



# **Cesario Marching Band Uniform Care Guide**

**Fred J. Miller Inc.**  
8765 Washington Church Road  
Miamisburg, OH 45342

800-444-3524  
FAX 877-356-3291

[cesariocollection@fjminc.com](mailto:cesariocollection@fjminc.com)

# Table of Contents

Table of Contents .....	2
<i>CESARIO</i> Uniform Care .....	3
Quick Reference Stain Guide.....	9
Headwear .....	10
Tips On Care And Cleaning.....	10
Guide To Proper Undergarments .....	11
Measuring For A Cesario Marching Band Uniform .....	<b>Error! Bookmark not defined.</b>



## **CESARIO Uniform Care**

The *Cesario* collection of band uniforms is performance wear made for easy care, comfort and durability. Proper care is imperative with any garment.

**\*\*\* PLEASE READ CAREFULLY! \*\*\***

### **Laundering**

It is suggested to have a committee that takes care of garments. Divide the garments to be washed among several parents who will use **the same washing procedure** to ensure correct care. It is **not** necessary to wash uniforms before wearing them.

All garments are washable, unless otherwise stated. However, this does not mean that careful care and repair are not necessary.

### **Jackets and Bib Pants:**

- **Always wash whites with whites and darks with dark colors.**
- **Avoid washing bib pants and jackets together! Never wash in hot water!**
- Jackets and bib pants are made of completely washable polyester-gabardine. Machine wash and dry on the gentle / knit cycle, but **do not overload machines**. Launder 4 to 6 pieces at a time.
- **Do not use liquid fabric softener on Cesario band uniforms!** If a softener sheet is required, use only one (1) sheet per dry load (see drying directions below.)
- If a stain does occur, sponge with water or treat with an appropriate product before it has time to set and before laundering. **(See stain removal “Quick Reference” Guide)** You may use “Spray and Wash” and other **non-chlorine** stain removers when washing. **Use only non-chlorine detergent!** Many detergents are harsh and have a bleaching ingredient that will cause even colorfast fabric to migrate.

**NOTE: Always test wash one garment before doing the entire set. Water in different regions of the country can sometimes react differently in combination with different detergents and the fabrics.**

- **A multi-colored jacket must be washed with care!** As a precaution, color can be set and bleeding prevented by soaking two-color garments in salt water (1/4 to 1/2 cup per wash load depending on load size) or white vinegar water the **FIRST time the garments are washed.** Or, use Carbona's "Dye Magnet," a dry treated material. This product which may be found at most drug stores, fabric centers, and supermarkets picks up any excess color. Follow manufacturer's instructions.
- If discoloration should occur, Carbona's "Color Run Remover" or Rit Dye's "Rit Fabric Treatment Color Remover" will help remove migrating color. After using one of these products, wash the garment again and this generally will remedy the problem.
- **Dry garments completely before storing.**
- **Caution: Do NOT use a hot dryer setting!** A hot dryer setting will remove the press. Use a cool setting. When dried on a cool setting, uniforms will require very little touch up. **Remove them from the dryer and place on a hanger immediately. Steam pressing shoulders and collars is required to retain their proper shape and appearance to renew the heat bonded interfacings.** Touch up pressing on pants may be desired occasionally, or the **pants** may be professionally pressed after several washings and drying.

#### **Garments or Pieces with VELCRO:**

- Make certain the hook side of the Velcro is **not** exposed when laundering uniforms to avoid a 'picking' of the fabric. If a jacket has both the hook (hard side) and loop (soft side) of Velcro, **hook pieces together evenly so the hook side is not exposed.**

#### **Extended Shoulders (Wings) and Collars:**

- Fold back extended shoulders or wings onto the shoulder during washing and drying. Also do this when transporting uniforms. Folding allows them to hold their shape much better.

#### **Baldrics and Gauntlets:**

- **Hand wash** baldrics and gauntlets made from specialty or **unique fabrics** (i.e. sequin, luster chrome, luster brass, etc.). These **must be hand-washed** in cool water then towel dried to remove excess water. They should lie flat to dry. Wash sequin as little as possible and **always** wash in **cold** water.
- Wash ploy gabardine baldrics and gauntlets on a gentle cycle and dry on a permanent press setting in a dryer observing all laundering instructions previously provided for this fabric type. **Make sure to hook the Velcro closure together when laundering in a machine to avoid picking of fabric.**

#### **Vest and Cinch Belts:**

- All back belts on vests and cinches have a six-inch elastic with a layer of stretch fabric. These items are to be **hand washed and then flat dried** because continued drying in a dryer will eventually destroy the elastic.

