

# **The Complete Garment Care Guide**

by Perfect Tailors Auckland

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*Expert advice on maintaining your garments for years of wear.*

*From Auckland's trusted alteration specialists.*

# 1. Suit & Jacket Care

## - **Brush after every wear**

Use a natural bristle clothes brush to remove dust, lint, and surface fibres. Brush in the direction of the fabric weave.

## - **Rotate your suits**

Never wear the same suit two days in a row. Allow at least 24 hours for the fabric to recover its shape and release moisture.

## - **Use proper hangers**

Wide, shaped cedar hangers maintain shoulder structure. Wire hangers will distort the shoulders over time.

## - **Dry clean sparingly**

Over-cleaning damages fabric. Aim for 2-3 dry cleans per year maximum. Spot clean minor marks instead.

## - **Steam, don't iron**

A garment steamer removes wrinkles without the risk of creating shine or scorching. If you must iron, use a pressing cloth.

## - **Empty pockets**

Heavy items stretch fabric and distort the silhouette. Remove wallet, keys, and phone when hanging.

## - **Store in breathable covers**

Never use plastic garment bags. They trap moisture and cause mildew. Use cotton or canvas covers.

## - **Address repairs promptly**

A loose button or small tear will worsen with wear. Bring garments to our Auckland studio early.

## 2. Dress & Formal Wear

- Hang immediately after wearing to prevent deep creasing
- Store beaded or embellished garments flat to prevent stretching
- Use acid-free tissue paper between folds for long-term storage
- Address stains within 24 hours for best removal results
- Keep formal wear in a cool, dark, dry space away from sunlight
- For silk and delicate fabrics, always use padded hangers
- Never store garments in direct contact with wood
- Have zippers and closures checked annually to prevent snags

## 3. Fabric-Specific Care

### Wool

Rest between wears to allow fibres to recover. Brush regularly with a natural bristle brush. Store with cedar blocks to deter moths. Press with steam on a low setting, never direct heat.

### Silk

Dry clean only unless labelled otherwise. Store away from direct light which causes fading. Never spray perfume directly on silk. Use a cool iron on the reverse side if needed.

### Linen

Iron while slightly damp for best results. Embrace natural creasing as part of the character. Machine wash cold on gentle cycle. Hang to dry.

### Cotton

Machine washable but turn inside out to preserve colour. Iron while damp. Store folded rather than hung to prevent shoulder marks on heavy knits.

### Leather

Condition with quality leather balm every 6 months. Store on padded hangers in a ventilated space. Keep away from heat sources and direct sunlight. Never store in plastic.

### Cashmere

Hand wash in cool water with gentle detergent. Lay flat to dry on a towel. Fold for storage, never hang. Use cedar or lavender sachets to deter moths.

## 4. Seasonal Storage

- Clean all garments before storing - invisible stains attract insects
- Use breathable cotton garment bags, never plastic
- Add cedar blocks or lavender sachets as natural moth deterrents
- Store in a cool, dark, dry location with consistent temperature
- Check stored garments every 3 months for signs of damage
- Refold stored items periodically to prevent permanent crease lines

## 5. When to Return for Re-Alteration

Garments may need re-adjustment over time. Visit our Auckland studio if you notice:

- Jacket pulling across the chest or back
- Trouser waistband no longer sitting comfortably
- Hem coming loose or hanging unevenly
- Lining separating from the outer fabric
- Buttons pulling or sitting at an angle
- Seams showing signs of stress or fraying

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*Auckland's premier alteration specialists. Whether you need a simple hem or a complete garment restructure, our Newmarket team delivers precision tailoring with care.*