

SFHSS23

Clean items by washing processes



Overview

This standard is aimed at staff involved in laundering items such as bed linen, clothing and towels. To achieve this unit, you must show that you can wash items using a washer extractor. You must make services and machinery ready for use.

You must select detergents, chemicals and programmes that are correct for the classification. You must operate machinery in accordance with instructions. You must load and unload machines, handling items with care. You must report any machine faults, and identify and remove any items that are not washed satisfactorily or that have been damaged.

Users of this standard will need to ensure that practice reflects up to date information and policies.

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Performance criteria

You must be able to:

- P1 prepare services and machinery for use safely and in accordance with manufacturer's and company specifications
- P2 take prompt, safe and appropriate action when faults, inefficient machine operation or hazards are found, and accurately report or record them
- P3 carry out basic maintenance to the frequency and standard specified
- P4 keep mobile equipment and supplies readily to hand
- P5 keep records in the frequency and format specified
- P6 dispose of waste promptly and safely
- P7 maintain the effective continuity of work at handovers and takeovers
- P8 check loads for correct classification and process requirements
- P9 identify items which are unsuitable for washing and redirect them to the appropriate location
- P10 select detergents, chemicals and programmes which are appropriate to the classification
- P11 check that thermostats and temperature gauges have the correct settings and that dip levels are within the programme parameters
- P12 use the correct additives for the fabric, weight of load and the degree of soiling
- P13 operate the machine according to the manufacturer's and company instructions
- P14 report machine faults promptly, clearly and accurately
- P15 load and unload machines promptly and handle items with care
- P16 direct items to the appropriate finishing process
- P17 remove and redirect unsatisfactorily washed items

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Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

- K1 the normal operational settings and range of performance expected from machines
- K2 the most commonly occurring faults
- K3 what detergents, chemicals and additives to use
- K4 your responsibilities under the Health and Safety at Work Act and other relevant Guidance Directives or Codes of Practice
- K5 how the complete washing process operates
- K6 how to carry out routine maintenance on machines
- K7 how to use machines and machine controls
- K8 how to dispose of waste safely
- K9 to whom faults should be reported
- K10 the correct load weight for the machine and the fabric
- K11 the difference between wash programmes
- K12 the temperature setting for the wash programme
- K13 the problems associated with high and low dip levels
- K14 how to select different wash programmes
- K15 how to recognise faults and malfunctions within the machine or wash process, and the action to take
- K16 how to stop a malfunctioning washing machine safely
- K17 how to recognise faults or deficiencies in washed work

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Additional Information

External Links

This standard links with the following dimension within the NHS Knowledge and Skills Framework (October 2004):

Dimension: EF2 Environments and Buildings

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