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How to wash aritzia wool coat

You finally got that wonderful dress or shirt that you wanted from Aritzia and it wears and drapes beautifully. But now that you've worn it...how do you wash your Aritzia clothing pieces it and keep it looking good? If you're unlucky, the care instructions might even say dry clean only! Unfortunately, most of Aritzia's non lounge-wear and non-Sunday Best brand clothing are often hand wash only or dry clean only. Well the good thing is that most brands will put dry clean care labels on pieces that are perfectly washable to reduce their liability (cough Reformation). Just about any piece of clothing from Aritzia is washable at home. Read on below for a comprehensive guide on how to wash your delicate Aritzia pieces. Use the Right Detergent: The first step is to make sure you're using the right detergent. Most modern detergents are perfectly fine (even in cold water) but there are some things you need to consider. Don't use normal detergent on fabrics made from animal proteins such as silk and wool. This is because most normal detergents contain protease which is a kind of detergent which will break down protein. Instead you'll want to use detergent specifically labeled to be used for delicates which are formulated without protease. Below are some detergents I recommend: An All-Purpose Delicates Detergent; Soak - No Rinse Gentle Detergent What I like about this detergent is that it's no rinse. Most delicate fabrics are weaker in water, so having to use more water or agitate the cloth to get suds out can actually harm the piece. It's also just easier to not have the extra step of rinsing. I wear (and wash) my clothes from Aritzia pretty often so I do appreciate not having to rinse. A Wool Detergent: The Laundress - Wool & Cashmere Shampoo This is just like delicate detergent but has lanolin added, a type of oil naturally produced by sheep to help keep the fabric waterproof and soft. I love the one from Laundress purely because of the wonderful cedar scent. I always take a good whiff of my cashmere sweaters after I wash them with this detergent. Laundress can be pricey though, and if you don't like the scent of cedar you can substitute with any other wool detergent. An Oxygen Bleach Stain Remover: OxiClean Maxforce Spray Do not use regular bleach unless it's a durable fabric like cotton. If you're unsure, use an oxygen bleach (sodium percarbonate) like Oxiclean. Even with oxygen bleach, it's still best to spot check! Don't assume that just because one piece worked well that all pieces using the same fabric will be fine as well. Not all fabrics, even if they're technically the same material, are made from the same process. Cellulose fabrics like viscose and rayon can behave very differently based on the process used in its production. Wash Method: Machine Wash Cold This is the "easiest" but riskiest method to wash your clothes in the washer, but it can be perfectly safe as long as you take precautions. I use the machine wash method on certain Aritzia pieces that I think are more durable. Flip your clothes inside out (you should do this for all the clothes you wash anyway) so that the outside doesn't risk being rubbed or snagged.Place the clothing piece in a mesh laundry bag. Just buy a cheap one from amazon like this one: Simple Houseware Mesh Wash Bag. Believe me, you don't need anything fancy, just make sure the zipper has a cover it can tuck under so it is not exposed, otherwise it might snag and catch on your other clothes.Put the machine on the coldest water setting and lowest spin cycle. If you can hear the washer knocking about, it's probably spinning too hard unfortunately, and you might need to turn off spin altogether.If the piece is still sopping wet after washing, place the item on a dry towel and roll it up to squeeze the moisture out.Lay flat or hang dry depending on the piece's care tag instruction. Wash Method: Hand Wash In Sink This is the classic hand-washing method and the safest way to wash your Aritzia clothes at home. To be extra safe, you can always try spot checking or washing only a small less visible part first. Fill a sink with cold water, then add a small amount of detergent (just a pinky sized amount is all you need for one piece)Swirl the water a bit to distribute the soap.Place the piece in the sink and let it submerge and soak in the water and soap.Soak for about 5-10 minutes or so. You don't need to wait half an hour because the soap has done most of it work by now. You also don't want to keep most delicate fabrics wet for too long.Rinse and be careful not to wring! Most clothing labeled dry-clean is made of fibers which become weaker when wet. This is why it's a lot better to use a non-rinse detergent without suds. Your clothes don't actually need suds for cleaning anyway as the chemical reaction from the detergent is what actually cleans your clothes.Press the water out by putting the item on a dry towel