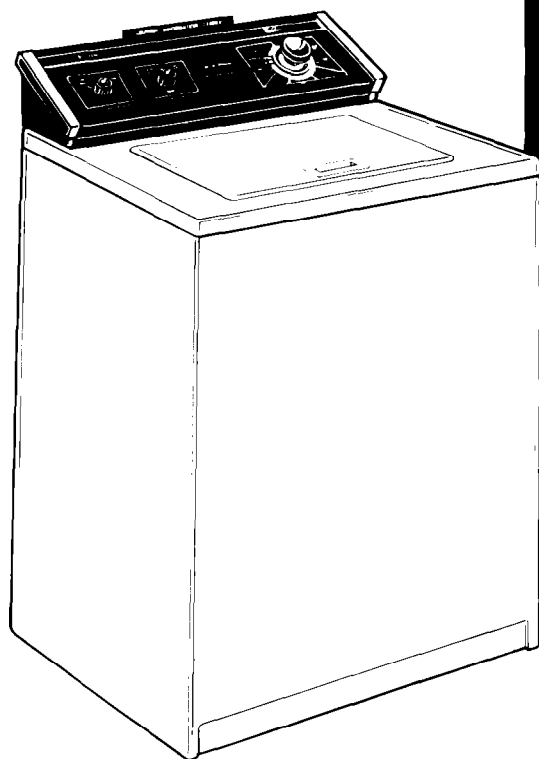


# use & care guide

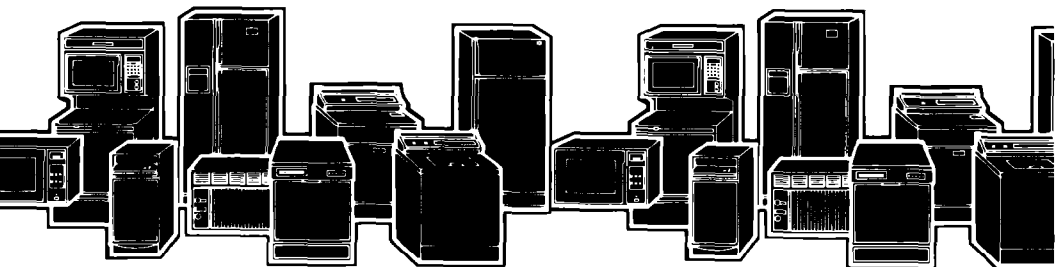


**Whirlpool**

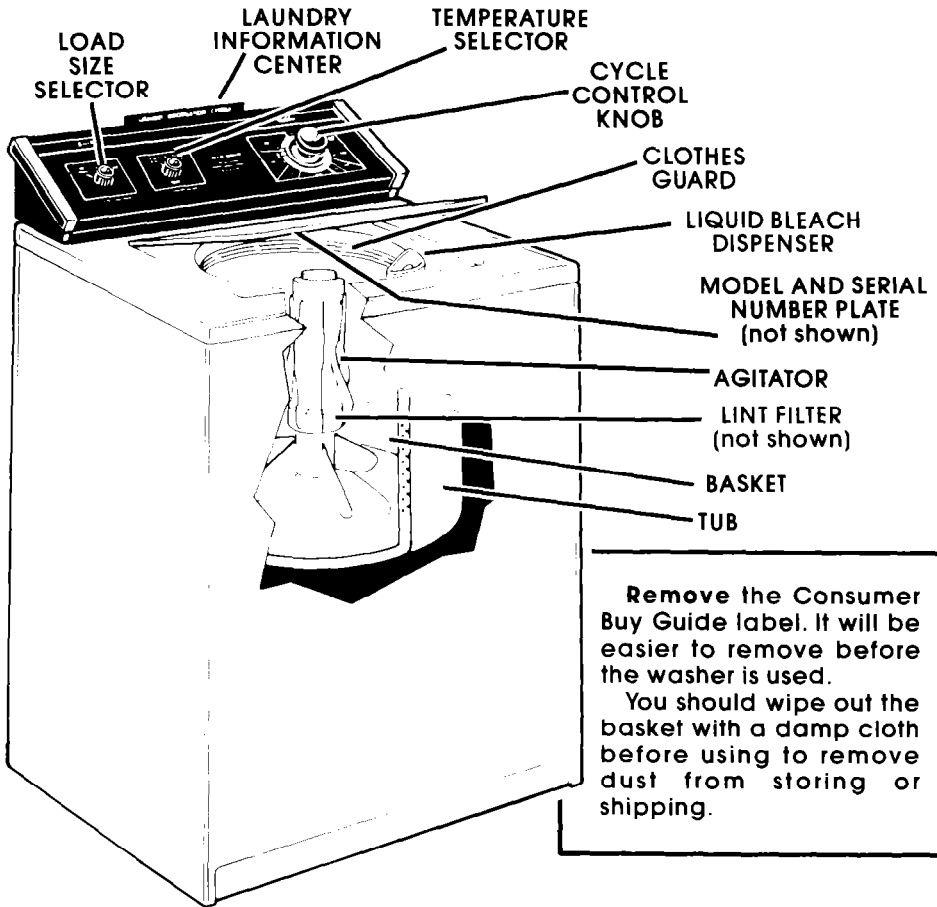
## **AUTOMATIC WASHER**

**Design 2000®  
Large Capacity  
Model  
LA5550XP**

Wave Ovens, Trash Compactors, Room Air Conditioners, Dehumidifiers, Automatic Washers, Clothes Dryers, Freezers, Refrigerator-Freezer



# Parts and features



## Copy your Model and Serial Numbers here

When you need service or call with a question, have this information ready:

1. Complete Model and Serial Numbers (from plate under the lid near the hinge).
2. Purchase date from sales slip

Copy this information in these spaces. Keep this book in the Laundry Information Center with your "Laundry Guide," sales slip and warranty.

There is no warranty registration to return. Proof-of-purchase is all that is required for in-warranty service.

Model Number \_\_\_\_\_

Serial Number \_\_\_\_\_

Purchase Date \_\_\_\_\_

Service Company /  
Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

# Your responsibilities

Read this "Use and Care Guide" and your "Laundry Guide" carefully for important use and safety information.

You are personally responsible for making sure that your washer...

- is installed by a qualified installer.
- is properly installed and leveled on a floor that can support the weight.\*
- is connected to the right kind of outlet, electric supply, water supply and drain.\*
- is properly grounded.\*
- is used only for jobs normally expected of home automatic washers.
- is properly maintained.
- is protected from the weather and kept where the temperature will not fall below freezing.
- is not run by children or anyone unable to operate it properly.

\*See the "Installation Instructions" for complete information.