## Fitting / Alterations

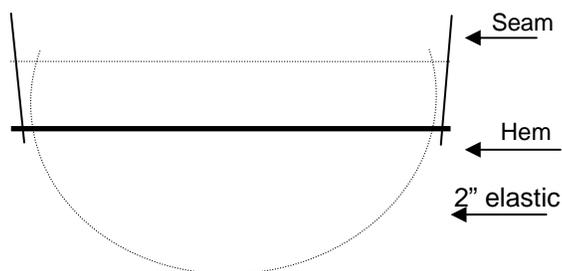
### Sleeves:

- **Adjust – a – Cuff Option:**
  - ▶ Adjust the snaps placed at different increments inside the sleeves to eliminate sewing sleeve hems.

### Pants:

- **Length**
  - ▶ FJM suggests a hem of 2 to 3 inches to hang properly.
  - ▶ If you are preserving fabric for future alterations, keep no more than six inches which can be folded over to create a 3 inch hem.
- **Bib Pant Sliders:**
  - ▶ Sliders on bib pants are heavy durable plastic. If shoulders are still too long after adjusting, the strap can be cut shorter and re-sewn in the back.
  - ▶ Before determining pant length, adjust the shoulder straps to achieve proper crotch position. Pants should not hang unreasonably low in the crotch area. These uniforms are designed to have the hem come as closely as possible to brushing the top of the shoes. Therefore, students should have their band shoes on when being fit.
  - ▶ Have students put on the bib pants wrong side out with their band shoes on. Seams can be adjusted easily if necessary and the hem should be pinned / marked to the top of the shoe.
  - ▶ **Pant Suggestion:** To ensure pants stay in place and rest on the top of the shoe, elastic stirrups may be added in the following manner:

Add 9" of 1/2" to 3/4" elastic (black or white). Place each end of the elastic 2" up from the bottom of the pant leg securing it on the inside of the pant leg at the inseam and side-seam. This will keep the pants sitting on top of shoe properly. If elastic is placed too low it will give the appearance of hugging the foot. **Wear the elastic over sock and inside shoe.**



- **Adjust-A-Pant Option Fitting:**

Each pant leg has snap adjustments located on both the inside and outside leg seams. The last 2 are male snaps which fold up to meet 1-12 female snaps. Use male snaps to create a firm anchor at the hem's edge.

- ▶ Adjust the shoulder strap; have students try the pants on wrong side out then fold up the hem and snap to the desired length.
- ▶ After the hem length has been determined, the student should remove the pants without unsnapping the new hem length.
- ▶ Press the new hem into place and the pants are ready to go. **CAUTION:** Avoid pressing with high heat and DO NOT press over the snap area as high heat will melt the snap imprint onto the outside of the garment.
- ▶ If the hem is very short (2-3 inches), the hem may need to be tacked slightly between the snapped hem to help hold the crease in place.

- **Additional Length Options:**

- ▶ Move female snap tape or add more if a desired length is not obtainable.

- **Cleaning / Maintenance:**

- ▶ Launder pants can with snap tape left in place so that the length sizing does not have to be repeated each time uniforms are laundered.
- ▶ At the end of the season, store pants clean with hems unsnapped.

**Note:**

Due to the ease of hemming, it is suggested that all students' uniforms be evaluated each year. Students who have changed in height will then continue to march with the best possible length and look.

**General Alterations of Garments:**

- Sleeve and pant hems can be changed per directions above.
- Side seams can be altered, but leave **at least ½ inch seam allowance** after alteration
- Center back seam can be taken in or let out on the jackets, but the zipper will have to be removed first and re-inserted
- A press cloth dampened with a 50/50 white vinegar and water solution will help to set a new hem crease or remove an old as needed.

## General Precautions and FYI:

### Undergarments:

- Wear a T-shirt, 'Underarmour' (available for cold and hot weather), thermo-underwear, or any other shirt made of an absorbent fabric under uniforms. The absorbent clothing should be worn UNDER the pants.
- Do **not** wear white underwear with white or cream or very light colored pants. This is true for both male and female. The best choice is a tan, nude, gray or any other light color which will not show through the fabric as easily.

