

# WEAR & CARE OF YOUR FRENZY CREATIVE CHARACTER/ MASCOT/ PROMOTIONAL COSTUME



## CARE

By their very nature, Mascot & Character costumes can be very warm to wear. After use, your costume may well be damp with perspiration. It's not advisable to simply put the costume away in this condition! If you are not going to launder it immediately, we'd advise hanging it in a warm room to air dry - turning inside out for a short while will speed up this process. **Ask us about the options for keeping cool!**

To cut down on laundry requirements, wearing a t-shirt or under-layer when in the costume will help dramatically. Most of your perspiration will be absorbed by this garment and not the costume.

Wherever possible, most parts of our costumes are made to be machine washable. If you have a fur or fleece costume with a lining of black gabardine (a smooth, matt cotton-like material) or a fleece lining it is likely to be machine washable.

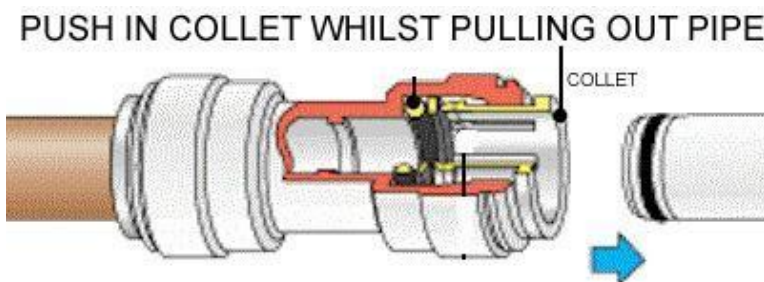
It's advisable to check with us before you wash your costume for the first time however!

Various parts of our costumes are machine washable - these include:

- Full Fur costume bodies (with zips on the inside legs)
- Split Fur costumes (legs on a velcro adjustable 'vest') and arms with either an integral t-shirt or on a simple vest.
- Separate t-shirts (with or without printed logos)
- Lycra or Fleece undersuits (leggings and tops)
- Hands and Gloves

Many of our costumes include removable white plastic support hoops - these are generally around the widest parts of the costume. Hoops simply remove before washing, and are replaced afterwards.

The following diagram explains how the hoop connector mechanism is released.



Costumes should be **washed** on a cool or cold cycle in a washing machine, using good quality laundry detergent. Use of fabric softener is not advisable as some can leave a slightly sticky texture on pile fabrics. Do not overload the machine.

**Under NO circumstances should costumes be Tumble Dried!!** Heat will damage the fur fibres and change the pile texture on fleece fabrics.

Whilst professional dry cleaners would have large drummed machines, some of our fabrics will not be suitable for dry cleaning. Seek the advice of the specialist in store before dry cleaning costumes.

Feet and costume heads are cleaned as follows:

After each use, wipe out the inside of the head and the feet with an antiseptic wipe. Dettol surface wipes, Motorcycle helmet wipes or similar are best for this.

Organic surface stains (mud etc) on pile fabrics can normally be brushed out when they have dried. Fur covered heads and feet can be spot cleaned with a little laundry detergent in warm water. Use a damp, soft cloth (J-cloth or similar) and dab away any stains. Fleece finish heads and feet can be treated in a similar way but avoid rubbing too hard in the same area to avoid pilling of the fabric.

Vinyl or leather covered shoes or feet can be normally cleaned with warm water and detergent in a similar way.

We're always available to provide advice about cleaning your costume, or we can arrange for it to be collected from you, cleaned in our facility and returned to you. Make contact for more information!

## **WEAR**

As with all costumes of this kind, your vision is restricted when wearing it. It is vital that when 'out in the field' you have a non costumed minder with you at all times; small children are drawn to cute furry costumes and it is sometimes not possible to see them if they are at your feet.

Sensible precautions should be taken and activities that require good all round vision should not be attempted in the costume - no driving for example!

We'd recommend spending some time getting to know the feel of the costume and working out your limitations in it before embarking on the public.

When wearing the costume it is vital that regular breaks are taken.

Costumes like this by their very nature are incredibly hot to wear and whilst we try to manufacture costumes that will be as comfortable as possible when in use - you will get hot! We'd recommend taking a short break every 15 minutes or so - removing the costume to allow your body to cool down and drinking plenty of water.

We wouldn't recommend spending more than 2 hours in the costume without taking a break and getting changed out of it for a longer rest period.

## **STORAGE**

Always store your costume in a well ventilated and warm place if possible. Hanging the costume up between uses and keeping the head and feet on a shelf or similar with plenty of ventilation will ensure that when you come to use the costume again, it's as fresh and crease free as possible.

## **QUESTIONS?**

Advice is freely offered. Document your questions and send on an email to [studio@frenzycreative.co.uk](mailto:studio@frenzycreative.co.uk)

**Frenzy can fit fans to costumes, and supply cool "straps". For further information, just get in touch!**