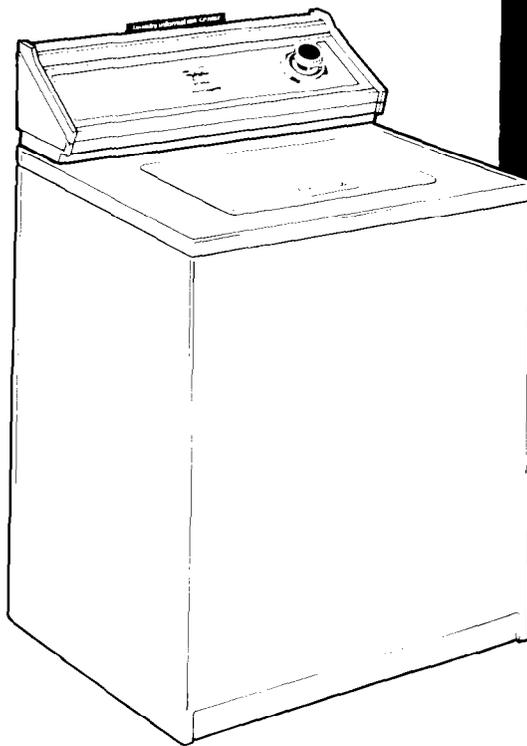


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# use & care guide

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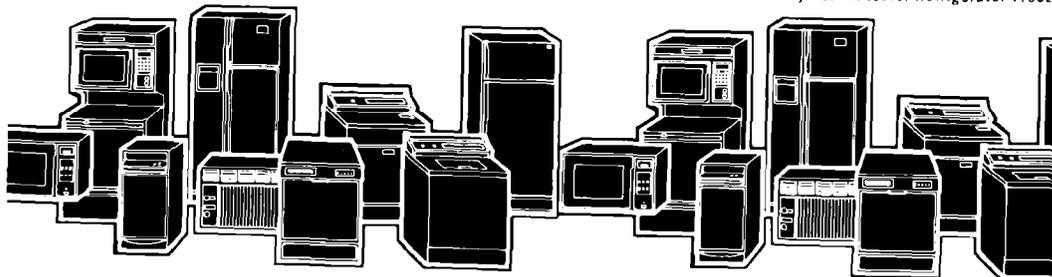
The Whirlpool logo, consisting of the word "Whirlpool" in a stylized, serif font, with a graphic of three concentric circles above the letter 'i'.