## Contents

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# Safety first

**ALWAYS** unplug the power supply cord before attempting to service the washer.

**NEVER** put flammable fluids (dry-cleaning solvents, gasoline, kerosene) into your washer. **NEVER** use them near your washer.

**ALWAYS** hand launder or air dry fabrics treated with flammable fluids before putting them into your washer.

**NEVER** put your hands into the washer until all motion stops. If the lid is opened while the basket is spinning, the basket will automatically stop in a few seconds.

**DO NOT** allow children to operate or play with the washer.

**ALWAYS** store detergent, laundry aids and other materials in a cool, dry place where children can't reach them – in a locked cabinet, if possible.

**ALWAYS** read and follow instructions on packages of detergent and laundry aids – especially warnings and precautions.

**HAZARDOUS FUMES** can be formed if chlorine bleach is used in the same wash as ammonia or acids such as vinegar or rust remover.

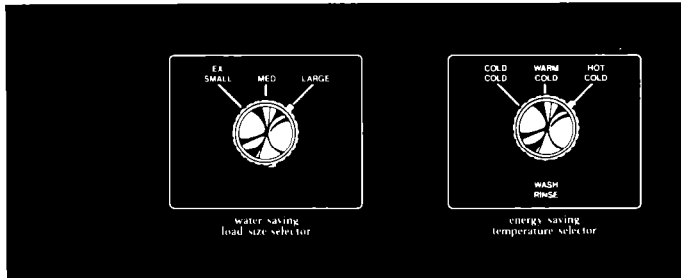
**DO NOT** machine wash glass fiber materials. Small particles can stick to fabrics washed in following loads and cause skin irritation.

**SPECIAL CAUTION:** If hot water has not been used recently (usually two weeks or longer), explosive hydrogen gases may build up in the water heater and hot water pipes. To prevent injury or damage, turn on all hot water faucets and allow water to run for several minutes. This will allow gases to escape. Do not smoke or use any open flame near the faucet while it is open.

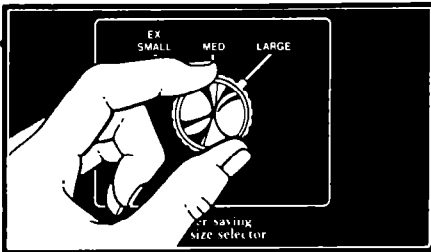
# Starting your washer



- Before starting your washer:
1. Measure and add detergent.
  2. Place sorted load in washer.
  3. Start washer.



