

How to Use Affresh Washing Machine Cleaner

Complete Step-by-Step Instructions for Front-Load & Top-Load Washers | homeandgarden.aluminiummagazine.com

Overview: Using Affresh is one of the easiest home maintenance tasks to keep your washer fresh and free from detergent residue, odor-causing buildup, and hard water minerals. Save this guide on your mobile device for quick offline reference!

1. What Is Affresh & How It Works

Affresh is a **time-release foaming tablet** designed to clean deep inside your washing machine where you can't see or reach.

- **Surfactants & Slow Dissolve:** Unlike vinegar or bleach, Affresh dissolves slowly throughout the entire wash cycle. It cleans actively during the *rinse phase*—preventing loosened gunk from redepositing on the drum.
- **Cleaner vs. Disinfectant:** Affresh removes the organic residue and scale that bacteria feed on. It is not a disinfectant (it does not sanitize like chlorine bleach).

2. Step-by-Step: Front-Load Machines

Front-loaders are especially prone to moisture buildup and odor. Follow these exact steps:

Step 1: Remove Everything

Ensure the machine is completely empty. Remove all clothes, towels, and detergent cups.

Step 2: Place the Tablet

Place **1 tablet** directly inside the **empty stainless steel drum**.

Note: Do NOT place it in the detergent drawer or bleach compartment.

Step 3: Select the Right Cycle

Select the **Clean Washer** cycle. If your machine lacks this setting, select **Normal / Heavy Duty** with the **Hottest** water setting and **Extra Rinse**.

Step 4: Run the Cycle

Press Start and let the cycle complete fully (approx. 45–60 minutes). Do not interrupt.

Step 5: Post-Cycle Wipe (Optional)

Wipe away any loosened gray residue flecks from the drum or rubber door gasket with a damp cloth.

Critical Rule: Open the Door Immediately

Do not rely on post-cycle "Fan Fresh" or "Tumble" modes—they trap humid air inside. Open the door fully as soon as the cycle finishes to allow steam to escape and prevent mildew regrowth.

3. Step-by-Step: Top-Load Machines

Step 1: Empty Laundry

Ensure the wash basket is entirely empty.

Step 2: Place Tablet

Drop **1 tablet** directly into the **bottom of the tub** (not in the agitator cup).

Step 3: Select Cycle

- **HE Top Loaders:** Select **Clean Washer** or **Normal / Heavy** with **Hot** water.
- **Traditional Deep-Fill:** Select **Largest Load Size** and **Hot Water**.

Step 4: Air Dry

After the cycle completes, leave the lid open to thoroughly air dry the interior tub.

4. Common Mistakes to Avoid

Mistake	Why It's Wrong	The Correct Fix
Putting tablet in dispenser drawer	Tablet dissolves prematurely and gets pumped out without cleaning drum.	Place tablet in drum only .
Using Quick Wash / Eco Cold	Tablet requires hot water and prolonged time to foam and activate.	Use Clean Washer or Hot Heavy Cycle .
Leaving clothes inside	Detergent and dirt from clothes interfere with the cleaning action.	Always run with an empty drum .
Using multiple tablets	Causes excessive sudsing and potential machine error codes.	Use one tablet per cycle .
Skipping door seal wipe	Affresh cleans tub interior, not visible mold trapped on rubber seal.	Manually wipe gasket with vinegar/ water.

Note on Suds (Foam Levels)

Heavy Foam: Indicates high detergent buildup being removed.

Minimal Foam: Machine was already clean or water is soft. Both situations are completely normal!

5. Frequency, Chemicals & Pro Tips

- **Recommended Frequency:** Once a month for front-loaders; every 2–3 months for top-loaders. (Run 2 back-to-back cycles if neglected for over a year).
- **Detergent & Bleach Safety:** **Do NOT** mix Affresh with laundry detergent or chlorine bleach. Run bleach sanitizing cycles separately on another day.
- **Hot Water Tip:** Run the nearby sink faucet until hot before starting the cycle so hot water enters the drum right away.
- **Septic & Machine Safety:** EPA Safer Choice certified, septic-safe, and safe for all washer brands (Whirlpool, Maytag, LG, Samsung, GE, Kenmore).

6. Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Can I use Affresh in a compact / portable washer?

A: Yes, but use **half a tablet** for drums smaller than 2.0 cu. ft.

Q: The tablet is dissolving slowly. Is that normal?

A: Yes! Affresh is designed to stay active through the rinse cycle.

Q: Why are there blue specks on my clothes after cleaning?

A: Run a quick "Rinse & Spin" cycle before washing your next load of clothes to clear remaining residue.

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