

- The Perfect Bikini – Go for a boy-cut leg and a top with some built-in support.

Editor's Pick: Victoria's Secret bikini with built-in belt.



Tip: If you have a heavier midriff, choose a tankini style. If your top and bottom sizes are disproportionate, try buying mix and match separates, available in most stores.

- The Beach Cover-up – Instead of the run-of-the-mill pareo, why not try one of those ethnic tunics as a cover-up? Just make sure it's long enough to give you some coverage.

Editor's Pick: Mossimo tunic with beading at Target.

- Sun block – Don't forget to slather up!

Tip: If you have oily skin, try oil-free spray on options like Estée Lauder's Sun performance Multi-Protection spray. If you are concerned about acne, try Institut DerMed's Sun Protective Oil Free face Cream, sold in better salons. Whatever your preference, there's the right sun block for your lifestyle.

Next Issue: Travel Tips

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