## **AUTOMATIC WASHER**

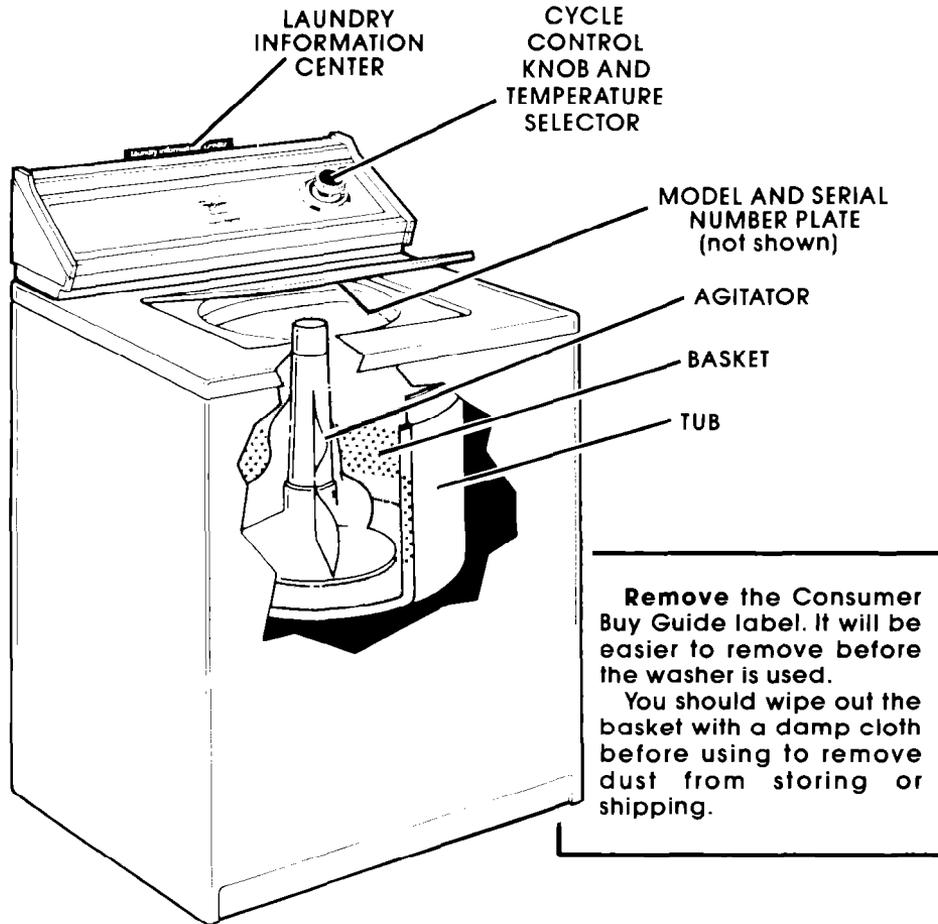
**Super Capacity  
Model  
LA3800XM**

---

Wave Ovens, Trash Compactors, Room Air Conditioners, Dehumidifiers, Automatic Washers, Clothes Dryers, Freezers, Refrigerator-Freezer



# Parts and features



## Copy your Model and Serial Numbers here

When you need service or call with a question, have this information ready:

1. **Complete** Model and Serial Numbers (from plate under the lid near the hinge).
2. Purchase date from sales slip.

Copy this information in these spaces. Keep this book in the Laundry Information Center with your "Laundry Guide," sales slip and warranty.

There is no warranty registration to return. Proof-of-purchase is all that is required for in-warranty service.

\_\_\_\_\_

Model Number

\_\_\_\_\_

Serial Number

\_\_\_\_\_

Purchase Date

\_\_\_\_\_

Service Company /  
Phone Number

## Your responsibilities

Read this "Use and Care Guide" and your "Laundry Guide" carefully for important use and safety information.

You are personally responsible for making sure that your washer...

- is installed by a qualified installer.
- is properly installed and leveled on a floor that can support the weight.\*
- is connected to the right kind of outlet, electric supply, water supply and drain.\*
- is properly grounded.\*
- is used only for jobs normally expected of home automatic washers.
- is properly maintained.
- is protected from the weather and kept where the temperature will not fall below freezing.
- is not run by children or anyone unable to operate it properly.

\*See the "Installation Instructions" for complete information.

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## Safety first

**ALWAYS** unplug the power supply cord before attempting to service the washer.

**NEVER** put flammable fluids (dry-cleaning solvents, gasoline, kerosene) into your washer. **NEVER** use them near your washer.

**ALWAYS** hand launder or air dry fabrics treated with flammable fluids before putting them into your washer.

**NEVER** put your hands into the washer until all motion stops. If the lid is opened while the basket is spinning, the basket will automatically stop in a few seconds.

**DO NOT** allow children to operate or play with the washer.

**ALWAYS** store detergent, laundry aids and other materials in a cool, dry place where children can't reach them – in a locked cabinet, if possible.

**ALWAYS** read and follow instructions on packages of detergent and laundry aids – especially warnings and precautions.

**POISON GAS** can be formed if chlorine bleach is used in the same wash as ammonia or acids such as vinegar or rust remover.

**DO NOT** machine wash glass fiber materials. Small particles can stick to fabrics washed in following loads and cause skin irritation.

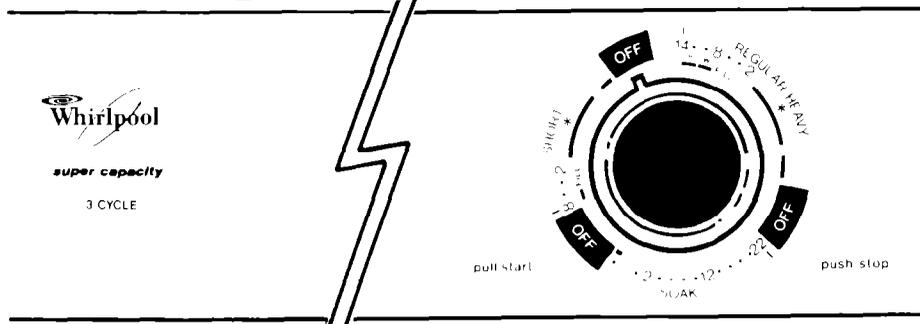
**SPECIAL CAUTION:** If hot water has not been used recently (usually two weeks or longer), flammable hydrogen gases may build up in the water heater and hot water pipes. To prevent injury or damage, turn on all hot water faucets and allow water to run for several minutes. This will allow gases to escape. Do not smoke or use any open flame near the faucet while it is open.

