

How to Care for Angora

GATHER: A large basin (a large sink or your bathtub will work!), mild detergent designed for delicate wool fabrics, 1-2 large white towels. *Optional:* Large Mesh drying rack, stain remover.

1. **Check the care label:** *Always* start by checking the care label on your angora sweater. The label should provide specific instructions for washing. Follow any guidelines provided, as they may vary between different sweaters. No label? Read on.
2. **Pretreat/Prep:** Before washing, gently shake the sweater to remove any loose dirt or debris. If there are any stains, spot clean them with a mild detergent or stain remover, following the item's instructions.
3. **Prep your water:** Fill a clean basin or sink with lukewarm water. Avoid using hot water as it can cause the fibers to shrink or felt. You'll want to start and finish the process all at once...**your sweater will not respond well to changes in the temperature of the water.**
4. **Add Mild Detergent:** Add a small amount of mild detergent specifically designed for delicate fabrics or wool. **Avoid using harsh chemicals or bleach**, as they can damage the angora fibers. Mix the detergent with the water to create a soapy solution.
5. **Submerge and soak:** Gently submerge the sweater into the soapy water and swirl it around. Allow the sweater to soak for **UP TO 10 MINUTES** minutes to loosen any dirt or oils.
6. **Gently wash:** After soaking, use your hands to gently agitate the sweater in the soapy water. Be very gentle and avoid excessive rubbing or stretching, as angora fibers are delicate. Pay special attention to any stained or soiled areas.
7. **Remove excess water:** Gently ball up the sweater, and gently squeeze out the excess water – **DO NOT WRING OR STRETCH.**
8. **Rinse thoroughly:** Empty the soapy water and refill the basin with clean lukewarm water (same temp you started with!). Add the sweater to your fresh water, gently pressing to remove any soap residue. Repeat this rinsing process until the water runs clear, ensuring that no detergent remains.
9. **Remove excess water:** Carefully lift the sweater out of the water, supporting its weight. If you're using a basin, it may be easier to pour out some of the water first. If your sink or tub, you might want to drain the water a bit. **TAKE CARE** to avoid the sweater getting sucked into the drain! Avoid wringing or twisting the sweater, as this can damage the fibers. **Instead**, gently lay the sweater out flat on a white towel and gently roll the sweater, gently squeezing and pressing as you roll.
10. **Reshape and dry flat:** Lay a clean, dry towel on a flat surface and place the sweater on top of it. **If you have a flat, soft mesh surface, this is even better.** Gently reshape the sweater to its original size and dimensions. Avoid hanging the sweater, as it can stretch or lose its shape. **Leave it to air dry away from direct sunlight or heat sources.**
11. **Final touches:** Once the sweater is dry, you can lightly steam (**BE AWARE OF HEAT!!**) it or use a fabric brush to fluff up the angora fibers and remove any wrinkles. If you don't have a fabric brush, a soft 'baby' brush will work, as well.

Remember, hand washing is generally the safest method for angora sweaters. If you're unsure or if the care label specifies otherwise, it's always best to consult with a professional dry cleaner who has experience with delicate garments like angora.

With proper care, your sweater can last for years! Thank you for visiting and I hope this method works wonderfully for you.

Much Love, Cindi

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