

# Buying Guide



Dirty laundry is an everyday occurrence in foodservice and healthcare environments. In restaurants and hotels, food and drink can stain tablecloths, napkins, sheets and towels. In hospitals and care homes, blood, urine, faeces, antiseptics and medicines stain sheets, gowns and towels, and in all commercial kitchens, stains happen on aprons, tea towels and wash cloths – in every situation stains are frequent and diverse! But with good commercial laundry equipment and quality control practices, all these items can be cleaned hygienically and effectively and be back in service without unsightly marks and without the costly exercise of being disposed of.

To effectively disinfect and clean laundry, and ensure infection control, there are four key elements – mechanical action, temperature, time and chemicals. All items must be washed at the correct temperature for a sufficient amount of time to allow the mechanical action to break up soiling, whilst using the correct mix of chemicals. Getting this right will save time and money – rewashing items costs in terms of labour, energy, water and chemicals and stained laundered items reflect badly on an establishment or operation. Our range of heavy duty professional washing machines can handle the toughest of laundry jobs – complement these with professional tumble dryers and rotary irons to make light of this demanding chore.

It is important for any business using washing machines to have WRAS (Water Regulations Advisory Scheme) approval. This scheme covers installation and usage of any appliance which uses water from public mains supply and compliance with regulations is a must, as it is a criminal offence to cause waste, misuse, undue consumption or contaminations. All installations have to be granted WRAS approval and we can advise on this accordingly.

## Advantages

- Intelligent wash programmes that can adapt to how soiled linens are, to then determine how long the wash cycle should be, saving energy.
- Machines with highest energy efficiency ratings (A+++ ) can use up to 40% less electricity. Some have lower levels of water consumption too.
- Delayed start feature can allow operators to benefit from cheap electricity tariffs.
- Honeycomb drums cushion clothing so fewer creases to deal with afterwards.
- Dryers now can handle any type of load, even the most delicate items and with environmentally friendly heat pump technology, drying cycles are more economical, using up to 50% less electricity.
- Some machines are stackable, saving valuable space.
- Rotary irons speed up this labour intensive job and require no physical effort as heated plates apply ironing pressure – you can even sit down on the job! Some machines can be sited against a wall, making the most of available space.

## Buying Tips

- **What equipment?** – Assess the volume of laundry, frequency and type of items washed – many operations underestimate the capacity of the machine they need – it is more cost effective to have a larger capacity than to wash more frequently. Rotary irons have variable roller widths (83cm – 2.1 metre) to take a variety of items – choose larger widths for items such as bed sheets. Look at roller speeds for hourly output. Consider space restrictions – some washing/dryer models can stack to save space and some rotary iron return feed capabilities allow them to be sited against a wall.
- **Build quality and reliability** – Choose leading brands with an established reputation for quality, reliability and current technology. Don't go for cheap imports or domestic models, they won't stand up to the demand. Genuine service back-up, spare part availability and warranties are crucial. Check out energy ratings and water consumption – look at overall costs per load.
- **Operational features** – Look for built-in features that save time and energy, programmable models, easy to use controls, auto-dosing of chemicals if required, large porthole door for ease of loading/unloading, programme options for washing cloths and mops if required, variable spin speeds, delay start to set wash time to suit, condenser or vent models for dryers. For rotary irons, look at roller widths and speed settings; variable temperature controls, including selection for various textiles; steam function and return feed capabilities.

## Key to icons

	<b>Light Duty</b> Designed for commercial use in a less busy environment
	<b>Medium Duty</b> Strongly constructed to perform in a busy situation
	<b>Heavy Duty</b> High standard of build to provide good service under heavy use
	<b>Extra Heavy Duty</b> High powered, fast throughput with the highest standard of build
	<b>13 Amp</b> Plug and go!
	<b>Hardwired</b> Hard wiring required
	<b>Gas</b>
	<b>Stainless Steel Construction</b>
	<b>Warranty</b>