### Buttons:

- Buttons are tack-back buttons. The top of the button is constructed of plated brass which will not rust. The back and tacks have a rust resistant coating.
- Buttons can be removed by taking the tack off with a pair of pliers. If necessary, buttons are easily replaced by pushing the tack through the fabric and pushing a button onto the tack.
- Extra buttons and tacks are enclosed with your order. Please feel free to contact the FJM office if you need additional buttons or backs; there is a minimal fee for these once the extra set sent with uniforms has been used. **DO NOT re-use damaged buttons as the spring mechanism is probably broken.**

### Precaution:

- **No** perfume, deodorant, or hair spray should be sprayed on or next to garments. The residue from these items will cause a build up on the fabric or sequins causing them to lose their luster. Excess friction of velcro or sequins against the fabric may pick the fabric. 'Picks' are easily removed with an electric beard trimmer or tool designed for this use.

### Important:

- Make any repairs as needed. Repair of minor seam rips or loosening of sequins or trim must be taken care of before the problem gets worse.

### Dry Cleaning:

- Can garments be dry cleaned? Yes, but we do not recommend it. Colors remain brighter with machine washing and chemicals used in dry-cleaning can often affect the material from which the uniforms are made. In addition, the amount of money saved with no cleaning bills can be used for buying new instruments, equipment, etc.
- **Never dry clean sequins, metallic dot fabric or laminated fabrics.**

## Care of Unique Fabrics:

### **Sequins, Metallic Dot Fabric or Laminated Fabrics:**

- Glitzy fabrics do require extra care; we **do not guarantee sequin**. Such fabrics require high maintenance by all personnel.
- **Do not under any circumstances ever iron any of the sequin, metallic dot, mylar, or laminated fabrics.**
- Take care of repairs as soon as possible.
- **DO NOT pull loose threads or sequins from sequined fabrics. The entire row of sequins could come loose. Sew loose threads and sequins to the backing.**

### **Mylar Stripes or Overlays:**

- Take care in folding or the storage of garments with mylar. Mylar will crease if folded over or abused.

### **Lumina Metallics and Tackle Twill:**

- FJM's new Lumina metallic fabric is washable. If it is sewn into the uniform itself, it may be washed with care.

## **Storage:**

- **Never stack or store a garment wet from either water or perspiration.**
- Do not place wet or damp garments in a plastic bag.
- Impress upon the members that proper hanging and drying of garments after each time they are worn is imperative.

Proper washing and general maintenance will add life to all your performance wear. With proper care your group will always look fresh and prepared.

**Please contact the FJM office at 1-800-444-3524 if you have any further questions regarding the care of your Cesario band uniforms.**

# Quick Reference Stain Guide

## Helpful hints for care and maintenance of Uniforms

REMEMBER – Washable uniforms, like all clothes, can get stained. It is important to remove the stain as soon as possible. This list is enclosed to help you with difficult and unusual types of stains.

### **BLOT STAINS WITH WATER, SOLVENTS, AND CLEANING AGENTS! Do not rub!**

- A. **PRE TREAT STAINS BEFORE WASHING** (apply stain treatment and scrub with a toothbrush or other like tool before the item is placed in the washing machine.

Use regular laundry detergent (without chlorine or reads safe for colors)

- B. “Lestoil” – will take out most stains
- C. “Simple Green” – For hard to remove grass stains or dirt rings on collars and sleeves. (This product is found in automotive department) We prefer the spray type.
- D. “Carbona” – Has a variety of removers called “Stain Devils”. Listed below are the different removers.
- “Stain Devil” – Make Up and Grass Remover
  - “Stain Devil” – Blood and Milk Remover
  - “Stain Devil” – Coffee, Tea and Cola Remover
  - “Stain Devil” – Chewing Gum and Glue Remover
  - “Stain Devil” – Ink and Crayon Remover
- E. “Whink” – For removing rust stains
- F. Make sure that percussion harnesses/carriers are padded with foam or other cushion-like material. This will help prevent the metal carriers and bolts from damaging the jacket. We do not guarantee our uniforms on damage done from percussion harnesses.
- G. Aerosol hair spray or rubbing alcohol will remove ballpoint ink stain.
- H. Waterless hand cleaner like those used in the garage or automotive environments can be used as a pre-treat for grease, oil, tar, or paint. This product dissolves the oil-base stain before it is set in. **However, this must be used BEFORE ANY WATERBASE treatment.**



# Headwear

*If you have purchased headwear please see below.*

Proper care and cleaning of your hat ensures the longevity for which it is designed. Please note the size conversion chart to assist in the correct distribution of headwear for marching unit members.

