



FURSUIT CARE GUIDE

We have compiled this small guide to help you clean and maintain your suit.

A proper care of your fursuit will ensure it has a long lifespan, and in good condition during the years.

This guide is valid for StuffedTails fursuits. If you don't own a fursuit made by us, we highly recommend to ask your maker all the information you need to wash your suit. We can not guarantee that you can have good results following this guide for a fursuit that is not made by us.

FIRST TIME WEARING A FURSUIT

Please be aware that fursuits can limitate movements and can be really heavy. In addition, they have a limited vision and some "dead points" where you can't see.

Our heads are wearable with glasses (since i wear them too), and adjustable. We try to make our suits as breathable as possible, adding some air vents on the cheeks, ears and nostrils, but they are still fursuits, and they can be claustrophobic for someone.

Fursuits can be really hot to wear. Please keep it in mind if this is your first fursuit!

You need to follow some simple but necessary rules to avoid an heat stroke. This is very common and dangerous with wearing a fursuit so please, be responsible!!

To guarantee your fursuit a long life, we recommend always wearing a functional clothing. This will protect the fursuit parts from sweat. It only lets liquid through, but not dirt. We suggest to use an **Under Armour Heat Gear**. You should use a full under-suit, this will include a shirt, leggings, gloves and a balaclava.

We recommend not to buy the cheapest goods. Functional clothing should be washed without fabric softener to guarantee the function.

We suggest to wash the functional cloting at least once before wearing it under the suit. These materials could bleed in a purple\bluish color that can ruin the backside of the fur.

Remember to STAY HYDRATED with water, and take regular breaks to cool down! Energy drinks, electrolytes, candies or salted snacks, can be useful to help you to replenish your energies after a time wearing a fursuit. Wearing a camel pack under your suit is a great way to stay hydrated on the go for longer performances.

Things like EZCooldown Vests and collars can really help you to stay cool. You can also install a fan inside your head, or use an external one that you can put in your suit's mouth to refresh your face.

STORAGE

Keep your suit stored unfolded. Keep your suit away from heat sources and out of direct sunlight. Sunlight can bleach fabrics making it fade, yellowing the white fur and burn fur fibers.

Please **DO NOT** hang your bodysuit on a hanger for long terms storage, it can stretch out the shoulders on your fursuit. We suggest to not keep the digitigrade paws and tail attached to the body during the storage, because they will increase the weight and let the bodysuit stretch. For best keeping, remove any padding and hang on a wide shouldered hange.

For feetpaws, we suggest to fill them with pluriball or air pillows to keep the shape in place, especially for digitigrade feetpaws. Keep them standing on the soles.

The head should be stored hanged on a helmet hanger, or on a shelf in your closet. Do not fold or crush it, we do not suggest to storage it in a closed container. Any removable components should be removed for storage. If your suit has a battery back, please disconnect it from the cables or remove the batteries to prevent the rust on them.

Handpaws can be stored with a jeans hanger, or resting on a shelf.

Make sure your fursuit is fully dry before putting it into storage. This prevents mould forming. Dryer sheets can keep your fursuit smelling good, however, please do not let them directly touch the fur.

Anyway, dryer sheets are not a substitute for washing your fursuit!!

Once a month, you should air out and brush your fursuit to prevent any wrinkles on fur and smells developing from storage

TRAVELING

Always use the largest possible suit-case that can be checked in. Check with your airline for their limits. Recommended are hard-shelled suitcases or pelican cases. If using a soft-shelled case, put your suit parts inside plastic bags in case of water leakage.

You may vacuum pack all parts of your suit except the head and feetpaws for a maximum recommended time of 24 hours.

Always carry your head onto the plane as hand luggage. It will be safest under your seat or in your lap after take-off. This will prevent any crush injuries which can deform the head.

We take commissions for fursuits head bags if you need one! It will maintain your head shape and it's waterproof too!

After you get to your destination, your fursuit should be unpacked and brushed to prevent any wrinkles or creases from forming in the fur.



AT-CON CARE

While at a con, you may leave your padding and stuffing in your suit when hung up.

After each wear, brush your suit with a slicker brush and lightly spray the inside and outside of each part with a disinfectant spray. Be sure to leave to air out your suit during breaks, and let it dry before the next wearing.

We even sell fursuit sprays, but due to securities restrictions, shipping is not possible to all countries. You can even make it by your own, it's really easy!

Just mix in a 100ml spray bottle 50% of water and 50% of isopropyl alcohol. You can add some drops of your favorite scent to give it a nice smell! However, be sure to test the spray with scents on a small fur area, to prevent damages on the fur. Some scents could be aggressive with plastic fibers.

