Using Shared Laundry Facilities During the COVID-19 Pandemic

Current research suggests that SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19, can live for hours to days on hard surfaces, so laundry machines, countertops, and furniture need to be sanitized frequently. Health Canada has created a list of disinfectants that are safe and effective against the virus.

Although laundry from sick people should be kept bagged and separate while in your home to prevent accidental handling, there is no need to wash or dry these items separately.

**DO'S**

- Wash your hands before and after.
- Wipe down controls, and handles before and after use.
- Wash with soap and the warmest water possible. Do not overload the machine.
- Dry items at highest temperature possible and dry them completely.
- Disinfect your hamper before filling it with clean clothes.
- Keep a 2 m distance from others.

**DON'T'S**

- DON'T shake dirty laundry before putting it in the machine.
- DON'T leave soiled clothing or baskets on top of machines or tables.
- DON'T leave cleaning residues (like bleach) that could damage other people’s clothing.
- DON'T leave dryer door open when not in use.
- DON'T forget to wash your hands!

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