and rolling it up to squeeze the moisture out.Lay flat or hang dry depending on the piece's care tag instruction. Wash Method: Hand Crank Washer Personally, I can't stand washing in sinks anymore because some pieces are too big to fit in the sink (like my Montpelier sweaterdress). Buying a dedicated wash tub also lets you wash more than one piece at a time which is a super time saver. Nowadays I use a hand cranked wash tub. It's basically like a mini washing machine but I have a lot more control over the strength of the spin and I use a lot less water. You also get a little bit a workout in when you're cranking the machine. The Laundry Pod There are plenty of hand crank washer options (some are even electric!) but this is what I bought to wash my own delicate clothes. It's pretty lightweight and I like that I can "spin dry" my clothes and control exactly how forcefully I do it. It has held up for over 3 years and I use it once every few weeks. Specific Cleaning Tips by Fabric & Piece You might be wondering, why exactly are Aritzia's clothes so finicky? A big part of why it's so hard to wash clothes from Aritzia is their fabric choice. Aritzia tends to use man-made or synthetic fabrics that mimic the feel of more luxurious fabrics. This is how you can get a beautiful silk-like skirt (like with their silk slips) for about half the price of an actual silk piece. Just watch out for these few exceptions: Real LeatherStructured clothing like suitsDelicate beading and sequinsSilk with bright dye (will very likely bleed) As long as the piece doesn't have one of the traits listed above, you can wash your Aritzia pieces at home. How to Wash Aritzia's Wilfred Shirt Dress The Wilfred Shirt Dress is one of Aritzia's most popular summer dresses and has a beautiful silk crepe-like texture, but unfortunately it has the same weaknesses as silk due to its viscose and rayon mix. Content: 53% viscose, 47% rayonCare: Hand wash Read on to learn more about the fabric and how to wash this Aritzia piece. What is Rayon & Viscose? Rayon is a fabric made from treating cellulose with chemicals in order to make it into a paste that can be spun into a yarn. While it's often called a "natural" fiber because it can be made out of wood pulp, bamboo, and other natural materials it is not naturally occurring and has to go through extensive chemical treatment to become an usable fabric. Properties of Rayon & Viscose Viscose can be made into a silk-like fabric that is soft to the touch and dyes extremely well, making it an excellent silk alternative at an affordable price. Unfortunately, it is not a strong material and weakens when wet so you need to be extremely careful when washing viscose clothing in water. It will also shrink from heat so never machine dry a rayon piece. Viscose and rayon can sometimes be machine washable but it really depends on how it was made so always check the caretag. Care Tips for Rayon & Viscose Weak to Heat:Rayon and viscose needs to avoid heat so use the coldest water settingWeak to Water:Put the washer's spin to the lowest setting to avoid excessive twistingNever wring the fabric, instead lay it flat to dry and or roll it up in a towel to help squeeze the excess water out.Weak to Sunlight:Do not dry in direct sunlight as the fabric is weakens in direct light and it discolors the clothing over time. Yes, over time your acetate clothes will slowly lose their color.Easily WrinklesTo get wrinkles out of acetate fabric, flip it inside out, then iron on the lowest temperature setting while it is still damp. Be very careful because acetate will MELT if your iron is too hot. To be extra careful, you can use an ironing cloth, or a piece of thin cotton.Reacts with Nail Polish & PerfumesDon't do your nails while wearing acetate clothing b/c nail polish will melt through acetate.Be careful with perfumes as well, as some of the chemicals in perfume might also melt the acetate. How to Wash Aritzia's Babaton Conan Pant The Babaton Conan Pant is a workwear staple and is a piece that I often have on heavy rotation (along with the Tie-Front Pant). However, Aritzia says it is dry clean only, but I, and almost everyone I know washes these pants at home. Content: 82% triacetate, 18% polyester. Pocket lining: 100% cuproCare: Dry Clean Both Slip Skirt The Babaton Slip Skirt drapes beautifully and has the most lustrous satin sheen to it. This silk-like satin is thanks to the Japanese acetate fabric. I love these skirts, especially for the fall and I have a few in different colors. Aritzia labels these as dry clean only but I've never personally brought them to the cleaners. Content: 100% AcetateCare: Dry Clean Read on to learn more about the fabric and how to wash this Aritzia piece. What is Acetate? Like viscose and rayon, acetate is a synthetic fabric made from cellulose and has many of the same properties as viscose and rayon. There are some special considerations though. Properties of Acetate Since Acetate is made from a similar process as rayon