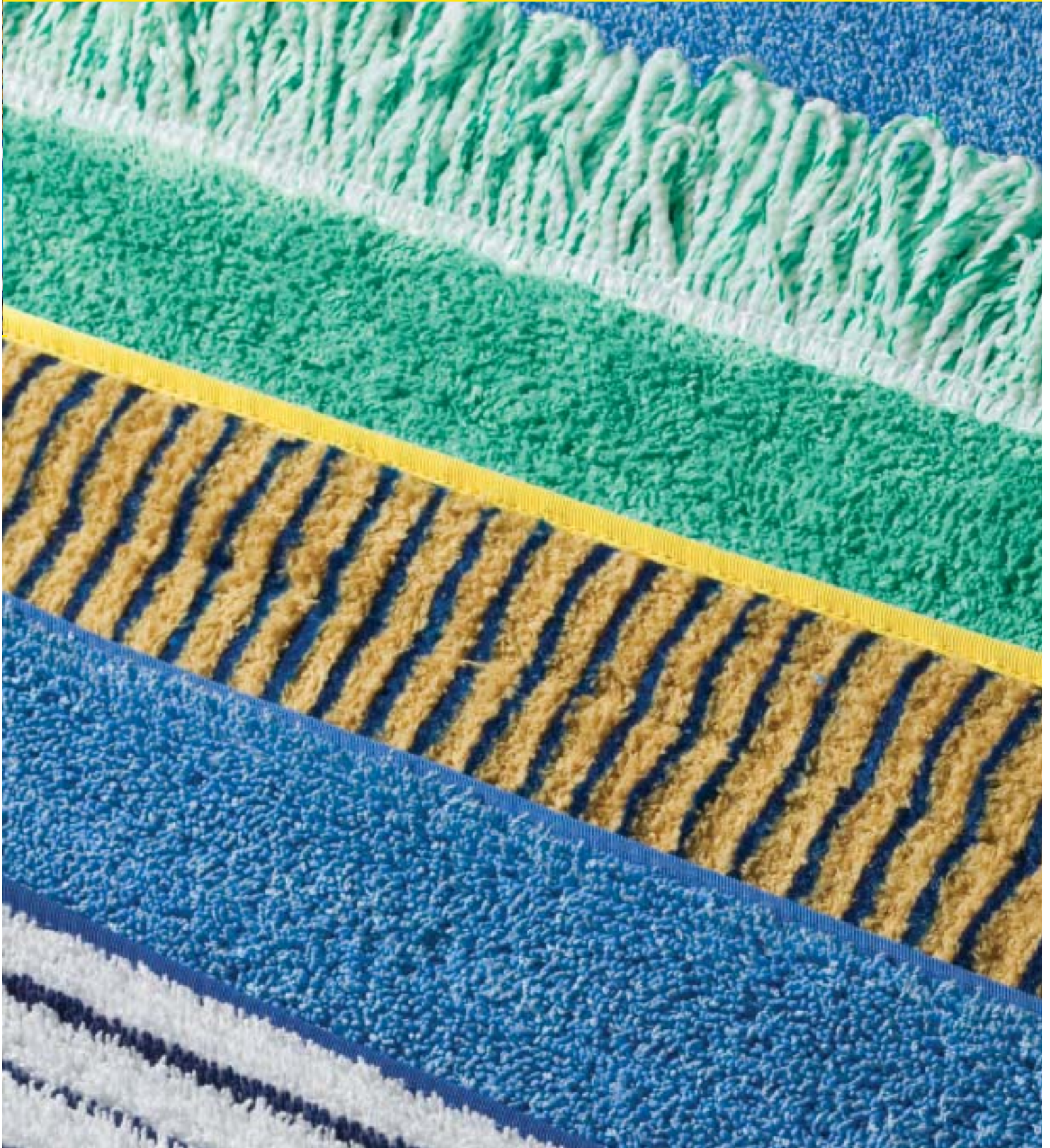




# Microfiber

## PAD CARE GUIDE



# How To:

## TROUBLESHOOT MICROFIBER PAD PROBLEMS

### PROBLEMS CAUSED BY HIGH HEAT DRYING



18" Wet Pad shrinkage due to high heat.



18" Room Dusting Pads curling up due to high heat.

#### What To Look For:

- Hook and loop backing is deteriorating
- Excessive or continuing shrinkage.
- Curling of the pad.
- No hook and loop backing remains for pad attachment.

#### Probable Cause:

- Drying with high heat and/or leaving pads in dryer when cycle is complete.

#### Explanation:

- Microfiber pads are made from synthetic material (nylon and polyester) and will shrink/melt when exposed to very high heat.
- Hook and loop backing can be affected by high temperatures of dryer drum surface.

#### Drying Recommendations

- Set temperature below 140°F...at low setting
- Limit drying time to prevent over-drying
- Promptly remove pads from dryer when cycle is complete.

### PROBLEMS CAUSED BY HIGH PH DETERGENT AND/OR BLEACH



18" Wet Pad backing discoloration.

#### What To Look For:

- Pad backing begins to yellow and/or smell of chlorine bleach
- No hook and loop backing remains for pad attachment.

#### Probable Cause:

- Using chlorine bleach.
- Using detergent with a pH level over 11.

