

GE15: TEXTILES: CARE AND CONSERVATION
UNIT I: INTRODUCTION
MODULE 3: CARE AND MAINTENANCE OF FABRICS

Outline

Storing clothes- flat storage and hanging storage

Types of storage- short term, seasonal and long-term storage

Learning outcomes

Understand the storage methods

Store clothes appropriately

POINTERS ON MAINTENANCE OF FABRICS

- Clothes should be put away after they are laundered and dry
- They should not be allowed to be left around or they collect dust
- Storage space should be well planned- depends on the space available in the house and the number of items to be stored
- Linen and cloth should be sorted and separated according to kind and size
- Table linen should be separated from bed linen
- Keep cupboards clean and dry for storage
- Air fresheners or mothballs can be used in the cupboards

HANGING STORAGE

- Remember that clothes are stored back in the cupboard only after they are completely dry
- Moist clothes should not be stored because they will allow fungus and bacteria to grow on them
- Since you need to dampen the clothes for ironing, spread the clothes again in fresh air after ironing till they're completely dry and then put them into the cupboard or put them on a hanger
- Clothes can be stored in zipper hanging bag or use zipper fabric garment bags

FLAT STORAGE

This type of storage is required for items that must be folded or stored in a non-hanging condition

- There are many items that fit in this category and include sweaters and other types of knitwear dresses, jackets and heavy stretchy clothing
- Delicate and fragile clothing, handbags and small or otherwise un hangable items can be put in flat storage,
- Follow folding guidelines-folder garments at the construction line or natural wearing line such as the waist or the knee
- Do not fold the garments the same way every time
- Smaller garments can be rolled and stored example socks and undergarments

- Avoid stacking folded garments that have a tendency to crease, place the largest and heaviest garment on the bottom

TYPES OF STORAGE

Short Term Storage-

- This is for items worn on a day-to-day basis. It consists of that portion of the wardrobe currently being worn and used.
- Proper day-to-day handling of clothes extends the life of the clothing.
- Organization is extremely important for short-term clothing storage

Seasonal Storage

- Do not store damp or wet clothing
- Fold items flat as few times as possible. Fold on the same lines and keep for storage
- Put the garment in a cloth garment bag or a pillowcase, or wrapped up in muslin
- Do not overpack the items into storage containers. Keep mothballs naphthalene balls in mesh bags hanging inside the cupboard

Long Term Storage

- Long term means stored for a year or for a period of several years at a time (Example costumes, holiday and party garments, specialised sports clothing, wedding dresses, maternity wear and babies clothes)
- Do not starch these garments as starch tends to absorb moisture in humid climates and mildew grows on them, this may damage the fabrics.
- Storing white clothing in a black cloth is advisable as it helps to prolong the whiteness and life of the garment.

Summary

- Clothes should be put away after they are laundered and dry
- They should not be allowed and left around or they collect dust and dirt
- Storage should be well planned and depends on the space available in the house number of family members and number of items to be stored
- Storage can be of the hanging type on hangers in the cupboard or it can be flat storage put in boxes