

Uniform Care Packet

Marching Southerners 2022-2023



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Jacket and Pants Care

- Jackets:
 - Washing Instructions: If you need to wash your jacket, use a light detergent, we recommend Woolite or Tide Free and Clear. Wash on delicate load, and either air dry or dry on low with low heat.
 - Make sure to take your Shiny off before washing your jacket.
 - If you need to spot clean your jacket, we recommend Spray and Wash and wash as directed.
 - Washing Shiny: Spray with Spray and Wash or dip a toothbrush in Woolite. Scrub dirty spots on the shiny with a toothbrush. Rinse with cool or warm water and leave to air dry. Do NOT wash in washing machine or dryer, this will cause the sequins to come off.
 - Hemming Instructions: There are buttons on the inside of the sleeves. To hem your jacket, button to the length where the jacket sleeve comes to your wrist.



Hemming buttons found on the inside of each sleeve



Snap buttons on each sleeve to desired length

- Pants:
 - Washing Instructions: If you need to wash your bibbers, use a light detergent, we recommend Woolite or Tide Free and Clear. Wash on delicate load, and either air dry or dry on low with low heat.

- Hemming Instructions: There are a series of buttons along the seams of the pants. To hem your pants, button to the length where the pants hit right at the lower part of your ankle.
 - It is easiest to find the button that works with your height, and button one of the four, and take the pants off to do the other three buttons.
 - It also helps to have a friend help you, so that you can see what button works at your height without bending over.



Hemming Buttons found in inside of each Pant Legs



Snap Buttons together to the desired length

- Hanging Instructions: To hang on a hanger, take the pants by the crease in the middle of the pant legs and pull hanger through to divide the pants in half.
 - It is easiest to hold the pants by the ends of the legs and line up both creases as shown below (Note: Do not line up by seams).



Crease seen in the middle of pant legs



Line creases up on both pant legs



Feed pant legs through hanger



Situate the hanger so that it separates the pants in half

Shako and Gauntlets

- Shakos:
 - Washing Instructions: Start by taking off all the metal parts to your shako (Buttons, chain, and silver band), then wet the entire hat. Take a toothbrush and using a light detergent (we recommend Woolite) scrub the dirty parts. Once you scrub the dirt away, rinse with cool or warm water. Set out to dry in a temperature-controlled area.
 - Do not close wet shako in your hat box; leave the box open while it is drying and set face up.
 - If you need Woolite, please contact a uniform member and we can provide a small cup of woolite for your shako.
 - If the stain is particularly tough to remove, use Spray and Wash to spot treat.
 - Chain Care: If you need your chain adjusted, please bring to a uniform member at practice or before a game.
 - If the chain breaks off at the buttons, take the button out and reloop the chain back onto the buttons.



Take the side button out of hat



Place chain back onto button first



Place shako band on after the chain



Place button back in the side of the hat



Spread two metal pieces within the hat to secure

- Gauntlets:
 - Washing Instructions: If you need to wash your gauntlets, take Spray and Wash to spray the dirty spots, and scrub with a toothbrush. Leaving the Spray and Wash on, put in the washing machine on delicate or cool

wash, and wash with a light detergent (we recommend Woolite). Dry on low heat or air dry.

- Do not take metal buttons off gauntlets before washing them, they will be fine if you use low heat.

Poncho and Garment Bag

- Poncho:
 - Washing Instructions: If you need to clean your poncho, use a light detergent, we recommend Woolite or Tide Free and Clear. Wash on delicate load, and either air dry (recommended) or dry on low with very low heat.
 - When air drying your poncho, hang up on hanger and keep in a temperature-controlled area.
- Garment Bag:
 - Washing Instructions: If you need to wash your garment bag, use a light detergent, we recommend Woolite or Tide Free and Clear. Wash on delicate load, and either air dry or dry on low with low heat.

Game Day Uniform Etiquette

- Whenever setting down your shako, please do not set the hat upside down on the ground. This puts a layer of dirt on the top of the hat.



Here is an example of what not to do with your shako

- Do not intentionally rip ponchos because it does not fit around the horn, you will be responsible for the damage caused to the poncho.
- After rainy games, always hang up your poncho and any other potentially wet items of your uniform in a dry, temperature-controlled area (Ex. Dorm or Apartment room, hung over a chair if there is no hanger).
- If you need to set your jacket somewhere, please do not set in inside your shako, place it on top of the shako and off the ground. Fold the jacket, as shown below, and set it on top of the shako.



Fold jacket and set on top of shako, set gauntlets on top of shako as well



Leave room at the front of shako so the plume can be inserted

- Please do not swing shako by the chain, this makes it easier for chains to break or come loose from the hat.



Incorrect way to hold a shako



Correct way to hold a shako

- Be respectful of the plumes, they are white and get dirty easily. Do not remove plumes unless specifically told to by leadership or uniform crew. Always turn them in to the uniform crew after games unless told otherwise.
- For jewelry on game days, please wear only one stud in the ear and no face piercings. Before season starts you can purchase clear jewelry plugs for all ear, nose, and face piercings.
- If you choose to wear makeup while in uniform, please keep it minimal with neutral colors. If you arrive to a performance with makeup that is deemed inappropriate, you will be asked to remove it. This is for the sake of uniformity and keeping the uniforms from being stained by the makeup.
- If your hair has been dyed/colored, please take extra care with your uniform and poncho. Dyed hair can cause stains and cause irreparable damage. If this occurs, you will be charged for the damage caused to your uniform.
- Be careful of eating in uniform, do not eat messy or heavily dyed things. Be careful of your jacket and gauntlets when eating. If there is a spill on your uniform, find a uniform member quickly, we will have supplies to remove stains.
- Please keep up with gauntlets, do not drop them on the ground, they are white and stain easily. If there is a stain, bring to the uniform crew or use washing instructions.

- Keep up with your individual uniform, everyone has different numbers, so it is imperative that you have the numbers assigned to you. Do not switch any portion of the uniform with other members.
- Bring money for gloves if you do not have any. We cannot give you gloves unless you purchase them from us.
- If you got your uniform back from the dry cleaners, please take off the blue painter's tape before the game.

Turning In Uniforms

- Please take out all personal items from the uniform and garment bags, including gloves and marching shoes.
- Take off all labels of shakos, shako boxes, and garment bag tags
- Before bringing your uniform, check your numbers to see if they are the same. If they are not, please refer to the spreadsheet of everyone's numbers or contact a uniform member to find the correct numbers. We will not accept uniforms that turned in on behalf of another member.
- Please bring money for any items that are damaged or lost, we will charge accounts if money is not paid.
- If there are any parts of the uniform that are damaged and cannot be fixed, you will be responsible for replacing that item, and will be charged for it.

Contact Information

- If you ever need to reach any of us, you can find us on Facebook, email us through your JSU email, or text or call us directly. Please be courteous of the time in which you call us, generally between the hours of 8am to 6pm, unless it is a uniform emergency.
- Do not be afraid to contact us, we love the Southerners and want to help you in any way we can! Let us know of any questions, and if you see us in person do not be afraid to come up and say hello!
- Contacts:
 - Robyn Long, Uniform Coordinator:
 - Email: rlong4@stu.jsu.edu
 - Phone: 770-755-8769
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