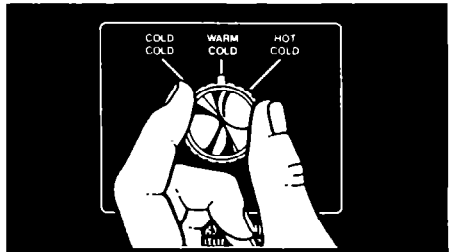
## Select a 1. LOAD SIZE



- Turn the knob to point at a setting that describes the size of load you want to wash.
- Set the knob anywhere on or between EX SMALL (a few items) and LARGE (a full load).

**NOTE: Use the LARGE water level for best permanent press results.**

## Select WATER 2. TEMPERATURES



- Match the wash water temperature to the type of fabrics and soils being washed.
- All rinses are cold.

Recommended wash temperatures can be found in your "Laundry Guide"

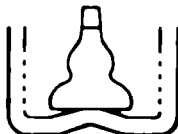
## LOAD SIZES AND WATER LEVELS

For best cleaning results, the load must be able to move freely in the water. Too big a load or too little water can cause wear or tearing of load items.



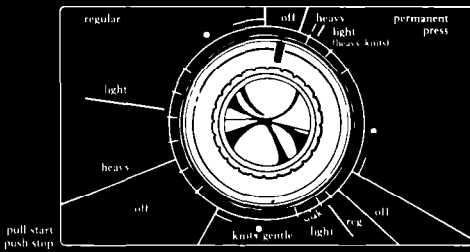
**CAUTION:  
DO NOT  
OVERLOAD WASHER.**

\*Approximate fill with load.

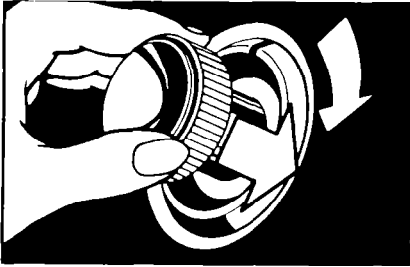


LARGE (17.3 gals./65.5 L)\*  
MED (13.4 gals./50.8 L)\*  
EX SMALL (9.5 gals./36.0 L)\*

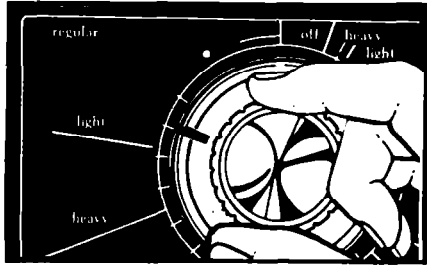
LARGE CAPACITY  
2 Speed 6 Cycle  
Permanent Press  
Cool Down Care



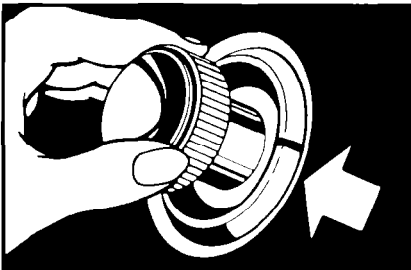
### 3. Select CYCLE and WASH TIME; Start the washer



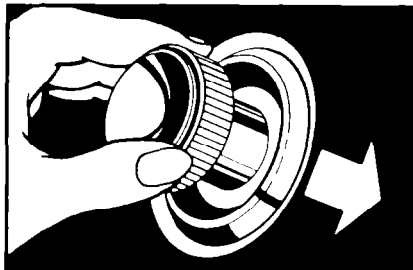
- A.** Push in the Control Knob and turn it to the right. It must be pushed in and turned only clockwise.



- B.** Stop on a mark in the cycle you want. The marks represent minutes of wash time. The drawing shows 10 minutes of agitation in the REGULAR LIGHT Cycle.



- C.** Start the washer by pulling out the Control Knob. The washer will fill to the level you set with wash water of the selected temperature. After filling, the washer will agitate for the selected wash time.



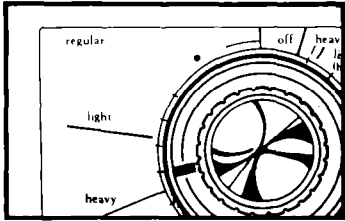
- D.** To stop the washer at any time push in the Control Knob. To restart the washer, pull out the Control Knob.

# What happens in each cycle\*

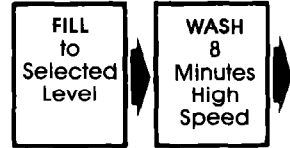
Each cycle has different agitation and spin speeds designed for different kinds of fabrics.

When the Cycle Control Knob is set to a mark and pulled out, the washer fills before agitation and timing starts. After agitation starts, the knob turns clockwise until it points to OFF and the cycle ends.