Crotch and armpit areas need thorough brushing.

If possible, place your head over top of a fan to dry. When you brush your suit, brush the short fur areas too!

In the case of major spills or stains while at con, all parts can be hand washed in cold water with regular soap in a sink or bathtub. Always hang to dry.

When dealing with stains, it is important to not scrub your fur.

This can damage it permanently! DO NOT use heat or hot water!!

Some stains need to be deep cleaned to remove, and there is a possibility they may not come out, in particular, this is really common on light colored furs. We always recommend to be careful when you walk around, especially if you are in an outdoor space! We also recommend to not drink a drink or eat without the help of a spotter while you are wearing your suit, to prevent any incident.

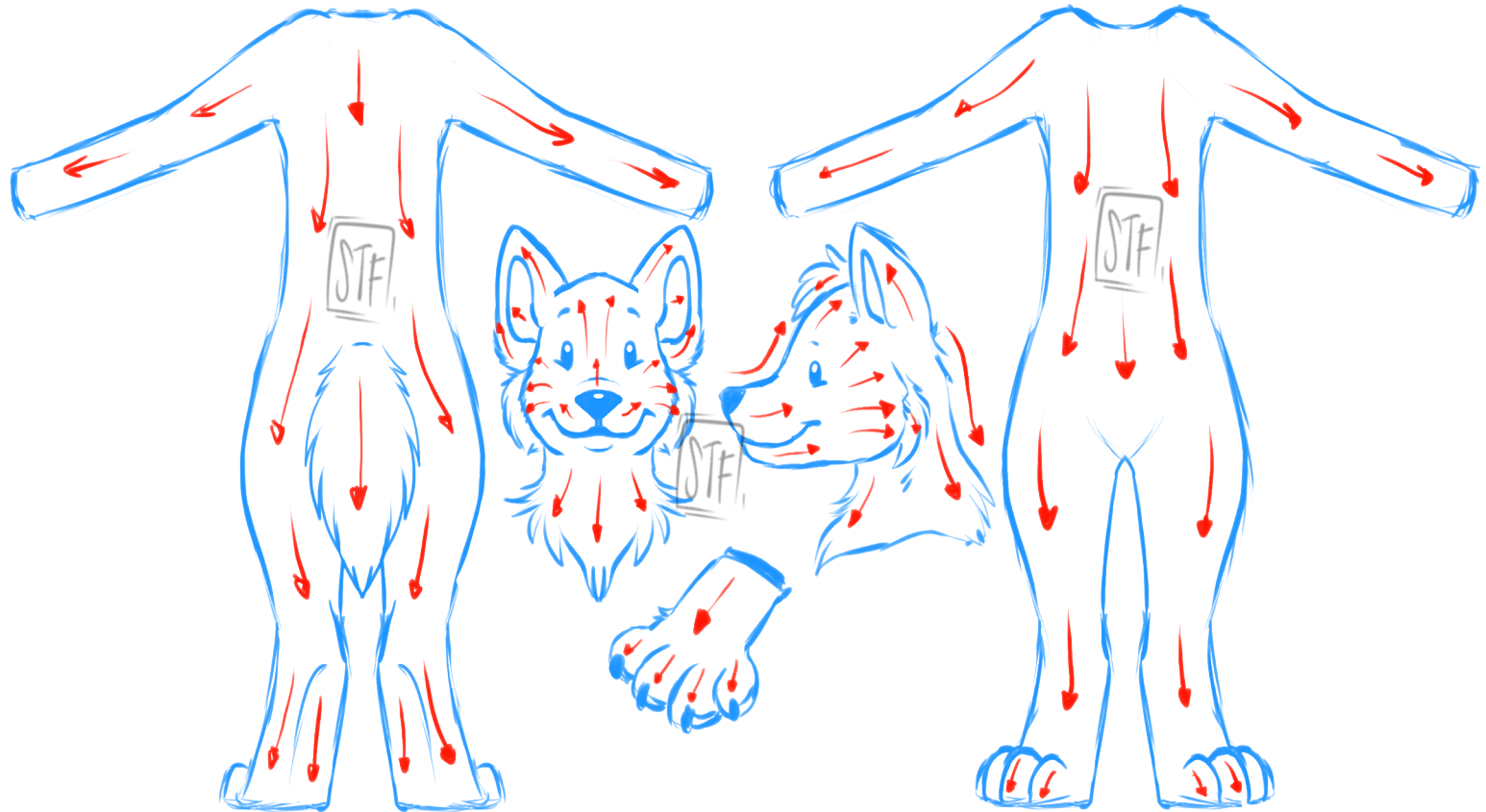
WASHING & BRUSHING

BRUSHING

The fursuit should be brushed before and after use. This helps to prevent the fur from becoming matted. Your fursuit will lose hair, this is normal. We recommend a pet hair brush with steel prongs and ball tips. (Pic from Amazon)



To brush your fursuit correctly, you need to brush in direction of the fur. Here's a little scheme to help you with fur directions:



After suiting, brush **VERY WELL** more stressed, areas like crotch and under the armpits. There the coat gets matted quickly, because the fur rubs together a lot.

