



*The easiest thing you can do to ensure the longevity of your foul-weather gear is to give it a freshwater bath as soon as the skies have cleared, seas have settled, or you're tied to the dock. Then hang it to dry.*

## Help Your Gear Weather the Years

Buying good foul-weather gear is an investment, one that you can benefit from for years to come. To get the most from your gear, here are a few ways to keep it in good health:

- Most importantly, read the clothing labels and any manufacturer literature (tags, brochures, etc.) that came with the garment, and follow their care instructions.
- In the case of machine-washable gear, regular washes will keep salt, dirt, and oils from building up. Not following a regular wash routine could affect the breathability and waterproofness of the fabric.
- Use non-biological soap powders and pure soap flakes to launder water-repellent fabrics.
- If the fabric looks wet or fails to bead water, then restoring its water-repellency is likely in order. There are several wash-in products available that effectively do this, one such re-proofer is Grangers G-Line for Outerwear ([www.grangerusa.com](http://www.grangerusa.com)).
- Regularly inspect your gear for worn seams or stressed zippers. If the damage is significant, contact the manufacturer to see whether an in-house repair service is available.