For Cheryl Mendelson laundering is the best part of housekeeping. Its full of physical pleasures -- the look of favorite clothes restored to freshness and beauty, the tactile satisfaction of crisp linens in beautifully folded stacks. Good laundering preserves things you love and protects your pocket book. It doesn't take much time or effort. What it takes is knowledge, and Laundry is the comprehensive, entertaining, and inspiring new book on the art of laundering.

Culled from the bestselling Home Comforts, with revised and updated information and a new introduction, Laundry is an indispensable guide to caring for all the cloth in ones home: from kitchen rags to bedding, hand-washables, and baby clothes to vintage linens. Mendelson offers detailed guidance on when to disregard labels, removing stains, making environmentally informed choices, sewing, and storing clothing and fabrics. A much-needed antidote to the standard-issue how-to manual, Laundry celebrates the satisfactions of ironing, folding, and caring for clothes and linens. Both pragmatic and eloquent, Mendelson provides beginning and veteran homemakers with a seamless combination of reliable instruction, time-tested advice, and fascinating personal narrative.

As a farm girl in Pennsylvania, Mendelson -- who is a philosopher, lawyer, and professor, as well as a homemaker, wife, and mother -- received a classic domestic education from her grandmothers, aunts, and mother. Laundry combines the best of the traditional lore they taught her with the latest in technical and scientific information. Writing with infectious love and respect for her subject, Mendelson is sure to instill in readers a newfound affection and appreciation for the art of laundering.

My Personal Review:
Like most people growing up I despised laundry growing up, however after starting cloth diapering I began to understand the importance of doing it right even if I didn't enjoy it. After picking up this book I not only learned how to do things right but I've also come to enjoy a task I once loathed. I've
noticed an increased softness, colorfastness and durability in my clothes after following the advice, and for a penny pincher like me thats been a major boon. I can also shop smarter for clothing, bedding and such thus getting more for my money.

The only things Id love to see improved are an improved understanding of all the types of cloth diapers out there and how they can laundered and still remain clean, a more detailed as the typical feel of certain materials particularly as they apply to clothing, a comprehensive section on green laundering, and the biggest thing-tips on how to get caught quickly without compromising the quality of the work. Also tips on how to pack clothes to keep them well maintained both for the winter/summer change overs and for moving.

Unlike other reviewers I found this book to be essential in addition to Home Comforts because it does have some more information but more so because it is organized in a way that is quick to go through when Im right in the middle of sorting or going to head out and pick up some dish towels. Also the science of laundry section really helped bring home the facts of laundry in a way that I felt the Home Comforts: The Art and Science of Keeping House didnt have time to get into.

Even if youre not a domestic diva this book is a great way to improve the quality of your clothes, save money by keep what you have in good order, as well helping you make the best purchases when youre out (after all how can you call saving money if you spend $5 on something that will last two years and look bad in one as oppose to spending $20 on something that will last ten years and look good the whole time). Penny pinchers, the fashion divas, and domestic queens will all find this book vital (despite the feminine pronouns its a must for men too).

For More 5 Star Customer Reviews and Lowest Price:

Laundry: The Home Comforts Book of Caring for Clothes and Linens by Cheryl Mendelson - 5 Star Customer Reviews and Lowest Price!