# Starting your washer

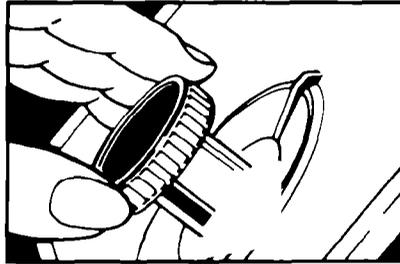
Before starting  
your washer:



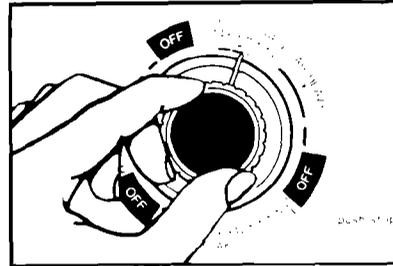
1. Measure and add detergent.
2. Place sorted load in washer.
3. Start washer.



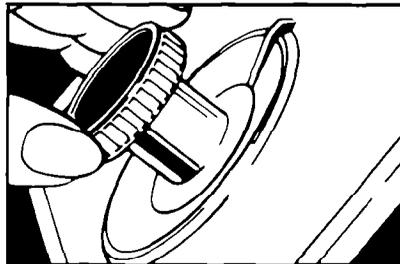
## Select CYCLE and WASH TIME; 1. Start the washer



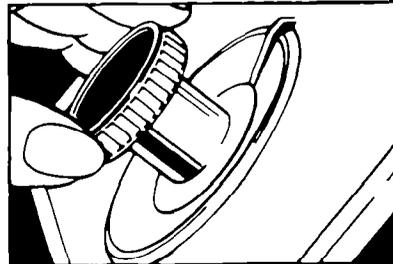
**A.** Push in the Control Knob and turn it to the right. It must be pushed in and turned only clockwise.



**B.** Stop on a number in the cycle you want. The numbers are minutes of wash time. The drawing shows 8 minutes of agitation in the REGULAR HEAVY Cycle. **NOTE:** In the REGULAR HEAVY and SHORT Cycles, the washer will fill only when the knob points to a "fill" area.



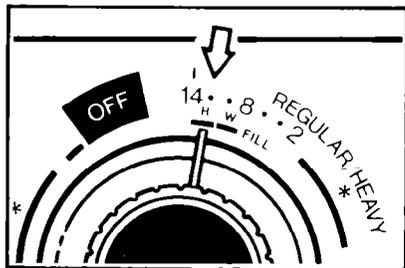
**C.** Start the washer by pulling out the Control Knob. After filling, the washer will agitate for the selected number of minutes.



**D.** To stop the washer at any time, push in the Control Knob. To restart the washer, pull out the Control Knob.

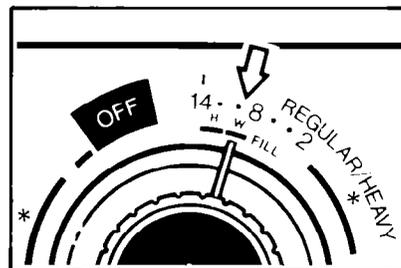
4 To set the controls for a rinse and spin (second rinse), a drain and spin, or a soak or pre-wash, see page 8.

## To select 2. WASH WATER TEMPERATURE



• **HOT WASH** can be selected only in the **REGULAR HEAVY** Cycle. Turn the Control Knob so the pointer is on 14 or 12 minutes in the **REGULAR HEAVY** Cycle.

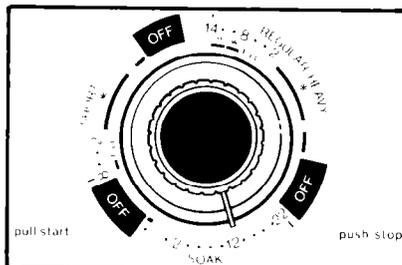
All rinses use cold water. This saves energy and helps prevent wrinkles from setting into fabrics.