Brushing is very important for your fursuit!!

WASHING

All our bodysuits and handpaws are machine washable. Do not exceed 30 degrees and select the lowest spin setting (max 1000spins). Use a delicate fabric detergent, like one for wools (i personally use Perlana, it has a really nice smell too). You can use some drops of fabric softener, but do not exceed with it! It can ruin the fur!

Follow these instructions to wash correctly your fursuit.

Bodysuit & Handpaws:

- Turn the bodysuit inside out and remove the stuffing inside the legs paddings. Use the dedicated zippers to do this operation. We suggest to keep separate the stuffing of the two legs, it will be easier to refill the paddings once the suit is dried.

-Handpaws can't be turned inside out, so you need to protect the fur putting them in a laundry bag or a pillowcase with zipper. Stuffing inside the fingers and pawpads is not removable.

-Remove all the electronic parts if you have them in the bodysuit!!

-Close the bodysuit zipper.

-Put everything in the washing machine and start the washing cycle!

-Once it's done, turn the bodysuit right side out, and brush immediately in the direction of the fur so that there are no ripples in the fur when drying.

You have to brush your suit every 30 minutes to an hour while its drying. This will keep the fur soft and fluffy, and helps to accelerate the drying process.

-Do the same thing for handpaws.

-Do not hang the bodysuit!! The water weight will stretch it!

-Lie it down on a drying rack, and turn it periodically to let the back dry too.

DO NOT USE HEAT OR HAIR DRYERS!!

Head and feetpaws:

-Our heads and feetpaws **ARE NOT** washing machine washable. We recommend a **Bissel SpotClean Pet Pro**. It's really useful to wash non - washing machine - washable parts.

-If you don't have a Bissel, you can wash head and feetpaws with a slightly damp washcloth. In the case of greater dirt, additional detergent can be used. Then wipe the detergent out well with the washcloth.

-Always use 30 degrees water, and do not rub the fur!

-Brush on the direction of the fur while the parts are drying.

-You can use the bissel or a washcloth for the inside of the head too, but be sure to cover the electronic components and remove the battery pack! Avoid circuits as much as possible!

-Our eyes are fully waterproof and alcohol/sunlight resistant. So nothing will happen if they get wet!

-You can use a fursuit spray or a disinfectant spray for the inside of the feetpaws.

Tails:

-Usually we add a little zipper on the bottom part of our tails, to help you remove the stuffing inside it. If your tail has the zipper, you can remove all the stuffing, turn the tail inside out and washing it in the washing machine, follow the same proceeding of the bodysuit!

-Some tails are not washing machine washable (super motion tails, tails with feathers on the tip, etc..). In this case, you can follow the same proceeding of the head and feetpaws.

PLEASE, WASH DEEPLY YOUR FURSUIT AFTER EVERY MAJOR OUTING. THIS WILL PREVENT BACTERIAS AND STINK. ALWAYS USE A FURSUIT SPRAY EVERY TIME YOU WEAR YOUR FURSUIT. DO NOT PUT YOUR FURSUIT PARTS IN A TUMBLE DRYER!!

General maintenance is very important for your costume.

As your suit ages, you will need to keep good maintenance of it to keep in tip top shape and prolong its shelflife.

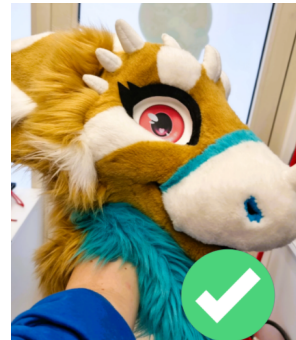
HOW TO CARRY YOUR HEAD

Do not grab your fursuit from the eyes! This will damage the black fabric (felt) around them. We also suggest to not grab the suit from the ears, horns\antlers and nostrils. Our fursuits are very strong and resistant, but, you know, better safe than sorry!

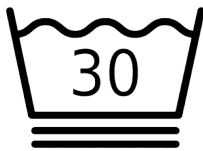
We suggest to use a fursuit head bag, a sport bag or a big shopping bag to carry your head around. You can put the handpaws inside the head where possible!



