

How to Do Laundry in a UCF Residence Hall Using the Speed Queen App

Introduction

Living on campus at the University of Central Florida (UCF) means doing laundry without the help of home machines. If you are a first-year student or have never used a shared laundry facility before, the process can feel confusing and overwhelming. This guide explains how to wash and dry your clothes in a UCF residence hall using the Speed Queen mobile app for payment.

By following these step-by-step instructions, you will be able to sort, wash, dry, and remove your laundry safely and efficiently.

Tools and Materials

Before you begin, gather the following items:

- Dirty laundry
 - Laundry basket or bag
 - Laundry detergent (liquid or pods, but pods are preferable)
 - Dryer sheets or wool dryer balls (optional)
 - Smartphone with Speed Queen app installed
 - Payment method linked to the Speed Queen app
 - UCF student ID (if required for building access)
-

Safety and Caution Notes

- ⚠ **Do not overload machines.** Overfilling may prevent clothes from cleaning properly or drying completely.
- ⚠ **Do not mix whites and darks.** Colors may bleed and stain lighter clothing.
- ⚠ **Use only the recommended amount of detergent.** Too much soap can leave residue on clothes.
- ⚠ **Remove laundry promptly.** Leaving clothes unattended for long periods may inconvenience other residents.



⚠ **Don't use bleach.** Bleach residue left in the washing machines can cause damage to others' clothes.

⚠ **Clean lint filter after use.** Lint is highly flammable and therefore must be removed from the lint tray after each use so that it does not over-accumulate.



Step-by-Step Instructions

Step 1: Sort Your Laundry

Separate your clothing into categories:

- Whites
- Darks
- Colors
- Delicates (if needed)

Check pockets and remove:

- Pens
- Tissues
- Coins
- Electronics

Close zippers and turn graphic T-shirts inside out to protect designs.

Step 2: Bring Supplies to the Laundry Room

Carry your laundry basket, detergent, and phone to your residence hall laundry room. Ensure your phone battery is charged so you can operate the Speed Queen app.

Step 3: Download and Set Up the Speed Queen App (If Needed)

If this is your first time:

1. Download the Speed Queen app from your app store.
2. Create an account using your email address.
3. Add a payment method (credit/debit card).
4. Select your residence hall location inside the app.

Make sure your balance or payment method is active before starting a machine. When the balance has insufficient funds for the washer or dryer, you will need to put a minimum of \$10 into the balance.



Step 4: Add Detergent

- Pour liquid detergent into the designated detergent compartment
 - No more than ¼ cup of liquid detergent.

OR

- Place a detergent pod directly into the drum before adding clothes (if required by instructions on the pod packaging).
 - Use 1 singular detergent pod for each washer load.

Do not exceed the recommended amount listed on the detergent bottle.

Step 5: Load the Washer

1. Open an available washing machine.
2. Place clothes loosely inside the drum.
3. Do not pack clothes tightly.
4. Do not overfill the washer past the indicated line.
5. Close the washer door securely.



Step 6: Select Wash Settings

1. Choose the appropriate cycle:
 - Light (for lightly-soiled items)
 - Medium (for medium-soiled items)
 - Heavy (penetrates tough stains)
2. Select water temperature:
 - Normal Cold (most clothing, prevents shrinking)
 - Normal Warm
 - Normal Hot (whites or heavily soiled items)

When in doubt, select cold water to avoid shrinking.

Step 7: Pay and Start the Washer Using the App

1. Open the Speed Queen app.
2. Select the machine number displayed on the washer.
3. Confirm the payment amount.
4. Press “Pay” on the app and “Start” on the machine.

Wait until the washer begins running before leaving the room.

