

ABSTRACT

A washing machine (1) imparts an antibacterial effect to the laundry with metal ions. The washing machine (1) has an ion-dissolving unit (100), which applies a voltage between
5 electrodes (113, 114) to dissolve metal ions into the water from the anode. A drive circuit (120) of the ion-dissolving unit (100) is controlled so that the quantity of metal ions dissolved may be sufficient for the amount of laundry. The electrodes (113, 114) are made of silver, and water containing silver ions at a concentration of 50 ppb or more is used for rinsing. The operation program is set so that the water is in contact with the laundry for more than five
10 minutes. At the initial stage of the contact, a stirring step of predetermined time is provided. After the step, a rest step of predetermined time is provided. The stirring power at the stirring step is controlled depending on the amount of laundry.