# **QUILT USE AND CARE INSTRUCTIONS**



## **STORAGE**

Properly storing your quilt is key to a long lasting/high performance product. Store your quilt in a cool and dry location. Do not store it in a compressed manner, such as in a stuff sack. Ideally they should be stored in their included storage sack, a large laundry bag, laying flat, or hung uncompressed.

#### **CLEANING**

Keeping your quilt clean is important. Do not let your quilt touch the ground. Remove surface dirt by brushing with a tooth brush and down detergent. A damp sponge can be used to clean the surface of your quilt to help postpone the need to wash. Your quilt should be cleaned when it starts to accumulate oils. If your quilt has started to lose loft, or the fabric is badly discolored, it is time for the quilt to be washed. Body oils, hair oils, lotions and cosmetics can decompose down. NEVER DRY CLEAN your quilt. Dry cleaning solvents strip down of it's natural oils that allow it to loft. You may wash the quilt yourself by carefully following the detailed cleaning instructions below, or have an experienced cleaner wash your quilt using a soap specially formulated for down. We recommend a thorough cleaning before storing at the end of each season.

#### MACHINE WASHING

When washing is required, your quilt may be machine washed in a front loading washing machine. Use the gentle cycle, pre-soak, extra rinse, and spin dry cycles. DO NOT wash in a top loading, agitator type washing machine. When transferring your quilt from the washer to the dryer, be sure to place your hands under the quilt and lift from the bottom. Do not grab the wet quilt from the top to pull and lift as the weight of the wet material and down could cause internal quilt damage. It is important to handle wet quilts carefully using the technique described.

#### HAND WASHING

Fill a clean bathtub with warm water and use a down detergent. Do NOT use bleach or fabric softeners. Soak the quilt for no longer than 60 minutes. Gently knead the quilt from one end to the other, to ensure that all the down is thoroughly exposed to the soap. The coating makes it difficult to saturate the down. After washing, rinse thoroughly with cold water at least two times. Use extreme care when lifting the quilt wet. It is very heavy and the internal baffles will tear, if not supported from below. Gently press out excess water, or use an extractor if in a Laundromat. Water may be extracted in a regular upright washer by carefully arranging the quilt in the machine against the outer tub wall and using the spin cycle only. NEVER RING OUT A QUILT, it will damage the shell structure! Remove as much water as possible before starting the drying process.

### **DRYING**

When drying your quilt, it is essential to AVOID too much HEAT. A commercial dryer set on permanent press or air fluff is a good option. Periodically check the shell, if it is getting hot, either select a lower temperature or air dry the quilt. Drying may take several cycles. During washing, the down will collect in clumps. As your quilt dries, it is important to go through the entire quilt and pull apart these down clumps, distributing the down more or less evenly through the quilt. This only takes a few seconds, and will ensure that the down dries quickly and evenly. Alternatively, two or three tennis balls placed in the dryer will help gently break up clumps of down. Carefully drying your quilt will leave you with a high performing and well lofted product.