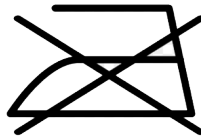
Grab it with the hand inside the head or use a bag!



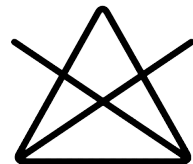
READ THE LABELS!



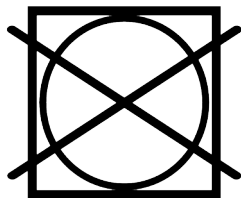
Very gentle cold washing



Do not Iron



Do not bleach



Do not tumble dry



Hand washing

BASIC REPAIRS

It is recommended to learn some basic hand-sewing skills to maintain your fursuit over time.

Popped seams can be common depending on your amount of in-suit activity, or they can simply pop open in the wash.

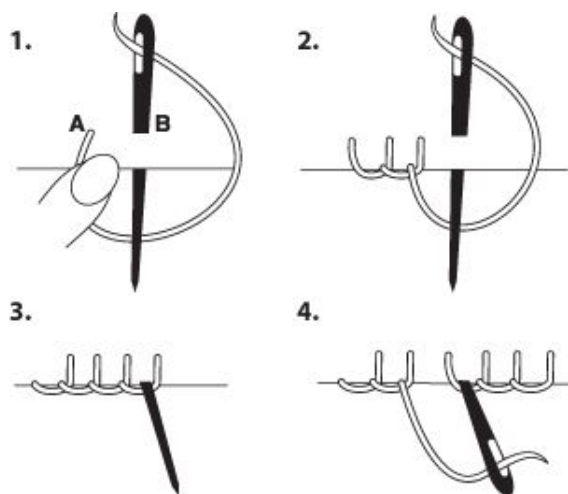
Your bodysuit is sewn with a stitch that will not unravel, so you do not have to worry about any loose ends around a popped seam.

When traveling with your suit, please bring a small care kit.

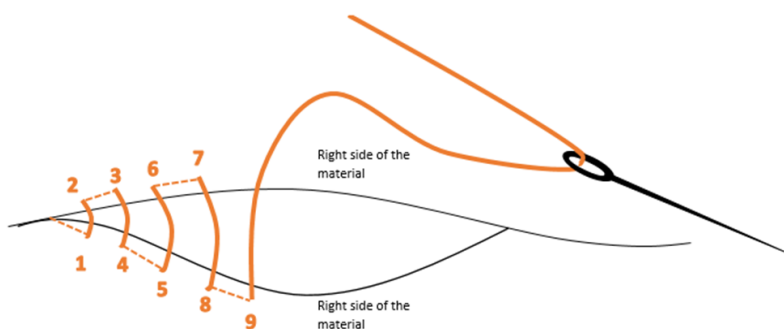
Your SOS Fursuit repair kit should contain:

- Sewing needles
- Sewing clips and pins
- A sewing thread (do not use nylon thread)
- Mini hot glue and glue gun
- Small scissors
- A small tube of e6000 or your choice of a super glue

To repair popped seams, a **blanket stitch** is recommended. If you need to sew a completely hidden seam on something such as a fleece or minky surface, it is recommended to use a **ladder stitch** (or Henson stitch). You can find a lot of tutorials on YouTube!



Blanket Stitch



Ladder Stitch

WHAT IF YOU CAN'T REPAIR IT?

If you think the damage is too big to repair it by yourself, please CONTACT US.

Please take clear photos of the damage and include these, along with a description of what happened.

Depending on the repair needed, it may be subjected to a fee. You will however need to ship the fursuit back to us for the repair service.

Mishaps can happen, but we are always happy to help you!

If you have drastically changed weight and your suit is unwearable because of that, you may need a new bodysuit.

Please keep in mind that fursuits are made with non-stretchy fabrics, so drastic weight changes may be a problem.

We can work with you to re-tailoring a bodysuit if possible, or making a new one!

Please keep in mind that heat damages are not fixable in mostly cases. Avoid heat and sunlight exposure!!

SUMMARY

- Brush your fursuit regularly
- Always leave out or cover electronics and fursuit eyes before cleaning!
- Turn body inside out for washing
- Wash in a laundry bag or pillowcase in the washing machine
- Short program, max. 30 degrees, min. spin speed
- Before drying, turn right side out and brush in the direction of the fur
- Let dry well to avoid mold
- NEVER put fursuit parts wet in a closed box

Have fun with your new fursuit!!



How to find us:

www.StuffedTailsFursuits.com
stuffedtailsfursuit@gmail.com

Instagram: @StuffedTailsFursuits
X: @StuffedTailsFur
BlueSky: @bs.stuffedtailsfursuits.com