• **WARM WASH** can be selected in the **REGULAR HEAVY** Cycle by moving the pointer to 8 or 10 minutes in the **REGULAR HEAVY** Cycle.

• A warm wash is pre-set in the **SHORT** and **SOAK** Cycles. Turn the Control Knob to point at 8 or 6 minutes in the **SHORT** Cycle, or 2 to 22 minutes in the **SOAK** Cycle.

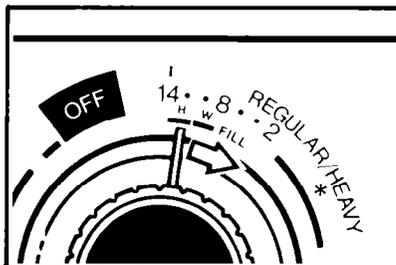
## To select a 3. WATER LEVEL



**HIGH WATER LEVEL.** The washer will automatically fill to its highest level... about 20.5 gallons (77.6 L)... when the Control Knob points to a "fill" area or anywhere in the **SOAK** Cycle.

Be careful to use enough water for the load. Too big a load or too little water can result in a wash that isn't clean; some items can be torn.

For best results, the load should move freely in the water. Watch for rollover. An item (like a sock) should sink and come up again later.



**LOWER WATER LEVELS.** Setting the washer to fill with less water also sets it for shorter wash time.

1. Push the Control Knob in and turn it clockwise to a fill area in the cycle you want.
2. Pull the Control Knob out; the washer will start to fill.
3. When there is as much water as you want in the washer, push **IN** the Control Knob. **SLOWLY** turn the Control Knob clockwise past the fill area. Pull out the knob to start the washer.

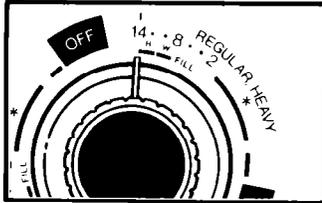
**For all rinses, the washer fills to its highest level with cold water.**

# What happens in each cycle

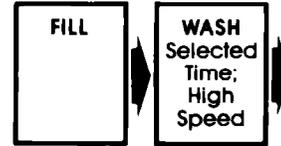
Each cycle has been designed for different kinds of fabrics. Numbers on the dial in each cycle are the minutes of WASH agitation time. Use the longer times for more heavily soiled loads.

When the Cycle Control Knob is set to a number and pulled out, the washer fills before agitation and timing starts. After agitation starts, the knob turns

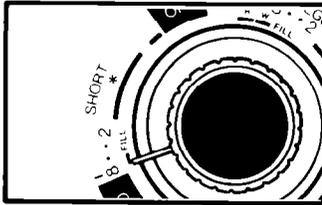
## REGULAR HEAVY Cycle



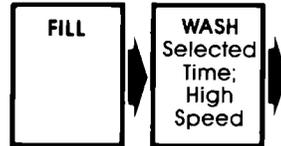
High agitation and spin speeds help remove heavy soils and spin water from heavy or sturdy cotton fabrics.



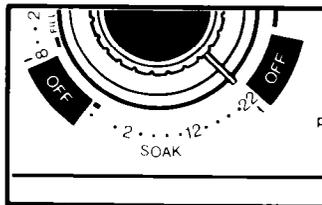
## SHORT Cycle



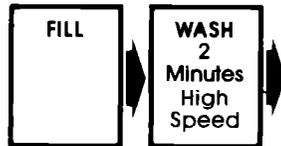
Use for delicate items that need a short wash and spin time. Wash nylon hose or panty hose in a net laundry bag.



## SOAK Cycle

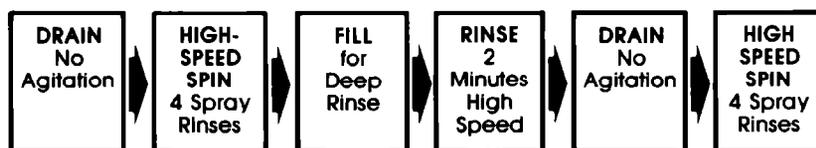


Periods of agitation and soaking time clean stained, yellowed, gray or heavily soiled laundry. Use recommended amount of detergent.



clockwise until it points to OFF and the cycle ends.

