

## **"Advice on Towel Laundering"**

**by David Rosewall of Towel Order**

<http://www.towelorder.com.au/>

1. The best way to launder a towel is to machine wash it in warm water with a mild soap. Tumble dry WARM setting only and fold promptly.
2. If you air-dry your towels, shake them before hanging, and then shake them again when they're dry to fluff up the terry loops.
3. When washing your towels, avoid fabric softeners since they contain silicones that coat the terry fibres, stiffen towels and make them practically water-repellent. Many towels will retain their soft texture for years without the use of fabric softener.
4. Be aware that the first few times you wash deep-toned towels, they'll rid themselves of excess dye. This "bleeding" will stop after 3/4 washings. Try adding 1/2 cup white vinegar to wash to 'set' the dye in the first wash.
5. To freshen towels and keep them smelling sweet, add a 1/2 cup baking soda to the wash cycle.
6. The majority of washing powders contain optical brightening agents (OBAs), which are excellent for keeping "whites" looking whiter, but they will make some pastel shades look pale and faded.  
Use a detergent that does not contain these agents and wash your towels separately to conserve brightness. Be sure that your washing powder is FULLY dissolved before adding towels to wash.

### **Touch Text**

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