

TechnoFresh

Cleaning Front Loading and Top Loading HE Washers

There are two ways of controlling the odor causing growth:

Day-to-Day Continuous Control or Monthly Shock Treatment

This page has the directions for both

Day to Day Continuous Control Method:

TechnoFresh Continuous Control Directions:

Add a little TechnoFresh™ to two or three loads of laundry washed each week to help control odors of mold and mildew. Place the TechnoFresh™ on top of the detergent you use or directly into the drum with the laundry. That's it!

What could be simpler?

No other product works like TechnoFresh™.(Patent Pending)

TechnoFresh™ has two ways of attacking the odor control issue:

First: TechnoFresh™ works by penetrating the biofilm: the bacteria, mold and mildew deposits, and then killing them. The chemicals in TechnoFresh™ are chosen to do specific things through the wash cycle. They work together better than than by themselves.

Second: In real life, every load will continue to deposit excess detergent that will be available as food for future growth. Nobody can measure out "just enough and then no more" for every wash. There will always be a film deposited. TechnoFresh™ contaminates this film so the growth of nasties of all kinds is suppressed.

How does TechnoFresh work?

TechnoFresh™ is a mixture of salts that dissolve easily in water. This TechnoFresh™/water solution is then mixed in the machine with any detergent product you choose to use

When TechnoFresh™ and the detergent are deposited on the plumbing together, the TechnoFresh™ forms a barrier to growth on the detergent film.

This is the continuous control part of the process.

Think of it as: The soap sticks to the plumbing and the TechnoFresh™ sticks to the soap ... and forms a barrier.

What is the TechnoFresh barrier made of?

TechnoFresh™ is made of chemicals that are harmful to the nasties but still safe for people to use regularly in a washing machine.

TechnoFresh™ contains materials that are used in commercial pickling and canning to retard spoilage, fungus suppression in makeup, and sterilizing of wounds. All these materials are FDA approved for consumption in small quantities so washing with them presents minimal hazard. Just don't eat it...

TechnoFresh™ is safe for use with septic systems when used as directed.

TechnoFresh™ does not contain any fragrances. TechnoFresh™ works. So, fragrances are not needed. The laundry ends up with a fresh smell anyway....

TechnoFresh™ will work in hot, warm or cold water.

TechnoFresh™ really does work.

And to prove it, it comes with a money back guarantee!

Periodic Shock Treatment Methods:

These are some of the directions for the periodic shock treatments suggested by the machine manufacturers or service people:

Chlorine Bleach Treatment Directions:

Add 1 to 2 cups of liquid bleach to directly to the tub without any laundry in the tub. Run the longest, hottest cycle available on your machine.

Chlorine acts by burning the cell walls of the mold or mildew. The cells rupture and they die. This method only affects the very top surface of the mold or mildew buildup. It must be repeated as needed.

It requires an extra, large, hot and empty load .

While this method can be effective in killing the organisms it also attacks the seals and gaskets of the machine. The amount needed to control the growth is much more than the amount needed to brighten laundry. So, the machines are not designed to handle too much of this type of shock.

This is similar to the chlorine shock treatment used on swimming pools. Sometimes the water clears up but the walls can still be slippery.

Small black flecks and/or really small globs of goo found on the laundry is an indication that the seal has failed and some of the waterproof bearing grease is leaking into the drum during machine use. Of course, the black flecks could be mold too.

It might be effective to use a half a tub of an Oxy-- type bleach additive. It will be less aggressive but it will attack the nasties in the same way. But, it does not always work well.

Neither of these chemicals will help remove the residue. They only kill the nasties on the surface. The food (residue) is still there for the next time. The effect only lasts a few days. But it could work if you if you do a lot of laundry and only have a minimal problem.

Baking soda and vinegar treatment directions:

No, you don't add them at the same time or you will get the foaming volcano effect seen in so many chemistry classes. But it could be entertaining!!!

Add 1 to 2 cups of baking soda directly to the empty tub. Add the vinegar to the final rinse or softener dispenser without any laundry in the tub. Run the longest, hottest cycle available on your machine.

Baking soda will increase the pH (slightly caustic) and vinegar will decrease the pH (slightly acidic). This may affect the growth of mold and mildew. Once again, this method only affects the very top layers of the mold or mildew buildup. It must be repeated as needed. It requires an extra, large, hot and empty load.

Maybe the baking soda penetrates a little under the surface of the build up and then the vinegar causes it to bubble up and release the gunk. Interesting scenario but I have no idea if it is actually happening. Maybe the manufacturers that suggested this know something. But I really don't know what it could be...

When you think about it, it seems that the baking soda would not do much. You would need a lott. It is the vinegar that does the cleaning. Some service people say that it will take at least 1 or 2 quarts (or more) of vinegar to be effective. This actually makes more sense than the baking soda combination and will actually help somewhat.

The TechnoFresh™ Shock Treatment page will give you our version of a super vinegar shock treatment that is more effective than any other shock including the commercial ones. And, it only uses basic household chemicals to do the job.

Commercial Products:

If the inexpensive household chemical methods do not work, there are other products that are said to work. Two I have tried are: Affresh which contains an oxidizer, an acid and an awful lot of fragrance and is made by Whirlpool, and Pure Washer which contains citric acid and possibly salt and other materials (they won't say) from smellywasher.com with a 60 day guarantee. Tide and Clorox have cleaner that is similar to Affresh in the way they work. These can be more expensive than the basic methods using household products.

All of these products create a strong chemical solution that is meant to remove the soap film build up that provides the food source for the nasties. They all will remove the build up to some extent, depending on the amount of build up in your machine. Any of them could be effective in your situation.

Fragrance is used in case the removal is not effective.

The Recontamination Problem:

The problem with any of the shock treatments is that the mold, mildew, and bacterial slime continue to grow in the machine between treatments. So, even if the monthly shock treatment is effective, you are still slowly contaminating your laundry as the build up of the nasties continues through the month again. In fact, because of the physics involved in wetting a surface, I do not believe that you can ever remove all of the residue. So there are nasty spots here and there ready to spread to the new residue deposited in future loads.

Everyone uses a different combination of detergent and softener. Everyone uses different amounts. All of the makes and models of machines have different internal designs. So, no one method is the "correct" method to control the odors. To be the most effective at controlling the odors, you should read all the pages of this web site. As long as you understand what is going on, you have a better chance of being successful in the long run.

None of the shock treatments worked for me. Most of my customers have not had success with the shock treatments either.

TechnoFresh™ will work when the other methods don't.

TechnoFresh™ comes with a money back guarantee.