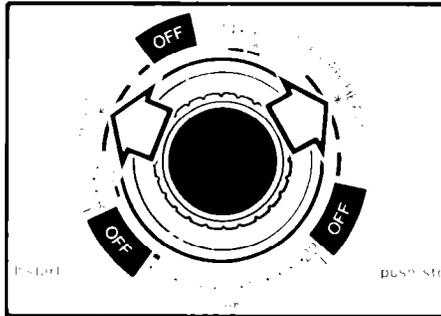
**NOTE:** You may hear the sound of water spraying during the spin parts of some cycles. In some cycles, cold water is sprayed on the spinning load to help with the rinsing.



← Pre-wash setting begins here (see page 8).

Special care is needed when soaking or pre-washing laundry.  
See your "Laundry Guide" for proper use of this cycle.

## Other operating instructions

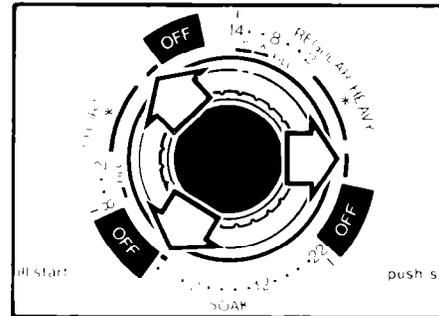


### For a rinse and spin

You may need an extra rinse and spin for heavily soiled loads which need more detergent. (Extra detergent can require an extra rinse.)

- Push Control Knob in.
- Turn clockwise to any \* on the dial.  
**See above drawing.**
- Pull Control Knob out.
- The washer will fill with cold water, agitate 2 minutes, drain and spin.

Water level and temperature can't be adjusted in this setting.



### For a drain and spin

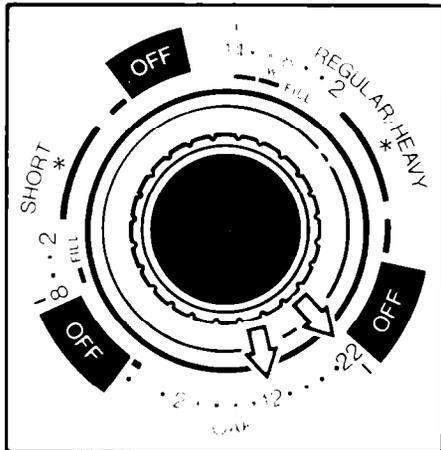
Your washer can be set to drain and spin out water.

- Push Control knob in.
- Turn clockwise to the bar just before OFF in any cycle. **See above drawing.**
- Pull Control Knob out.
- The washer will drain and spin.

### For a soak or pre-wash

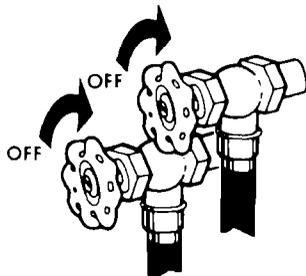
For best results, soak or pre-wash heavily soiled or stained laundry.

- Use enough detergent or pre-soak product for a single load.
- Push Control Knob in.
- Turn clockwise to point at a **number** in the SOAK Cycle... use the 12-minute mark for a pre-wash.
- Pull Control Knob out. (After filling, the washer may pause before starting to agitate.)
- When the cycle is over, add detergent for the next selected wash cycle. **Important: See additional care information on page 7 of your "Laundry Guide."**
- Set the washer and start the next selected wash cycle.

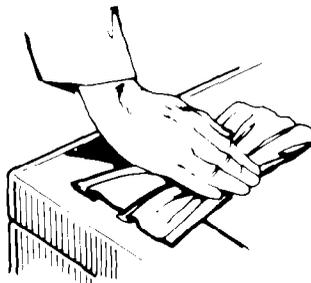


To start the soak or pre-wash with agitation, the Cycle Control Knob must point to a number in the SOAK Cycle.

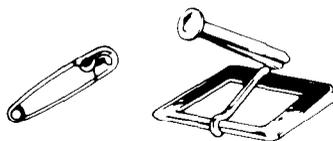
## Caring for your washer



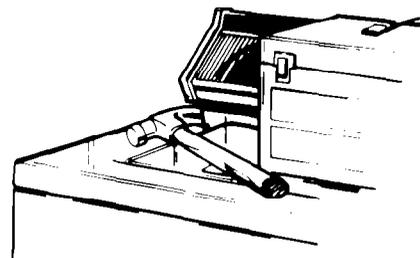
**WHEN NOT WASHING**, keep both water faucets turned off. This takes the pressure off the water inlet valve and hoses.