#### Explanation:

- Do not use chlorine bleach because it will melt the nylon hook and loop backing. Use oxygen bleach as an alternative; it is safe for use with microfiber.
- If detergent has a pH of 11 or more, the nylon hook and loop backing will get stiff and begin to wear away. Check detergent manufacturers MSDS sheet for pH of detergent being used. Look for the pH during the laundering cycle, not after the pad has been neutralized.



## PROBLEM CAUSED BY THE USE OF DISINFECTANTS



### What To Look For:

- Dull gray face surface on the Q410 Wet Pad.

### Probable Cause:

- Disinfectants are removing floor finish.

### Prevention/Remedy:

- Follow the Rubbermaid® Textile Reclaim Formula, as outlined below.

### Explanation:

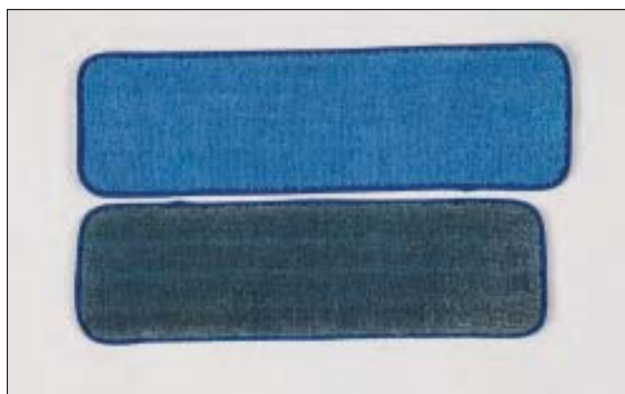
- Quaternary Ammonium disinfectants (Quats) remove floor finish and deposit "dirty" residue on the pad fibers.
- This residue coats the mop fibers, which is not removed by traditional laundering formulas.

## RUBBERMAID® TEXTILE RECLAIM FORMULA

Use once every two or three weeks in place of the standard laundering formula.

Operation	Water Level	Temperature	Time (min.)	Chemical (per 100 lbs.)
Flush	High	120°–130° F	4	3 oz. Alkaline Builder
Flush	High	120°–130° F	2	None
Break	Low	140°–145° F	15	High Surfactant/Detergent
Bleach	Low	150°–155° F	10	3 oz. Oxygen Bleach
Rinse	High	140°–145° F	2	None
Rinse	High	120°–130° F	2	None
Sour	Low	50°–80° F	5	1 oz. Sour

## PROBLEM CAUSED BY MIXING FINISH PADS AND WET PADS



18" Wet Pad surface turning dark gray & feels stiff.

### What To Look For:

- The twisted loop surface on a Q410 pad looks darker and feels stiff and hard.
- Pad will not absorb water nor clean properly.

### Probable Cause:

- Pads used to apply floor finish were likely laundered with wet cleaning pads.

### Prevention:

- Finish pads should always be handled separately from wet pads.
- Use the Q800 Finish Pad to avoid confusion. It has the same construction as the Q410 but a distinctive appearance to differentiate it in use and handling.



Q800

# Keeping Microfiber Pads Performing Their Best

## MICROFIBER CARE GUIDELINES

### Laundering

- **Do not** use strong Alkaline detergents—above pH11.
- **Do not** use Chlorine Bleach. Oxygen bleach can be used as an alternative.
- **Do not** use fabric softener.
- Laundering equipment should be loaded to capacity.
- Follow all recommendations on product labels.
- Follow Rubbermaid's Reclaim Formula every 2–3 weeks.

### Drying

- High heat is not needed to dry synthetic pads as moisture is held on the surface in “nooks and crannies” of the fiber as opposed to soaking into the fiber like cotton.
- Drying at high temperatures will decrease the product life.
- Set temperature below 140°F...at low setting
- Limit drying time to prevent over-drying
- Promptly remove pads from dryer when cycle is complete.



## Frequently Asked Questions

**Q** What is the difference between the 18" Wet Pad and the 18" Finish Pad?

**A** There is no difference in pad construction other than shape and color. The shape minimizes edge curl to keep finish on the floor and off baseboards, furniture and equipment. The blue and white stripes easily distinguish finish pads so that they are not improperly used or laundered.

**Q** Can wet pads be used for dust mopping?

**A** Microfiber wet pads can be used for dust mopping but they are best used for wet mopping because of their durable blended fiber and twisted loop construction. Dust pads are best used for dust mopping because of their dense, 100% microfiber cut pile construction which provides more surface area and fiber tips for dust gathering. Note, a 100% microfiber dust mop is not recommended for wet mopping because there is too much surface friction making the mop difficult to use/swing when wet.

**Q** Why use a microfiber Finish Pad vs. a String Mop to apply floor finish?

**A** One can apply floor finish six times faster with a microfiber flat mop and each coat will be smoother and more even than if applied with a traditional string mop.

**Q** When do I use a Scrubber-type microfiber pad?

**A** If there are a few heel marks, sticky spots, or stubborn stains, the Wet Pad with Scrubber is your best choice. For larger areas which require more scrubbing, consider using the Q810 Scrubber Pad.

**Q** Which is more efficient method of applying floor finish, an 18" microfiber flat mop and bucket system or a 24" back pack applicator system?

**A** Even though the microfiber pad in this comparison is 6" shorter, the flat mop and bucket system can still do the job in almost half the time.

**Q** What is the difference between the green and white Q412 Room Dust Pad?

**A** There is no difference in construction other than color. Some users prefer to have all dust pads color coded green; other users want to give floors a “white glove” dusting and thus prefer the more revealing white color.

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