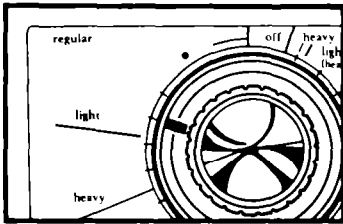
## REGULAR HEAVY Cycle



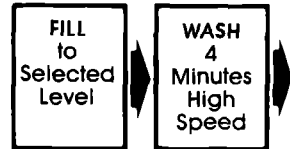
A cycle for sturdily constructed fabrics that are heavily soiled.



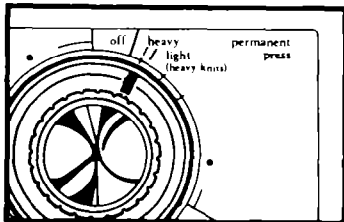
## REGULAR LIGHT Cycle



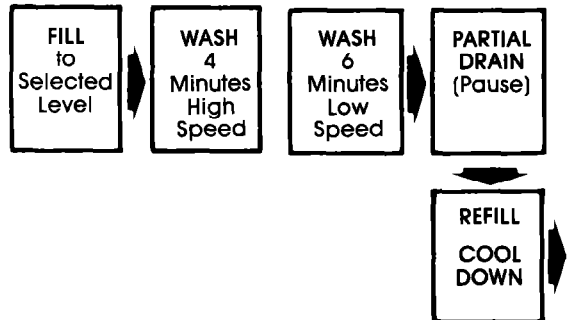
A cycle for sturdily constructed fabrics that are moderately to lightly soiled.



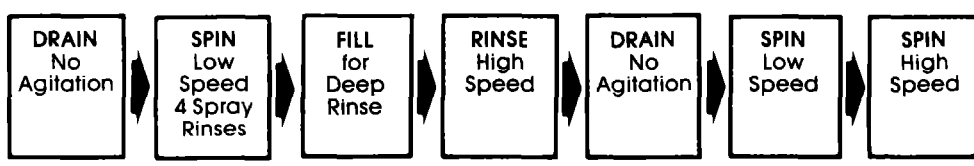
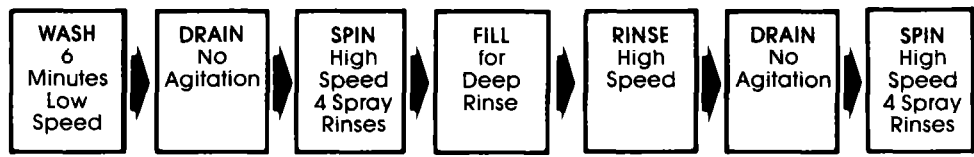
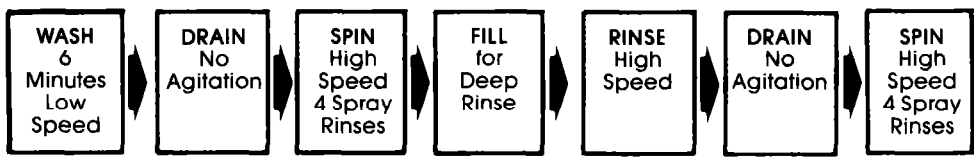
## PERMANENT PRESS HEAVY Cycle



A cycle designed for permanent press and some synthetic fabrics that are heavily soiled. The **cool down** rinse helps keep wrinkles from setting into these fabrics.

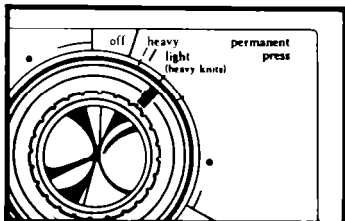


**NOTE:** You may hear the sound of water spraying during the spin parts of some cycles. In some cycles, cold water is sprayed on the spinning load to help with the rinsing.

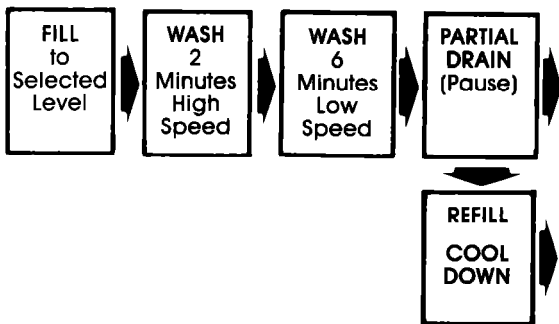


**\* IMPORTANT: THE WASHER WILL PAUSE BRIEFLY THROUGHOUT EACH CYCLE. These pauses are normal. They allow for the reversing of the motor, normal washer operations, and the cool down portion of the PERMANENT PRESS Cycle.**

