

FROM THE MAILBAG

Two Glove Problems

Dear Aunt Daisy,

I have two problems about black kid gloves. One pair has been put away, and now I find it is spotted with mildew. How can I remove these? And the other query—is there any way of preventing the dye from coming off the gloves on to my hands? It is most embarrassing when going out to afternoon tea, and finding my hands almost black. I would be grateful if you can help me.

"Elgin," Auckland.

Mildew: Let us deal with the mildewed pair. For this you will need a long box or tin—with a well-fitting lid. Sprinkle in the bottom of the box some powdered rock ammonia from the chemist. Then put on that one or two thicknesses of brown paper or newspaper. Then lay the spotted gloves flat in the box—they could be wrapped loosely in tissue paper. Then put another two or three thicknesses of newspaper, and sprinkle more rock ammonia. The paper is to keep the rock ammonia from actually touching the gloves. In four or five days, when you open up the box the marks should have gone. This is the professional method.

Dye: Here are two professional methods of combating this nuisance. First try turning the gloves inside out. Moisten a cloth with benzine—don't have it too wet. Then lightly rub the gloves, on the wrong side. You don't want it so wet that the benzine will go through the skin—just stay on the surface of the underside. If that is not successful, put the gloves on your hands, inside out. Then rub the gloves thoroughly all over with a piece of good candle. Now rub the hands briskly together, till really warm, so that the candle wax will melt and go into them, forming a skin, as it were. Be sure that it goes into every part. I think you will find that fixes the gloves.

Removing a Scratch from a Mirror

Dear Aunt Daisy,

I think you may like to pass this useful hint on to some of your "Daisy Chain." It is one my daughter brought home from school, and I was so pleased about it.

I have a hanging wall mirror which somehow got a horrible scratch on it, either from a button on the duster, or a ring, and I've been so sorry about it. Then one day Betty said she could fix it. She just rubbed over the scratch with an ordinary piece of putty, and not a sign of anything was left. I may tell you I was more than pleased—that is why I am writing to you, so that you can tell others. Betty is only 14 and is taking a Home Science Course at school, and has learned so many useful things. Lots of luck, Aunt Daisy, and also to the Daisy Chain.

"Mit."

Thank you very much, "Mit," for telling us about this.

The Baby's Shawl

Dear Aunt Daisy,

Would it be too much trouble for you to put in *The Listener* the instructions for bleaching a baby's shawl? As my baby takes cod liver oil, both her shawls have yellow stains all over them. I have tried all kinds of things for removing the oil, but none has been successful. I thought perhaps the bleaching method would do. Many thanks.

"Yorky," Dunedin.

Well, Yorky, did you try these methods for the cod liver oil? Soak them

in eucalyptus, let it dry in, and then wash. Or soak in carbon tetra chloride, and then wash. Or this—boil 1oz. of borax with 1oz. of soap, in 1 quart of water. Soak the article for about 1½ hours in this, then wash in the usual way.

However, to whiten shawls and wool-lies, weigh them, and allow twice as much powdered chalk as wool. Mix this to a thin paste with cold water, and knead the garment in it for a few minutes. Leave a little while, then wash in the usual way, and dry—but do not hang them in the sun. Some people like to tack a tape round the edges of shawls to keep them in shape.



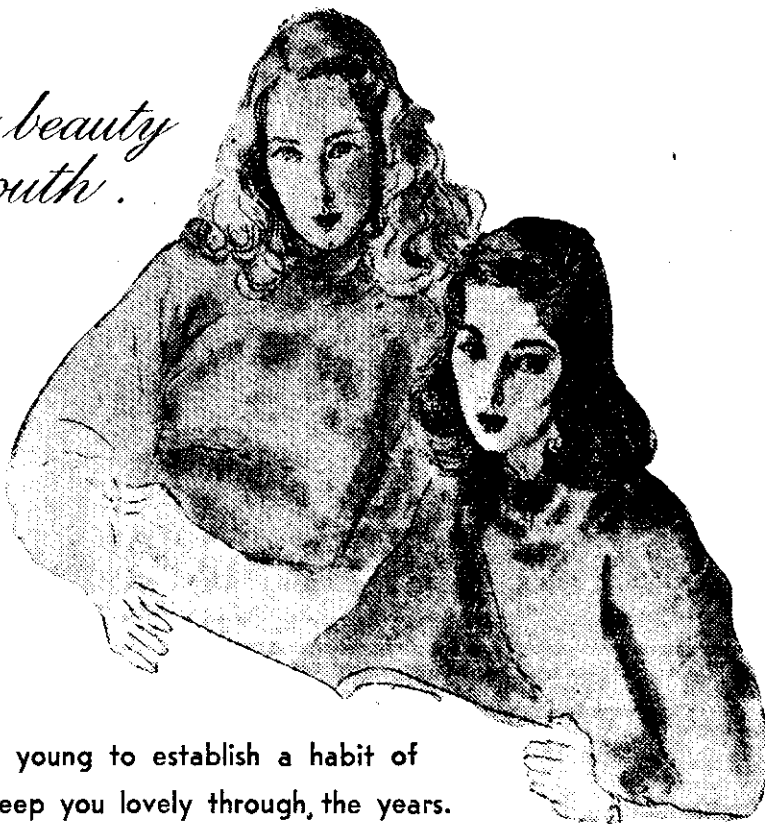
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