



DuPont Personal Protection
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Guidance on Cleaning Nomex® and Kevlar® FR/AR Apparel

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the recommended method to remove contamination to prevent the spread of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) from garments when working with a case of laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 or a person under investigation is laundering and drying per instructions from the clothing manufacturer.

Wash garments thoroughly

(<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/organizations/cleaning-disinfection.html>).

“Wash items as appropriate in accordance with the manufacturer’s instructions. If possible, launder items using the warmest appropriate water setting for the items and dry items completely.”

Specific washing and drying procedures to remove contamination from garments made from Nomex® aramid fiber are included in the attached laundering guide. Nomex® and Kevlar® aramid fibers are inherently flame resistant, meaning the flame resistance is a permanent or inseparable attribute of the fibers that cannot be washed out or worn away. Additionally, studies have shown that the procedures recommended in this guide are effective in cleaning garments made of Nomex® while minimizing the impact on colorfastness and wear life.

While we do not recommend it, if choosing to treat the surface of your FR/AR garments with disinfectant, please refer to the Nomex® chemical compatibility data included in the Nomex® Fiber Technical Guide attached. Additionally, it is important to ensure the suitability of any surface treatment before applying and wearing in the field, as it may impact the thermal properties, especially as it may contain flammable liquids, such as alcohol. Finally, please do not use chlorine-containing bleach, as the mechanical properties may be diminished thus reducing the life of the garment.

DuPont Personal Protection Team

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