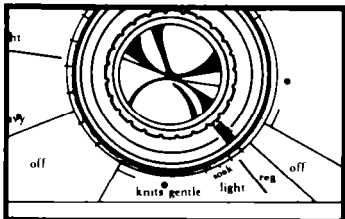
## PERMANENT PRESS LIGHT Cycle



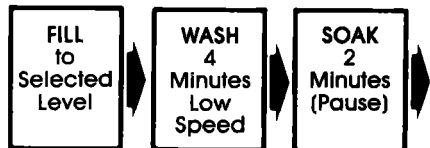
A cycle designed for moderately to lightly soiled permanent press and synthetic items. The **cool down** rinse helps keep wrinkles from setting into these items.



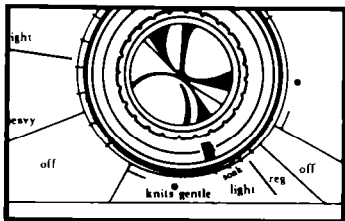
## KNITS/GENTLE REGULAR Cycle



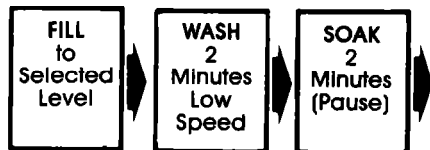
A cycle that gently washes and spins moderately soiled delicate items and washable knits.



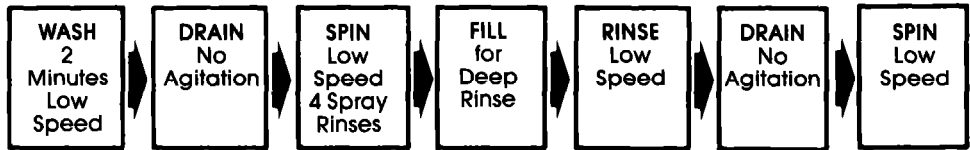
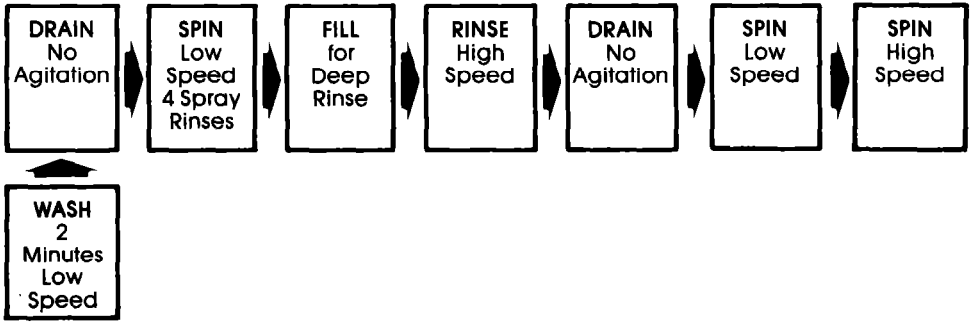
## KNITS/GENTLE LIGHT Cycle



A cycle that gently washes and spins lightly soiled delicate items and washable knits.



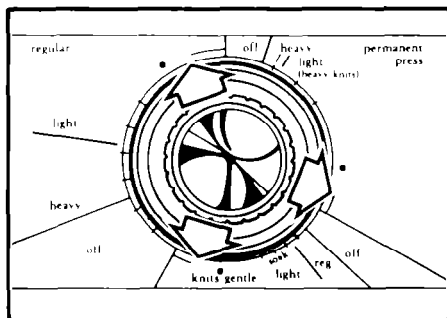
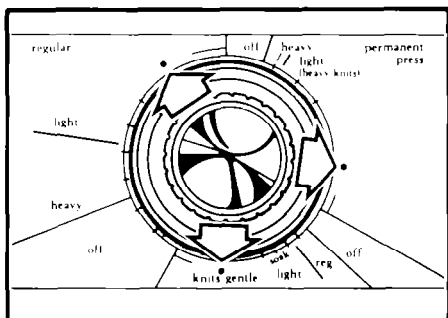




\*

**IMPORTANT: THE WASHER WILL PAUSE BRIEFLY THROUGHOUT EACH CYCLE.**  
 These pauses are normal. They allow for the reversing of the motor, normal washer operations, and the cool down portion of the PERMANENT PRESS Cycle.

# Other operating instructions



## For a rinse and spin

You may need an extra rinse and spin for heavily soiled loads which need more detergent. (Extra detergent can require an extra rinse.)

- Push Control Knob in.
- Turn clockwise to any • on the dial.

See above drawing.