and viscose, it has very similar properties, with one big differentiation: acetate usually repels water while viscose will absorb water. It is also even weaker to heat and the fabric can melt.Acetate's production is a lot more environmentally harmful than rayon so that's something you may want to consider when buying an acetate piece. Care Tips for Acetate Weak to Heat:Do not machine dry or the fabric might melt.Weak to Water:Acetate is weaker when wet, which is why it's important to put the spin to the lowest setting to avoid excessive twisting.Never wring dry the material, lay it flat to dry and or roll it up in a towel to help squeeze the excess water out.Weak to Sunlight:Do not dry in direct sunlight as the fabric is weakens in direct light and it discolors the clothing over time. Yes, over time your acetate clothes will slowly lose their color.Easily WrinklesTo get wrinkles out of acetate fabric, flip it inside out, then iron on the lowest temperature setting while it is still damp. Be very careful because acetate will MELT if your iron is too hot. To be extra careful, you can use an ironing cloth, or a piece of thin cotton.Reacts with Nail Polish & PerfumesDon't do your nails while wearing acetate clothing b/c nail polish will melt through acetate.Be careful with perfumes as well, as some of the chemicals in perfume might also melt the acetate. How to Wash Aritzia's Babaton Conan Pant The Babaton Conan Pant is a workwear staple and is a piece that I often have on heavy rotation (along with the Tie-Front Pant). However, Aritzia says it is dry clean only, but I, and almost everyone I know washes these pants at home. Content: 82% triacetate, 18% polyester. Pocket lining: 100% cuproCare: Dry Clean Both triacetate and polyester are usually more durable than acetate and rayon so this should be pretty cold wash safe. Read on to learn more about triacetate and how to wash this Aritzia piece. What is Triacetate? Triacetate is a specially treated acetate, making it a lot more durable and easier to care for. It's often used in more structured clothing because it holds pleats well and doesn't wrinkle easily.As long as you take the same care with your triacetate pieces as you do with your acetate and rayon pieces, you should be fine. Care Tips Compared to Acetate Stronger in WaterTriacetate garments, even pleated ones can usually be machine washed in cold water and many care tags will indicate this.Stronger to HeatThe chemical process used in its creation makes it stronger to heat than acetate, and some triacetate pieces can even be washed in hot water.Triacetate fabrics can also be ironed easily, while you should take more precautions with acetate pieces. How to Wash Aritzia's Wilfred Montpelier Sweater The Wilfred Montpelier Sweater is a wonderful fall staple that makes you feel like you're in a soft cloud. However if you don't wash this sweater carefully, you might end up ruining the merino wool and leave yourself a shrunken and felted mess. Content: 100% merino woolCare: Handwash Read on to learn more about washing wool correctly. Care Tips for Wool Do Not Use Normal DetergentUse wool detergent with lanolin to keep the fabric protected and soft. Normal Detergent usually contains the enzyme protease and it will literally eat away at your beautiful sweater.Do Not Use BleachBleach of any kind (both normal and oxygen) will dissolve the fibers.Weak to WaterWool fibers are weaker when wet and will stretch out if you're not careful. Instead of spin drying, squeeze the water out using the towel method outlined above and let it dry flat. However, if it's a little misshapen, you can reshape it while it's still wet.Rest Between Wears & Wash InfrequentlyYou don't have to wash your wool or cashmere that often as it has natural antibacterial properties. Just don't wear the same piece day after day, rotate between different woolen pieces so that it can rest and reshape. This is going to sound gross but, I once took a month-long trip where I brought 3 cashmere sweaters that I rotated between everyday. I only spritzed it with some wool spray between wears and did not wash them at all. I'll have you know, I still smelled fresh as a daisy.Store Folded or Hang With CareWool sweaters hung normally on a hanger will stretch and lose its shape over time, so it's better to fold your sweaters instead.If you MUST hang them, watch the video below for the best method. How to hang your sweaters without ruining them Additional Care & Wash Tips! To make all of your clothes last (even the machine wash ones), make sure you turn your clothes inside out and use at most warm water, and tumble dry low. Nowadays, modern washing machines and detergents do not need super hot water to clean well. I've heard of some folks MACHINE SHRINKING their Aritzia clothes on purpose. I would not advise this for anything with structure like a blazer. If you're brave, this could work on t-shirts, sweatpants and hoodies.

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