



Troubleshoot Guide

Stinky Diapers

Stinky diapers are often a result of improper laundering, more often if you have an HE washing machine. Simply put, urine and/ or poop made it through all the rinse/ wash cycles and is still present in your diapers and/ or inserts.

For example, each insert holds about 8-16 oz of urine. If you have 15 diapers in your wash load, that equals 15 cups of pee! And for many HE washing machines that use a small amount of water, you end up with a 50/50 mix of urine and water in the drum. So your diapers are swishing around in urine and a little soap. If they aren't being rinsed out thoroughly, then a little bit of urine is left over after each wash. After a few washes, the ammonia salts build up and you start to get a smell after the baby pees. It reactivates all the salts that are still inside the inserts.

Another example, if a poopy diaper gets waded up during the cool pre-rinse, it could make it out of the cycle still waded in a ball. Then the poop gets "set in" to the fabric when it hits the hot wash cycle, thus the smell you get when you open the washer at the end of the cycle.

Please do the following to resolve your current stinky diapers and/ or inserts issues:

- Do a soak with a detergent like FuzziBunz® Detergent, Rockin Green Soap, Vaska or Charlie's Soap. Put a little extra soap into the wash, (like 3 tbs if using a top loader, less if using a bucket), and fill the washer, sink or bucket with HOT water and your inserts. Then let them soak for about an hour, or even overnight.
- Next, wash them as normal doing an extra rinse or two. This will enable the detergent to really soak into the inserts and neutralize the ammonia salts, and the extra rinses will flush them out completely.
- Line dry (especially in the sun, if possible) or tumble dry on low.

Some tips to prevent any future stinky problems:

- If you have hard or soft water, you will need to tweak the amount of products you use.
- Add more cool rinsing to the beginning of your wash routine every time. You should always do a thorough cool rinse before moving on to a hot wash cycle with detergent.
- If you have an HE washing machine, we suggest that you do a full cool wash cycle w/o any detergent. This will help flush out the urine, and then give it a fresh water change to add the detergent.

It's worth the time to explore the different settings on your washing machine to possibly add more water and/ or rinse cycles. If you have an HE washing machine, many cycles use more water than others, while some models are weight sensitive and you can add a towel into the washer to trick it into putting more water in the basin.

In general, a bit more water = less stink!