

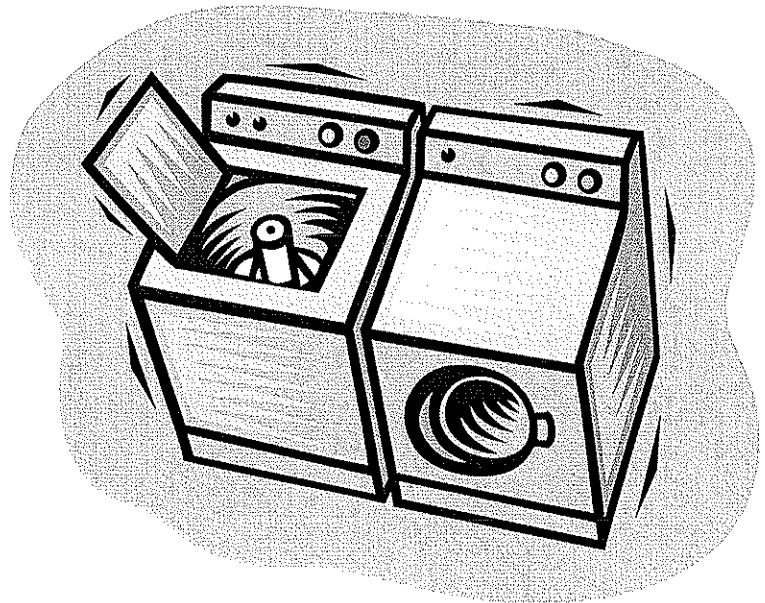


Clothes Dryer & Washing Machine Safety

The leading cause of home clothes dryer and washer fires is failure to clean them.

SAFETY TIPS

- Have your dryer installed and serviced by a professional.
- Do not operate the dryer without a lint filter. Clean the lint filter before or after each use. Remove accumulated lint around the drum.
- Rigid or flexible metal venting material should be used to sustain proper air flow and drying time.
- Make sure the air exhaust vent pipe is not restricted and the outdoor vent flap will open when the dryer is operating. Once a year, or more often if you notice that it is taking longer than normal for your clothes to dry, clean lint out of the vent pipe or have a dryer lint removal service do it for you.
- Keep dryers in good working order. Gas dryers should be inspected by a professional to ensure that the gas line and connection are intact and free of leaks.
- Make sure the right plug and outlet are used and that the machine is connected properly.
- Avoid overloading a washing machine or dryer. Follow the manufacturer's operating instructions.
- Do not leave a dryer running if you leave home or when you go to bed.
- Washing machines and dryers should be properly grounded.
- Make sure the outdoor vent flap is not covered by snow.
- Never dry items that have come in contact with flammable substances, such as cooking oil, gasoline, paint thinner, alcohol.
- Keep the dryer area clear of things that can burn, such as boxes or clothing.



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