

casional stirring may help overcome this problem with liquid or chunky foods, but not with volume pieces of meat.

Cooking foods at the high setting for the first hour and on low for the remaining time helps bring the temperature of the food to 140° F within the USDA recommended maximum time of 4 hours for protein foods.

FOR FURTHER READING:

U.S. Department of Agriculture. *How to Buy Meat for Your Freezer*, G 166, for sale by Superintendent of Documents, Washington, D.C. 20402.

———. *Handbook for the Home*, 1973 Yearbook of Agriculture, for sale by Superintendent of Documents, Washington, D.C. 20402.

## *Washers, Dryers, Related Equipment*

**A**PLIANCES and related equipment used to care for clothing may be organized as you plan a specific utility area. Families may prefer to locate centers used to wash, dry, iron, and mend clothing in different areas of the home.

Convenience and good use of space are important as you select and place laundry equipment. To save steps, locate the laundry area on the same floor level as other work areas of the house.

If you do laundry while you work in the kitchen, put the washer and dryer in a utility area or hall near the kitchen. If space allows, put them in a corner of the kitchen. Another good location is in the bathroom or hall near the bedrooms, for most household linens and clothing are used and stored there.

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Place the washer next to a sink or laundry tub where you can pre-treat clothes before washing. Put the dryer beside the washer for your convenience in handling wet clothes. Wet clothes often weigh twice as much as dry ones. Allow at least 3' of workspace in front of the laundry equipment.

Appliance manufacturers offer many kinds of laundry equipment. Different models may fit your space or special needs better than others. Selection of laundry equipment is important since this equipment will be used for many years and represents a major portion of the appliance dollar.

As textiles and fabric finishes change you should select equipment to help insure fabric appearance retention. Special appliance features and improvements are designed for this purpose.

Washers are available in many types of models. They may be classified as wringer, portable, or automatic machines.

Wringer washers require considerable hand operation, but are less expensive. They may be preferred by families with specific water problems. Some families may select the non-automatic washer to help them manage large quantities of laundry on a specific wash day. New fabrics may be more difficult to handle in the wringer washer.

Many portable washers are spinner washers. The clothes are washed in one tub and rinsed in another. These have been designed for use with minimum space and perhaps a limited water supply. Some portables are available as smaller automatic machines. They also can be purchased with casters and uncouples for use in varied places.

Automatic washers fill, wash, drain, rinse and extract water with one setting of the controls. Many have special features to perform a variety of specific laundry tasks.

Consider what type of controls and features you want on your machine. Special features usually add costs and many may even complicate service problems. Some machines are completely pre-programmed. These may have an advantage for the person who

does not like to make decisions for the details of each wash load. Others may find it better to select a model that lets you program the variables of laundry procedures.

Some may need to consider how many family members are using the laundry appliances as they make selections. Today's laundry loads contain a variety of fibers, fabrics, colors, and construction. They need to be washed in special ways.

Some features related to operation of the automatic washer are: type of fill control, design to remove sediment, kind of rinse, and cycle speed during washing and spinning operations.

The total amount of water and the amount of hot water used varies between models. With special water and energy problems this may be a most important fact to consider before purchase. Many knit cycles use extra amounts of cool water.

Machines in most manufacturers' lines have variable water fill capacities. Some families may prefer to do most of their laundry in large and more economical loads. Others may find it best to use several different load sizes in any week. If you seldom need a large washer, consider the compact washer.

Most manufacturers provide dispensers to add laundry products to the wash at the correct time. These may be especially important to you if your laundry equipment is placed far away from other work areas.

Installation of automatic washers should meet local electrical and plumbing standards. It is suggested that washers be leveled and installed to individual-equipment circuits. Washer manufacturers will specify the correct water pressure needs. Water temperatures and quality may also need to be selection variables.

Automatic dryers reduce the time and effort required for drying. They also help a family have greater flexibility in laundry management. Dryers can help reduce the need for some clothing and storage space.

Dryers are offered in bottom, middle, and top-of-the-line models. The price

often depends on number of features, flexibility, size, and construction.

Lower priced models may give you less flexibility of time and temperature controls. Some may have a choice of venting and cool down cycles.

