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CONSTRUCTION · HI-VIS GARMENT CARE

# Hi-Vis Garment Care & Lifecycle Guide

Washing protocols, inspection frequency and retirement criteria — plus the 50-wash tracking log that keeps ANSI compliance live.

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**DISCLAIMER**

This resource is practical procurement guidance written from a China-side workwear factory's perspective. It is not legal, safety or compliance advice. Compliance thresholds, test methods and class requirements vary by jurisdiction and garment; confirm every value against the current standard and an accredited lab report before you commit funds.

Construction workwear resource | Document ID: SPEC-CONST-CARE-001

## 1. Washing Protocols

| PARAMETER | RECOMMENDATION |
|---|---|
| **Water Temperature** | Warm (40°C / 105°F) maximum |
| **Detergent** | Mild industrial detergent. No bleach, no fabric softeners. |
| **Wash Cycle** | Gentle or permanent press cycle |
| **Drying** | Tumble dry low or line dry. Do not use high heat. |
| **Turn Garment** | Turn inside-out before washing to protect reflective tape |

## 2. Inspection Schedule

| INTERVAL | WHAT TO CHECK |
|---|---|
| **Daily (worker)** | Visible tape damage, missing tape sections, excessive soiling |
| **Weekly (supervisor)** | Tape adhesion, seam integrity, color fading, label legibility |
| **Monthly (safety manager)** | Random batch inspection, photo documentation, log updates |
| **Quarterly (audit)** | Retroreflectivity spot-check, wash log review, replacement planning |

## 3. Retirement Criteria

Remove a hi-vis garment from service when ANY of the following occurs:

- Reflective tape has peeled, cracked, or lost ≥15% of surface area
- Background material is faded to the point where contrast with tape is visibly reduced
- Garment has tears, holes, or contamination that cannot be repaired
- ANSI label is illegible or missing
- 50 industrial wash cycles completed (even if visually acceptable)
- Retroreflectivity drops below ANSI minimums on spot-check

## 4. 50-Wash Tracking Log

| GARMENT ID | ISSUE DATE | WASH #1 | WASH #10 | WASH #25 | WASH #40 | WASH #50 | RETIRED |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
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## 5. Best Practices for Maximum Service Life

- Rotate garments: issue 3+ sets per worker to distribute wash cycles
- Pre-treat heavy stains before machine washing
- Never use chlorine bleach — it destroys fluorescent background dyes
- Store in a cool, dry location away from direct sunlight
- Train workers: 5-minute toolbox talk on garment care extends life by 30%+

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# Wash it right, retire it on the record.

Send the laundry method and issue volume — a care protocol, an inspection schedule and a wash-log template are returned.


**CONTACT US**

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