- Pull Control Knob out.
- The washer will fill to selected level; agitate 2 minutes; drain and spin.

## For a drain and spin

Your washer can be set to drain and spin out water.

- Push Control Knob in.
- Turn clockwise to the bar just before OFF in any cycle. See above drawing.
- Pull Control Knob out.
- The washer will drain and spin.

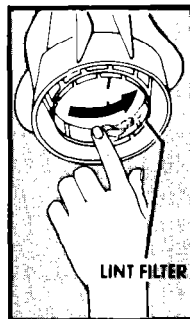
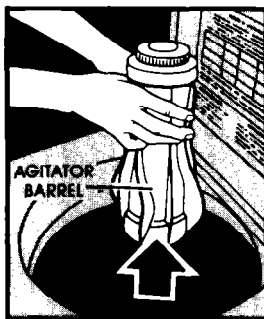
For agitation and spin speeds in each cycle, see pages 6 - 9.

## Cleaning the lint filter

Clean filter after every load for best filtering results. **Note: The load type will vary the amount of lint build-up.**

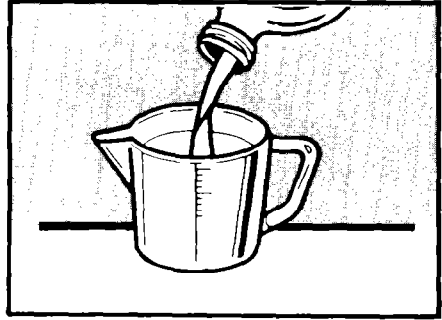
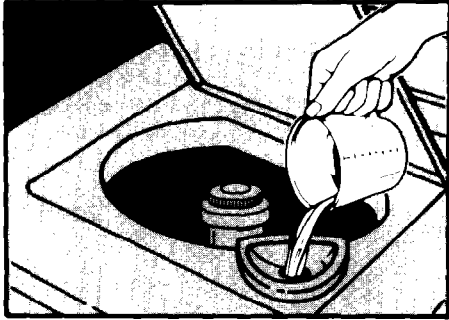
To clean:

- Lift off the agitator barrel.
- Wash or wipe the filter clean in the bottom of the agitator barrel. **The filter is not removable.**
- Replace the agitator barrel and snap into place.



## Liquid bleach dispenser

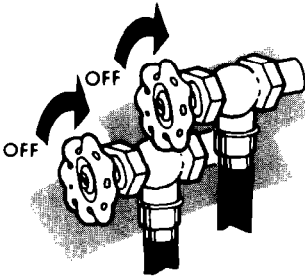
**Always measure bleach.** Do not guess. **Never use more than 1 cup (250 mL) for a full load.** Use less with lower water level settings. Follow directions on bottle for safe use. Use a cup with a pouring spout to avoid spilling.



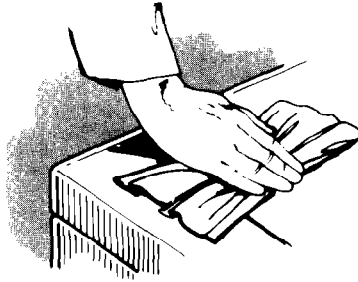
1. Load the washer first.
2. Pour **measured** bleach carefully into dispenser. **DO NOT** let bleach splash, drip or run down into the washer basket. **Undiluted bleach will damage any fabric it touches.**
3. Start the washer. Bleach will be diluted automatically during the wash part of the cycle.

For more information on bleaching, see "Laundry Guide" page 11.

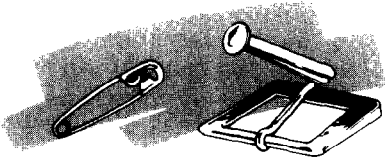
# Caring for your washer



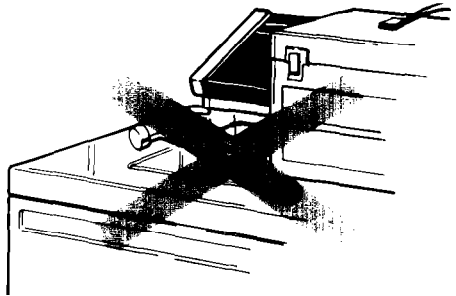
**WHEN NOT WASHING**, keep both water faucets turned off. This takes the pressure off the water inlet valve and hoses.



**AFTER WASHING**, use a soft dry cloth to wipe the outside and inside dry. Leave the lid up until the basket is dry. **Wipe up spills right away.** Spills can dull or damage the finish.