**AFTER WASHING**, use a soft dry cloth to wipe the outside and inside dry. Leave the lid up until the basket is dry. **Wipe up spills right away.** Spills can dull or damage the finish.



**REMOVE SHARP OBJECTS** such as pins, buckles, etc., from clothes before washing. Close metal zippers.

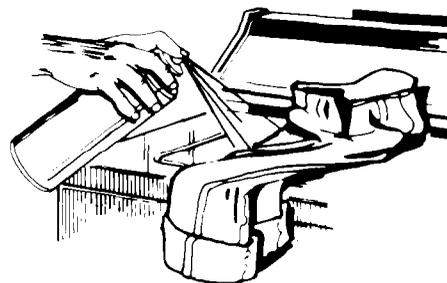


**SHARP OR HEAVY OBJECTS** should never be put on or in the washer. Check pockets for bolts, nuts, tools, etc.



### **NEVER USE THE WASHER TO...**

- store wet or dry laundry.
- soak for more than 2 hours.
- soak with chlorine bleach.
- soak with vinegar or other acids.
- soak or store urine soaked clothes.

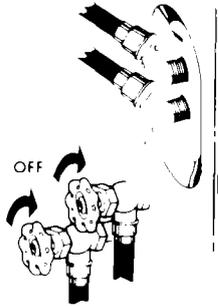
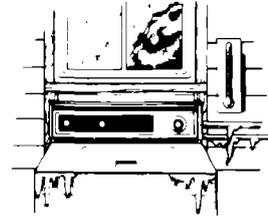


**SOME PRETREATMENT PRODUCTS** can damage washer and dryer dials, consoles and finishes. Do not use these products on or near your washer or dryer.

Service or performance problems caused by the use of any product not manufactured by Whirlpool Corporation are the responsibility of the manufacturer of that product.

## WINTERIZING

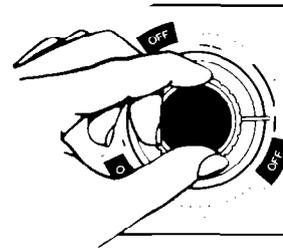
Because some water stays in the washer, freezing can cause a lot of damage. If your washer is **stored or moved** during the cold weather...



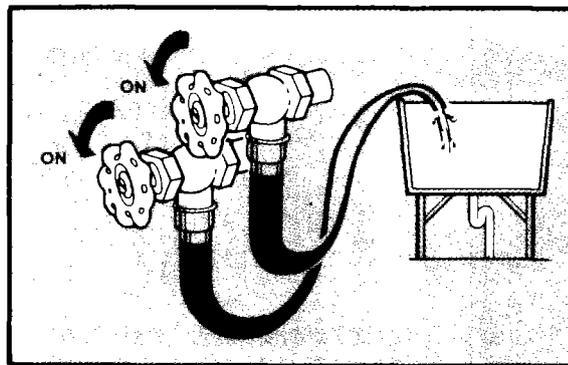
1. Shut off both water faucets. Disconnect and drain water inlet hoses.



2. Put a quart of automobile-type antifreeze in the basket.

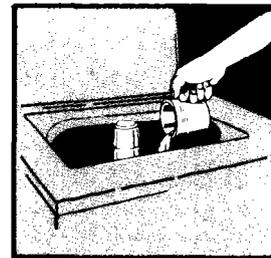


3. Set the washer for a DRAIN and SPIN (see page 8). Let it run for about 30 seconds to mix the antifreeze and water.



### To use the washer again...

1. Flush water pipes and hoses.
2. Connect hoses to the washer.
3. Turn on the water faucets.



4. Run the washer through a complete cycle with one cup of detergent to clean out the antifreeze.

# If you need service or assistance, we suggest you follow these four steps:

## 1. Before calling for assistance... 3. If you need service\*...

Performance problems often result from little things you can find and fix yourself without tools of any kind.

