



GINGERLILY
LONDON

≡ MENU



8TH APRIL 2016 / 0 COMMENTS

HOW TO CARE FOR SILK

Silk is a wonderfully luxurious fabric that can help improve your sleep and health, however, many people are unsure how to wash and care for silk products, so we have decided to put together some guidelines to help.

Silk, like wool and linen, requires a more delicate cleaning regime than cotton – one that requires special detergents and lower temperature wash cycles. However, if washing guidelines are followed, your silk products will last for years as the silk fibre is actually very strong while being incredibly soft.



SILK BED LINEN AND SILK NIGHTWEAR

Our Gingerlily silk bed linen and nightwear is machine washable at 30°C. Follow the instructions on the label, and if you are unsure, lower the temperature and use any gentle-wash settings available (such as silk cycle or delicate cycle).

Silk products require lower temperatures than cotton and other fabrics, as heat can cause damage to the fibres. If silk is washed at a higher temperature than 30C, the fabric will harden, become brittle and tear very easily. We recommend washing all your silk products together, as opposed to mixed in with other fabric, as the other materials can rub against the silk during the washing process and damage the silk threads. Never boil or soak your silk.

It's important to use a special silk detergent as, unlike regular detergents, they are pH neutral and gentle on silk. We recommend [Tenestar](#) or Persil Silk/Wool liquid for all of our products. In the event of your silk being soiled or stained, spot clean the mark before machine washing with a special stain remover.

We always recommend line drying our silk bed linen and nightwear, however, these products can also be tumble dried at a low-temperature. When hanging silk to air-dry, keep it away from direct sunlight when possible. Silk dries very quickly, so you shouldn't need to hang it out for long.

Once silk has been laundered, we strongly advise our customers to iron their silk to restore the sheen, softness and suppleness of the fabric. The heat and steam from the iron will also bring out the colour and shimmer of the fabric.

Silk is much easier to iron than cotton or linen: use a medium heat with medium steam so the iron will glide over the fabric and remove all creases very quickly.

SILK BEDDING

Our silk filled pillows and duvets help regulate your body temperature, leading to less perspiration during your sleep, meaning that the silk filling is free from dust mites. As such, they do not need to be washed. However, we would recommend that our Gingerlily duvets and pillows are aired, once or twice a year during the warmer months, on a line outdoors.

Small stains can be spot cleaned with a special stain remover if needed. If a full launder is required, the duvets and pillows can be machine washed at 30°C maximum. These products should air dried, but, they can also be tumble dried on a cool cycle if needed. It is best to always check the care instructions on the label.



SILK BEDSPREADS, CUSHIONS AND THROWS

These Gingerlily products should be professionally dry cleaned, by a dry cleaner that offers green services and uses more gentle chemicals. Normally, dry cleaners will advertise these services outside of the store, however, it is always useful to ask instore as well.

HOW TO STORE SILK

It is important to store silk correctly, so it doesn't get spoiled by moths, damp, and other common storage damages. To reduce moisture, avoid using plastic storage containers as they will actually trap moisture inside. When conditions are warm, plastic containers become ideal incubators for moths and moth larvae. Instead, try storing silk in breathable cotton storage bags, using non-acidic tissue paper wrapping. The breathable cotton bags allow moisture to escape and the tissue paper protects the fabric from bugs, dust, and any unwanted contact or friction.

Do you have any great silk care tips? Then please let us know on Twitter, using [@gingerlilyltd](https://twitter.com/gingerlilyltd).