## Tips On Care And Cleaning

1. Remove all metal pieces before cleaning to prevent rust. Plastic parts, including emblems, will not be harmed.
2. Remove all drape cords and tassels before cleaning to prevent color bleeding.
3. Hand wash all parts of the hat with a mild liquid cleaner diluted with cold water. There are many products designed for such purposes such as Woolite or mild dishwashing detergent.
4. Scrub soiled parts gently with a toothbrush to remove dirt particles.
5. Allow the hat to drip dry. **Do not place in a dryer or near artificial heat.**
6. Clean vinyl and plastic materials with a non-abrasive polish to restore the original luster. Use Armor All, Pledge, or other products specifically designed for polishing vinyl and plastic.
7. **DO NOT dry clean,**
8. **DO NOT use any spot-cleaning chemicals.**
9. **DO NOT bleach** any part of the hat.

## CONVERSION TABLE

Hat size Inches	Hat Size	Actual Head Size in
XS	6-5/8	20-5/8" through 21"
	6-3/4	21-1/8" through 21-3/8"
S	6-7/8	21-1/2" through 21-3/4"
	7	21-7/8" through 22-1/8"
M	7-1/8	22-1/4" through 22-1/2"
	7-1/4	22-5/8" through 22-7/8"
L	7-3/8	23" through 23-1/4"
	7-1/2	23-3/8" Through 23-5/8"
XL	7-5/8	23-3/4" through 24"
	7-3/4	24-1/8" through 24-3/8"



## Guide To Proper Undergarments For FJM Custom Performance Wear

The following suggestions for appropriate uniform undergarments have been gathered from the expert designers and pattern-makers who create the FJM performance wear as well as customers who have purchased them. Please feel free to contact our offices at 1-800-444-FLAG or [feedback@fjminc.com](mailto:feedback@fjminc.com) if you have any questions, comments or concerns, or your own helpful hints!

### **Cesario Uniform Recommended Undergarments:**

- If your musicians wear black, navy blue, spruce green, charcoal grey, or any other dark-color bib pants, they may wear any color undergarment. We suggest students do not wear boxer shorts under bib pants, however, as the Cesario bib pants are naturally designed to be form fitting and boxer shorts may cause unsightly bulges and wrinkles due to fabric shifting.
- If your musicians wear white, light cream, cream, or any other light color bib pants, we recommend wearing heather grey, cream, light powder blue, or flesh-tone undergarments. Do not wear white underwear beneath white bib pants as most often the undergarment will show through. It is best to test out a few underwear options to determine the desired look with your uniform before informing the students of a required purchase.
- If your Cesario jacket has a white, light cream, cream, or dove grey back, we do not recommend wearing dark tee-shirts or other dark undergarments underneath. Many directors have the students wear their band t-shirt under the uniform jacket. That works well if your band shirt is light in color; however, if your jacket is a light color you run the risk of the darker color – as well as any writing or print – showing through. We recommend plain white or heather grey t-shirts to go under light colored jackets.

- Cesario uniform jackets are designed to be form-fitting and provide a sleek, tapered look. We highly recommend not allowing your students to wear sweatshirts or any other bulky top underneath. Many band directors provide their students with insulated rain coats for cold football games and contests. You may view our selection of rain gear by visiting our website at [www.fjminc.com](http://www.fjminc.com) or contacting a customer service representative at 1.800.444.3524.
- Under Armour brand garments are available through FJM for wearing under all Cesario uniforms. We offer both Heatgear and Coldgear in a variety of colors to fit your uniform needs. We highly recommend this as your **first** undergarment option for Cesario uniforms. Contact a customer service representative if you would like to request a sample of Under Armour.
  - ▶ Heatgear™ is the original full T and features the Moisture Transport System and reliable compression. This garment is designed for a next-to-skin ultra tight fit and works wonderfully in warm weather climates or as a protective summer garment.
  - ▶ Coldgear™ features a double-sided fabric that wicks moisture from the skin and circulates body heat. It also provides core temperature regulation and superior moisture transport in a crew neck. New brushed fabrication delivers a slip-on feel for added comfort. This garment is designed to for a next-to-skin ultra tight fit and is ideal for cold climates or winter protection.