As dryers get more expensive they may become more automatic. The most expensive models require less attention and judgment by the user. A number of manufacturers have added special cycles to their dryers, and convenience options.

Wrinkle prevention or appearance retention is of primary importance as you select a dryer. More and more dryers are doing the ironing for the homemaker. For this reason you may be interested in knit, permanent press, or wrinkle relaxing cycles.

There are two basic types of automatic drying. One is moisture sensing, and the other is a temperature sensing control.

The moisture sensing control system is used in electronic dryers. This is done by setting a particular control. The temperature and degree of dryness can be set for the temperature controlled dryer.

Portable dryers are compact low temperature dryers designed for limited space. These may be sold in combination with washers or individually. They operate on regular household electricity. They usually have half the capacity of a full-size dryer. They may be moved on rollers or even installed above the washer on special wall brackets. Some homes use them as a second dryer.

The venting of a dryer is important when buying or installing this appliance. It is desirable and highly recommended that most clothes dryers be vented to the exterior. This will prevent accumulations of lint and moisture. It will also maintain drying efficiency and save on energy costs. The dryer should also have an adequate air supply to operate at peak efficiency.

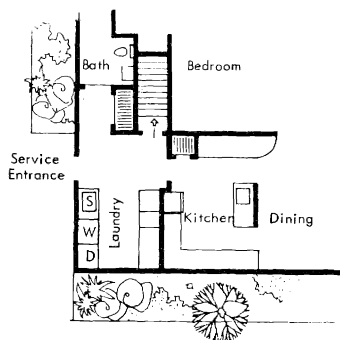
Proper installation of a dryer is very critical. Poor leveling can contribute to unsatisfactory tumbling characteristics. A gas or electric dryer should be installed according to local ordinances.

Automatic dryers are available in electric or gas models. There is little difference in performance between the fuels. Generally gas dryers are more expensive to buy and less expensive to operate.

As fuel costs and availability differ, this must be decided on an individual basis.

All home laundry appliances should include a factory warranty. Service costs and availability may be a big factor in the maintenance of automatic equipment. Some washers and dryers are more easily serviced than others. Those with front opening controls are more accessible.

Consider the controls and use and care instructions as you select a washer or dryer. The instruction booklet usually has a part number and is an important tool for the user.



Plan for a sorting area to save effort at laundry time. Use ventilated bins made of perforated hardboard fastened on the wall above the washer and dryer. Or provide clothes baskets placed on wide shelves above the dryer or on pull-out shelves beneath a counter next to the laundry sink.

Fasten a sturdy rod or rack in a well-ventilated place above a laundry tub, sink or floor drain where you can hang knits and permanent press items. This may also be used for dripping clothes.

Plan storage for detergents, bleaches, and other laundry supplies. Keep them out of reach of children. Use sturdy adjustable shelves or a cabinet above the washer, or a locked cabinet near or under the sink.

## *Imaginative Ways With Bathrooms*

**T**ODAY, a bathroom can be anything you want it to be. With a little imagination and an understanding of the possibilities that exist, you can make decisions that will make your daily life more enjoyable. Whether a bathroom is being planned for a new house, or you are just remodeling or improving an existing bathroom, it is important to examine your personal needs, desires, and finances before buying and building. Extra energy spent in thinking before doing will be well worthwhile.

The first consideration to be faced concerns functions of the bathroom. A bathroom need not be just a small, white-tiled room with three fixtures. It might also include a dressing and grooming area, a space for sunbathing and exercising, a sauna, or even an area to relax, read, listen to the radio, or watch television. Free yourself from conventional ideas, and you will probably be happier with the results.

The bathroom, even in its conventional uses, is a very important place. There is no one who can do without a bathroom or would want to. The bathroom is the first place we go in the morning, and the last place at night. We probably use the bathroom more often than any other room in the house. These are good reasons for making it a pleasant and comfortable place to be and use.

In planning for a new house or new bath in an existing house, the size of the family will largely determine the number of bathrooms needed. Particular individual needs and desires must also be taken into account. And of course the financial situation of the family will have an effect on final decisions.

If you can have only one bathroom, it must serve many purposes. Therefore, it should be as large as possible.