

2013 L.D. Bell Blue Raider Marching Band Uniform Care and Hemming Instructions

You may not cut any fabric!!!!

- Pants - Parents or guardians are responsible to hem (or have hemmed) the uniform pants to the proper length. The pant should reach and touch the top of the shoe. The pant leg should touch the shoe lightly enough so that the crease line in the leg does not buckle or bend. If the pants will need to be adjusted, use only a light stitch to hem them. No machines, glues, iron-on hems or tape should be used on the uniform.
- To adjust the length of the pants, first adjust the torso length from the shoulder to the crotch of the pant by adjusting the suspender straps, high and tight. Then adjust the length of the pant leg to just reach the top of the shoe. The pant leg length should be adjusted only after the straps have been adjusted. To adjust the leg length, take the hem completely down and then hem the pant to the proper length. Do not cut excess fabric. Hand-sew it yourself or use a tailor for hem lengths.
- If your pants need adjustments other than hemming, such as the leg width is too wide, you may have them adjusted. Keep in mind that your student will need maximum flexibility for marching and other marching show visuals. **Again do not cut off excess fabric.**

If in doubt, contact the Uniform Chair Person
Tamera Rabe txrabes@tx.rr.com



Marching uniforms may **NOT** be dry-cleaned. They are machine washable in warm water with like colors. Use low heat to dry and hang immediately.

Students are expected to maintain clean shoes, gloves, gauntlets, cinch, baldric, shako (hat), shako box, and cords.

- **Do not wash cords.** If dirty, you need to return to band hall for a clean pair.
- Shoes must be cleaned and shined before every event.
- Black socks, that go at least mid calf, are to be worn with the uniform.
- Plumes will be handed out just before the show and collected right after the show.
- You should always wear a shirt (the band directors will tell you what you will be wearing) under the uniform to protect the jacket from perspiration.
- When hanging uniform, be sure to hang the pants evenly balanced, and folded with the creases of the pants to avoid wrinkling
- Never eat in the uniform without specific instructions to do so from the director.

All garments are washable, unless otherwise stated. Please follow instructions on label inside of garment. Careful care and repair are necessary to maintain these uniforms.

Jackets and Bib Pants:

- **Always wash whites with whites and darks with dark colors.**
- Jackets and bib pants are made of completely washable polyester-gabardine.
- **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.)
- 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.

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.**

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 an article has both the hook (hard side) and loop (soft side) of Velcro, **hook pieces together evenly so the hook side is not exposed.**

Cinch Belts:

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

Shako:

- Always store your shako, upside down, in the box when not in use. Use a soft brush to remove dust or dirt.
- Realize that your uniform is very expensive. Uniform replacement cost is approximately \$400.00.
- The student is financially responsible for the full uniform. If any pieces are lost or destroyed due to neglect, the student must pay for them. Failure to turn in your assigned uniform at the end of the season will cost student approximately \$400.00.
- To turn in your uniform at the end of the marching season, uniform must be turned in clean with the student name pinned to the jacket. If not, you will be charged for the final cleaning fee of \$15.00 dollars.
- Though some special circumstances may warrant, if you are in uniform, you are in FULL uniform. Treat your uniform with pride.