**REMOVE SHARP OBJECTS** such as pins, buckles, etc., from clothes before washing. Close metal zippers.

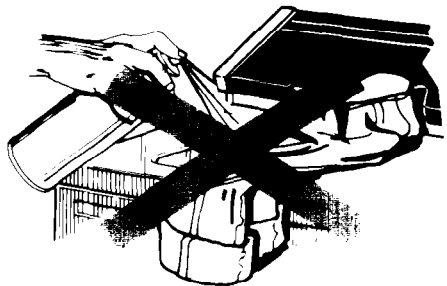


**SHARP OR HEAVY OBJECTS** should never be put on or in the washer. Check pockets for bolts, nuts, tools, etc.



## **NEVER USE THE WASHER TO...**

- store wet or dry laundry.
- soak for more than 2 hours.
- soak with chlorine bleach.
- soak with vinegar or other acids.
- soak or store urine soaked clothes.

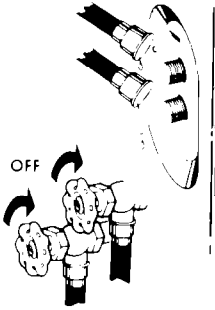
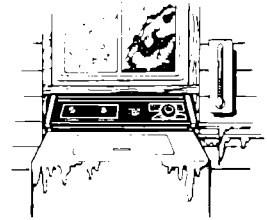


**SOME PRETREATMENT PRODUCTS** can damage washer and dryer dials, consoles and finishes. Do not use these products on or near your washer or dryer.

Service or performance problems caused by the use of any product not manufactured by Whirlpool Corporation are the responsibility of the manufacturer of that product.

## Winterizing

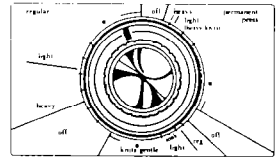
Because some water stays in the washer, freezing can cause a lot of damage. If your washer is **stored or moved** during the cold weather...



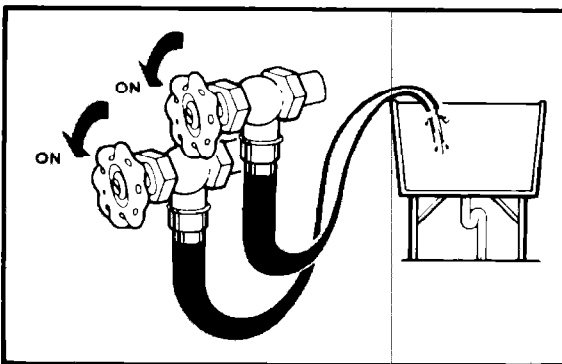
1. Shut off both water faucets. Disconnect and drain water inlet hoses.



2. Put a quart of automobile-type antifreeze in the basket.

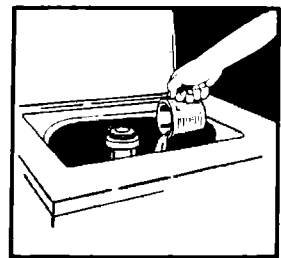


3. Set the washer for a **DRAIN and SPIN** (see page 10). Let it run for about 30 seconds to mix the antifreeze and water.



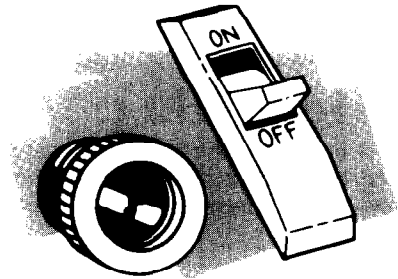
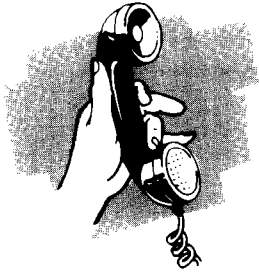
### To use the washer again...

1. Flush water pipes and hoses.
2. Connect hoses to the washer.
3. Turn on the water faucets.



4. Run the washer through a complete cycle with one cup of detergent to clean out the antifreeze.

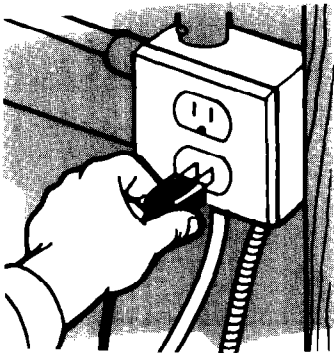
# If you need service or assistance, we suggest you follow these four steps:



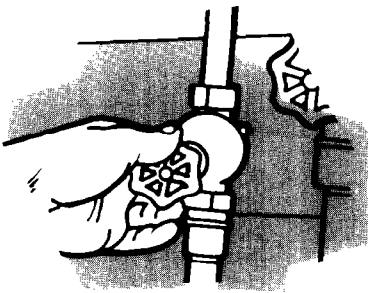
## 1. Before calling for assistance...

