



Technical tips – Fabric Finish (sizing)

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Consumers bring their garments to the Dry Cleaners so that they can be returned to a “LIKE NEW” condition. However, while cleaners are concentrating on getting the soils out of the garments, more and more are overlooking proper pressing/finishing. This is where fabric finish or sizing comes in. Whether it is applied during dry cleaning, wet cleaning or sprayed on, sizing helps restore garments to a like new condition.

In dry cleaning we add sizing, liquid or beads, first to the solvent and then the garments are coated with the sizing during the wash. The liquid sizing is usually pumped into the machine and the beads are added by hand usually through the button trap. Wet clean sizings are in liquid form and are added the same way as starch, during the last rinse. They are pumped in or added using a flush system if the machine is so equipped. There are also spray sizings that can be applied at the pressing station. These come in spray can form but can also be mixed in bulk and applied using a pressurized spray tank.

No matter what process the garments go through, or the type of product used, sizings are an important part of the fabricare process. Let’s take a look at some of the benefits.

- Restores garments to like new condition.
 - Repeated wear and cleanings removes original finishes.
 - Sizing restores the “like new” look and feel.
- Helps resist wrinkling.
 - Sizing protects garments from over handling and crowding in closets.
 - Customers will be happier longer.
- Speeds up pressing.
 - Sizing makes it easier to return the like new condition to garments.
 - Faster finishing means more profit.
- Makes spotting easier
 - Sizing adds a protective coating that can make it harder for stains to set.
 - Less spotting time and chemicals saves money.

Sizing is an inexpensive way to get a leg up on the competition simply by giving the consumers better looking garments that will stay looking good longer. It could also help save time in the production process which saves money. Combo detergent/sizing products are attractive but when added separately they can be customized to the consumers liking. Regardless of the process or the garments, sizing will help improve business.