### IF YOUR WASHER DOES NOT FILL:

- Is the power supply cord plugged in?
- Are both water faucets open?
- Are fuses blown or circuit-breaker tripped?
- Are the water supply hoses kinked?
- Is the Cycle Control Knob set and pulled out?

### IF YOUR WASHER DOES NOT SPIN:

- Is the lid closed?
- Is the power supply cord plugged in?
- Is a fuse blown or circuit-breaker tripped?

### IF WASHER FILLS AND DRAINS WITHOUT RUNNING:

- Make sure that the Cycle Control Knob is pointing to a number in the cycle.

### MAKE SURE THE DRAIN HOSE IS HIGHER THAN THE WATER LEVEL IN THE WASHER. IF IT ISN'T...

- The washer may seem to be draining during wash and rinse cycles.
- Water can siphon out. (See "Installation Instructions.")

## 2. If you need assistance\*...

Call Whirlpool COOL-LINE® service assistance telephone number.

Dial free from:

Continental U.S. . (800) 253-1301  
Michigan . . . . . (800) 632-2243  
Alaska & Hawaii (800) 253-1121

and talk with one of our trained Consultants. The Consultant can instruct you in how to obtain satisfactory operation from your appliance or, if service is necessary, recommend a qualified service company in your area.



Whirlpool has a nationwide network of franchised TECH-CARE® Service Companies. TECH-CARE service technicians are trained to fulfill the product warranty and provide after-warranty service, anywhere in the United States. To locate TECH-CARE service in your area, call our COOL-LINE service assistance telephone number (see Step 2) or look in your telephone directory Yellow Pages under:

APPLIANCES - HOUSEHOLD - MAJOR - SERVICE & REPAIR      ELECTRICAL APPLIANCES - MAJOR - REPAIRING & PARTS  
OR  
WHIRLPOOL APPLIANCES FRANCHISED TECH-CARE SERVICE      WHIRLPOOL APPLIANCES FRANCHISED TECH-CARE SERVICE  
SERVICE COMPANIES      SERVICE COMPANIES  
XYZ SERVICE CO      XYZ SERVICE CO  
123 Maple . . . . . 999-9999      123 Maple . . . . . 999-9999  
OR  
WASHING MACHINES, DRYERS & IRONERS - SERVICING  
WHIRLPOOL APPLIANCES FRANCHISED TECH-CARE SERVICE  
SERVICE COMPANIES  
XYZ SERVICE CO  
123 Maple . . . . . 999-9999

## 4. If you have a problem\*...

Call our COOL-LINE service assistance telephone number (see Step 2) and talk with one of our Consultants, or if you prefer, write to:

Mr. Guy Turner, Vice President  
Whirlpool Corporation  
Administrative Center  
2000 US-33 North  
Benton Harbor, MI 49022

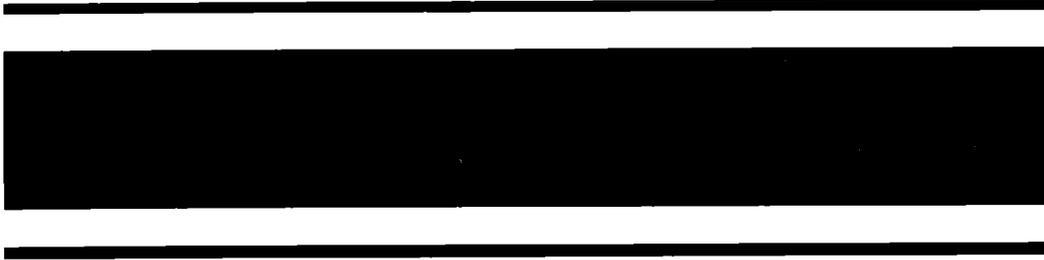
\*If you must call or write, please provide: model number, serial number, date of purchase, and a complete description of the problem. This information is needed in order to better respond to your request for assistance.



FSP is a registered trademark of Whirlpool Corporation for quality parts. Look for this symbol of quality whenever you need a replacement part for your Whirlpool appliance. FSP replacement parts

will fit right and work right, because they are made to the same exacting specifications used to build every new Whirlpool appliance.

IF YOU NEED SERVICE OR ASSISTANCE



Making your world a little easier.

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Automatic Washers, Clothes Dryers, Freezers, Refrigerator-Freezers, Ice Makers, Dishwashers, Built-In Ovens and Surface Units, Ranges, Microwaves

