

## **Laundry Situation**

Brandon is doing his laundry. He has a load of similar clothing having tags that say to wash in cold water. He has several types of laundry detergents in the laundry room that can be used for cold water (80 degrees). Help him do his load the right way. Rank his methods from best to worst.

Print the following situations as numbered. You might want to add a picture of a laundry room or basket to your display:

- 1.** He switches the dial on the washer to cold water and puts in the powdered detergent as the water is coming in. He adds his clothing.
- 2.** He tests the water temperature to see how cold it is and finds he needs to mix some warm water in to make it the right temperature. He chooses a liquid laundry detergent suitable for all water temperatures. He puts his clothes in after the laundry detergent has mixed well in the water.
- 3.** He decides to use warm water because the cold water seems to be coming into the washer too slowly. Besides, the clothing has all been washed before and they won't shrink any more. He adds the powdered detergent after he puts his clothes in the washer.
- 4.** He makes sure the water is not too cold. He chooses a powdered detergent suitable for all water temperatures and adds it while the water is filling the washing machine. Then he adds his clothing and lets the water finish filling.

### **Rationale: Laundry Situation**

**Rank: 2 4 1 3**

**Cuts: 2 3 8**

(Hormel scores, for online score calculations see:

<http://www.worldaccessnet.com/%7Enormans/hormel.html>)

Brandon must make these considerations as he is doing the laundry. The load he is doing is supposed to be washed in cold water. That means the water should be 80 degrees. In the winter the water coming in the cold water pipes is often colder than 80 degrees. He should test the water to make sure it is the right temperature, mixing water from the hot water pipe as necessary. He must choose a laundry detergent that will mix in cold water. Some powdered detergents are slow to dissolve in cold water. He should always make sure the detergent is dissolved and mixed into the water

before adding the clothes. He should never put the detergent directly onto the clothing as this may remove color from them.

Option 2 is the best way to do this load. Brandon tests the water and makes sure the detergent is suitable for cold water. He also makes sure the detergent is mixed well with the water before adding his clothes.

Option 4 is the next best way to do this load. The only mistake Brandon makes is he fails to make sure the laundry detergent gets mixed into the water before adding his clothes.

Option 1 is the next to the worst way. Brandon does not test the water, he does not check if the detergent is suitable for cold water, and he does not mix it in before adding his clothes.

Option 3 is the worst because he does not use cold water that he has tested, he doesn't check to see if the detergent is for cold water loads, and he puts the detergent on the clothes while the water is coming into the washing machine.

## Laundry

Jon is doing the laundry. His sister has a new knit top. It is white cotton and polyester with 5% Spandex.

Help Jon choose the load of laundry he should wash the top in. Which one has the most similar items and is safest for the knit?



1.

White cotton towel, white cotton tablecloth and napkins, white cotton bathroom curtain

Wash in regular cycle, with hot water, all-purpose laundry detergent with chlorine bleach, dryer set on regular (medium heat)

2.

Blue denim Western jacket, heavily soiled work jeans, blue bandanas

Wash in regular cycle with hot water, liquid laundry detergent and chlorine bleach, dryer set on high

3.

Pastel baby items with food stains, pink cotton pajamas, pale blue and yellow dress shirts

Wash on permanent press cycle, warm water, light duty liquid laundry detergent and oxygen bleach, dryer set on permanent press

4.

White lingerie, a white, washable silk blouse, white fleece baby blanket

Wash on delicate cycle, cold water, light duty laundry detergent, line dry

**Ranking Order: 4 3 1 2**

**Cuts: 2 5 8**

(Hormel scores, for online score calculations see:

<http://www.worldaccessnet.com/%7Enormans/hormel.html>)

4. Jon should wash the white knit top with the lingerie and silk blouse. All the items are white and will be washed in a safe laundry detergent, laundry cycle, and water temperature for the polyester/cotton/spandex knit top. He doesn't use the dryer so the top will not shrink or lose its shape.

3. The load with the pastel baby clothes, dress shirts, and cotton pajamas is the next best choice because this load will be washed much like the best choice. The only reasons he should not choose this load are that the items are pastel and the water temperature is warm to activate the oxygen bleach. The top could shrink some in the warm water and dryer if he forgets to take it out to dry it flat. However, the bleach is safe for spandex and the colors are pastels so they may not run.

1. The load of white towels, tablecloth and napkins, and white cotton curtains is similar in color to the top but the load will be washed in hot water with chlorine bleach. The top could shrink and the bleach could damage the spandex fibers. This is the next to worst choice.

2. The load of blue items would be the worst load to wash the top in. The top may not only shrink and be damaged by the bleach and hot water and dryer but the white fabric could pick up blue dye from denim and bandanas or become soiled from oil and grease in the soiled garments. It would be more gray and dingy than if it were washed with the pastel clothing.



**Class: Laundry**

Jon does the laundry every Saturday for his family. His mom has a white, lacey top that needs to be washed.

Help Jon decide which load of laundry to do the blouse in. Rank the laundry loads from best to worst.



Picture from: <http://images.amazon.com/images/P/B00006Y56D.01-AS6H2RBFNM4XI.MZZZZZZZ.jpg>

Samples: Use a catalog to find garment pictures to illustrate the wash loads described below.

- 2 Wash with other delicate looking items
- 3 Wash with white underwear
- 1 Wash with pastel blue items
- 4 Wash with denims and chambrays

Official Placement: 2-3-1-4

Cuts: 5,1,9

Hormel scores, for online score calculations see:

<http://www.worldaccessnet.com/%7Enormans/hormel.html>

#2 If Jon chooses to wash the blouse with one of the loads of laundry, he should choose 2. The items in that load are most similar to the lacey top. They should be washed in a delicate cycle with cool or lukewarm water.

#3 3 should be chosen next because all the items are white. The top will probably not be harmed if Jon uses warm water and a non-chlorine bleach in a regular cycle. The underwear has nothing that would snag or be abrasive to the top. If Jon puts the top in a lingerie bag to reduce the agitation for the top, the regular cycle would not be too hard on it. If Jon does the underwear in hot water with bleach, it may not be a good choice.

#1 1 is 3<sup>rd</sup> best because it is a pastel colored load. The items might leave a little color or colored lint on the white lacey top but they would most likely be washed in lukewarm or warm water and perhaps a delicate cycle because of the knits.

#4 4 is the worst choice because the load has heavy denim and chambray items. The denim sometimes continues to bleed color and the heavy buckles and trims on the denim clothing would not be good for the delicate, lacey top. They might snag the delicate trim or be abrasive to fabric in the top.