

## How to Wash Cloth Diapers with the Laundry Ball

We recommend that you wash no more than two dozen diapers at one time, as too much friction can cause pilling. Also, make sure you fasten all velcro tabs to avoid diaper chains. Send your diapers through two cycles - a COLD/COLD wash or a COLD rinse or soak, and a COLD/COLD wash. If you are experiencing odor problems, 2-3 drops of Tea Tree Oil can help. Be aware that using too much of an essential oil in your wash routine may begin to cause repelling in your diapers. (Water and oil don't mix!)

After the washing portion is finished, your diaper should smell fresh and clean with no hint of urine, feces, ammonia or other unpleasant odors. If you just switched to the laundry ball, you may need to do an extra rinse to help eliminate odors caused from old build-up of detergent. Especially when using an HE machine, be sure to take note of any suds left in your final rinse water and re-rinse if needed. RINSING IS ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT STEPS WHEN CLEANING YOUR CLOTH DIAPERS! Be sure your rinse water rinses your diapers completely free of bubbles.

Once the diapers are freshly cleaned, they are ready to go in the dryer or be line dried. The heat from the dryer or the sun help to sanitize the diapers. Generally, you should dry your diapers on hot for 60-90 minutes. Some AIOs or extra thick diapers may take longer. Make sure you check the washing and drying instructions for every brand of diaper you buy in order to extend the overall life of your diapers. Wool is one example of a diapering product that requires special care because it does not need to be washed as regularly as other diaper covers and should always be air or line dried.

If your diapers do not smell clean or if you can still detect a lingering diaper odor - you should wash them again. The odor you're smelling most likely means there is bacteria present in your diapers which could cause irritation to your baby and potential problems like diaper rash. Don't be afraid to experiment with your wash routine. Many factors can come into play when washing your diapers. For example: hard/soft water, type of diapers, type of detergent used before, etc.

If you want to cut your electricity usage by 50-60%, line drying is a good option. Not only will you help to conserve energy, but the sun is wonderful for getting out tough stains on diapers. To avoid stiff diapers, set them out on the line during early morning or late afternoon hours when they will not dry as fast. Line drying your diapers will also extend their life, especially AIOs and covers.