

Decorating Trends

Family Studio: More Than Just A Laundry Room

(NAPSA)—The average family does more than 400 hours worth of laundry each year—that’s about eight to 10 loads per week. Is there space in your laundry room to pay bills, work on a computer or do crafts while the loads are running? Is the area comfortable and visually attractive?

Following the lead of spa bathrooms and gourmet kitchens, the laundry room is taking on a new look and a new purpose. The Family Studio is a room that addresses people’s needs for both a multi-functional space and high-quality fabric care systems.

“You don’t feel like you’re sitting in a laundry room,” says Mara Villanueva, Whirlpool’s Family Studio brand manager. “It’s more of a work room. It can be personalized for each home with the appliances and cabinetry that fits your lifestyle.”

Julie Browning-Bova is an interior designer in Indianapolis and mother of four that was one of the first to build a Family Studio in her home. “With four kids, I do a lot of laundry. The Family Studio allows us to be together during that time to do homework, play on the computer, work on crafts, and talk about our day—more productive activities,” she says.

Home appliances featured in the Family Studio include:

- **DryAire Drying Cabinet**—A faster and more organized alternative to traditional air drying, this flexible cabinet lets you flat- or hang-dry items quickly and gently with less clutter.

- **Duet Fabric Care System washer/dryer**—A front-loading washer that holds up to 17 pairs of jeans and uses significantly less electricity and water. The dryer



A collection of appliances and cabinets helps families make more of their laundry rooms.

has moisture sensors that prevent over-drying and wrinkling.

- **ImPress Ironing Station**—A cabinet that easily and neatly stores a height-adjustable, swiveling ironing board as well as an iron and ironing accessories.

- **Personal Valet Clothes Care System**—It looks like an armoire, but removes wrinkles and cleans away odors from a full range of fabrics including dry clean only clothes, wool, silk and even leather.

- **SinkSpa Jetted Sink**—An alternative to hand-washing, this sink features three water jets that gently care for hand-washables. It saves time and wear and tear on delicate garments yet can still serve as a standard utility sink.

The Whirlpool Family Studio is designed to make laundry easier while enabling homeowners to accomplish more than ever before. It’s modular so that homeowners can select the appliances in any combination. With a multi-functional space and these innovative appliances, homeowners can elevate an ordinary laundry room into something extraordinary.