Performance problems often result from little things you can find and fix yourself without tools of any kind.

### IF YOUR WASHER DOES NOT FILL:



- Is the power supply cord plugged into a live circuit with the proper voltage?



- Are both water faucets open?

- Have you checked your home's main fuses or circuit breaker box?
- Are the water supply hoses kinked?
- Is the Cycle Control Knob set and pulled out?

### IF YOUR WASHER DOES NOT SPIN:

- Is the lid closed?
- Is the power supply cord plugged into a live circuit with the proper voltage?
- Have you checked your home's main fuses or circuit breaker box?

### IF YOUR WASHER STOPS DURING A CYCLE:

- Remember, the washer pauses briefly at different times in each cycle. These pauses are normal.

### IF WASHER FILLS AND DRAINS WITHOUT RUNNING:

- Make sure that the Cycle Control Knob is pointing to a number in the cycle.

### MAKE SURE THE DRAIN HOSE IS HIGHER THAN THE WATER LEVEL IN THE WASHER. IF IT ISN'T...

- The washer may seem to be draining during wash and rinse cycles.
- Water can siphon out. (See "Installation Instructions.")

## 2. If you need assistance\*...

Call Whirlpool **COOL-LINE®** service assistance telephone number. Dial free from:

**Continental U.S. . . (800) 253-1304**  
**Michigan . . . . . (800) 632-2243**  
**Alaska & Hawaii (800) 253-1121**

and talk with one of our trained Consultants. The Consultant can instruct you in how to obtain satisfactory operation from your appliance or, if service is necessary, recommend a qualified service company in your area.

## 3. If you need service\*...



Whirlpool has a nationwide network of franchised **TECH-CARE®** Service Companies. **TECH-CARE** service technicians are trained to fulfill

the product warranty and provide after-warranty service, anywhere in the United States. To locate **TECH-CARE** service in your area, call our **COOL-LINE** service assistance telephone number (see Step 2) or look in your telephone directory Yellow Pages under:

APPLIANCES - HOUSEHOLD - MAJOR - SERVICE & REPAIR	OR	ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES - MAJOR - REPAIRING & PARTS
WHIRLPOOL APPLIANCES FRANCHISED TECH-CARE SERVICE		WHIRLPOOL APPLIANCES FRANCHISED TECH-CARE SERVICE

<i>SERVICE COMPANIES</i> XYZ SERVICE CO 123 Maple . . . . . 999-9999	<i>SERVICE COMPANIES</i> XYZ SERVICE CO 123 Maple . . . . . 999-9999
--	--

OR

WASHING MACHINES, DRYERS  
& IRONERS - SERVICING

WHIRLPOOL APPLIANCES  
FRANCHISED TECH-CARE SERVICE

*SERVICE COMPANIES*  
XYZ SERVICE CO  
123 Maple . . . . . 999-9999

## 4. If you have a problem\*...

Call our **COOL-LINE** service assistance telephone number (see Step 2) and talk with one of our Consultants, or if you prefer, write to:

Mr. Stephen E. Upton  
 Senior Vice President  
 Whirlpool Corporation  
 Administrative Center  
 2000 US-33, North  
 Benton Harbor, MI 49022

If you must call or write, please provide: model number, serial number, date of purchase, and a complete description of the problem. This information is needed in order to better respond to your request for assistance.



FSP is a registered trademark of Whirlpool Corporation for quality parts. Look for this symbol of quality whenever you need a replacement part for your Whirlpool appliance. FSP replacement parts

will fit right and work right, because they are made to the same exacting specifications used to build every new Whirlpool appliance.

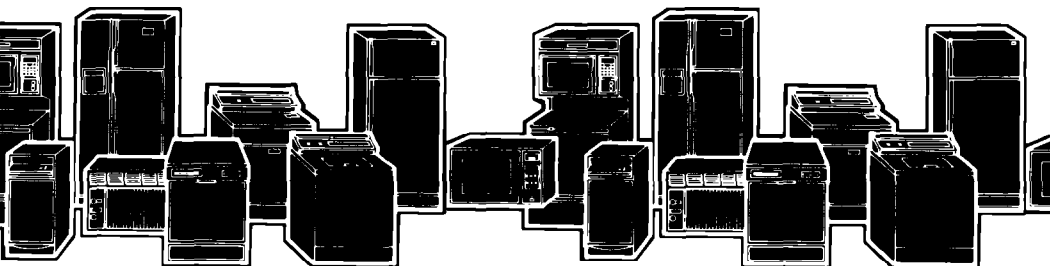


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