Step 8: Remove Clothing Promptly

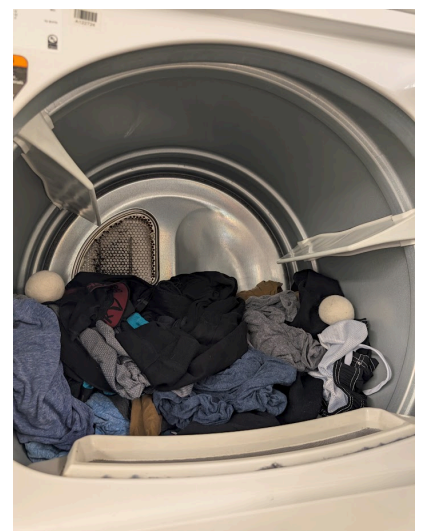
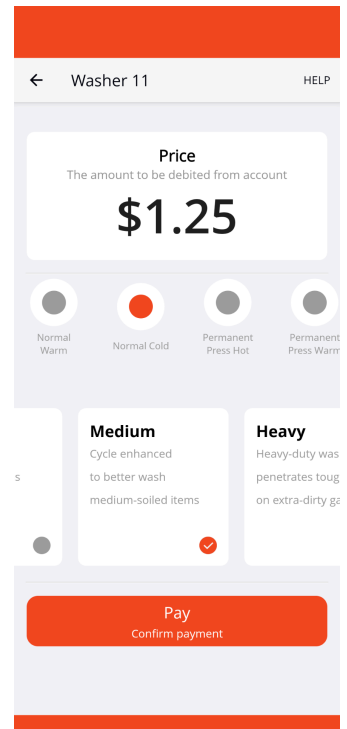
After the cycle finishes:

1. Return to the laundry room promptly.
2. Open the washer.
3. Remove all clothing
4. Check inside the drum for small items like socks.
5. Leave the washer door open to indicate that it is not being used.

Leaving wet clothes inside can cause odors and inconvenience others.

Step 9: Load the Dryer

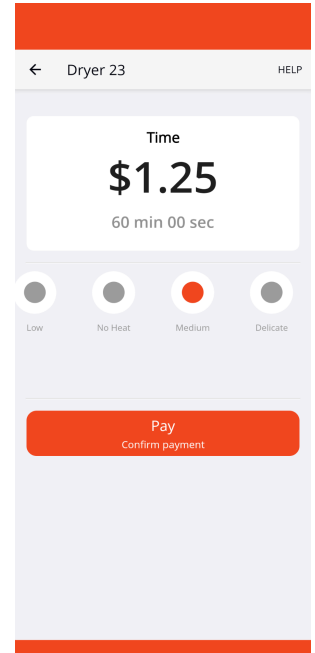
1. Clean the lint trap before use.
2. Place clothes loosely inside the dryer.
3. Add a dryer sheet or wool balls if desired.



4. Close the dryer door securely.
-

Step 10: Select Dryer Settings and Pay

1. Open the Speed Queen app.
 2. Select the correct dryer machine number.
 3. Choose the appropriate drying cycle:
 - Low
 - No Heat
 - Medium
 - Delicate
 4. Confirm payment.
 5. Start the dryer.
-



Step 11: Fold or Hang Clothes Immediately

After drying:

1. Remove clothes promptly.
 - a. Place the clean clothes into a different bin or bag than the dirty laundry bin to keep the clothes clean.
 2. Fold items to prevent wrinkles.
 3. Hang dress shirts or delicate items.
 4. Return to your room with all belongings.
-

Troubleshooting

Problem: Clothes are still wet after drying.

- Run an additional drying cycle.
- Check that the lint trap was cleaned.
- Avoid overloading the dryer next time.

Problem: Washer will not start.

- Confirm payment in the Speed Queen app.
- Check Wi-Fi or mobile data connection.
- Ensure the door is completely closed.

Problem: Clothes smell bad after washing.

- Use the correct amount of detergent.
 - Remove clothes promptly after washing.
 - Avoid leaving damp clothes in your basket.
-

Conclusion

Doing laundry in a college dorm may feel overwhelming at first, but after a few cycles, the process becomes routine. By sorting properly, using the correct machine settings, and operating the Speed Queen app correctly, you can keep your clothes clean and extend their lifespan. Developing good laundry habits now will help you manage shared spaces responsibly throughout your time at UCF.