

GENERAL PROCESSING CONDITIONS

To obtain the best of Xtrafresh the following procedures must be respected:

Avoid prolonged exposure to water - Avoid high water temperatures - Avoid exposure to harsh chemical conditions.



Fabric production

- Fabrics constructed from antimicrobial yarns perform best when the fabric is **100% treated yarn**.
- **Blending** with other (non - antimicrobial) yarns is possible. However the total silver content of the fabric is diluted and the fabric is therefore only partially protected with silver, and so effectiveness is reduced.
- As a general guide, blends containing **>15%** non-antimicrobial yarns should be avoided. Tests should be carried out to analyze antimicrobial activity performance for blend fabrics.



Scouring

- Prior to scouring, we recommend to **use fibre preparations** (sizing agents, oils etc), which are easily **water soluble**.
- It is mandatory to use of a **non-ionic surfactant** e.g. ethoxylated fatty alcohol with low cloud point (e.g. < 50°C) and therefore low wash temperature (40 to 60°C), pH: 5-6 during 20 min. (Losin OCB-0)
- Minimize processing time and temperature during **scouring**.
- **Rinse fabric well** to remove excess salts.
- **Neutralize fabrics** during final stage (e.g. with citric acid).
- Do not store wet fabrics. **Dry fabrics** whenever it is not possible to proceed immediately to dyeing.



Heat- Setting

- **Usual temperature** and time whether PA6 or PA66.
- Steam **heat-setting should be avoided**, or minimize exposure.
- We suggest proceeding to **padding liquor** before heat-setting with an antioxidant product, especially if white or pale colours (pH.5).



Dyeing

- **In anionic, cationic or a mixture** of both auxiliary products can be used (Lyogen NH, Univadine PA...).
- Avoid dyeing processes which need reduction clearing.
- **Minimize processing time and temperature** during dyeing. (Avoid above 98°C and 45 min)
- **Neutralize fabrics** during final stage (e.g. with citric acid).
- **Dry fabrics immediately** following dyeing.
- Is recommended using **pH** as close to neutral as possible. (pH: 5 - 6)
- Do not use dyestuffs containing Sulphur groups. We suggest using **acid dyes**.
- **Avoid any water/soil repellent** treatment.



Bleaching

- **Avoid sodium hydrosulfite**, hypochlorite and hydrogen peroxide bleaches.
- **Neutralize fabrics** following each bleaching step (e.g. with citric acid).



Domestic laundry

- Silver-treated fabrics should be laundered using **mild detergents at low washing temperatures**.
- For Colour-fast wash or wool wash detergents maximum temperature recommended is 40°C.