

looks darker, and quite grubby-looking compared with the front. I wondered if you know of a way to overcome this little difficulty, as it does seem a shame after so many hours of hard work. I should be most grateful if you could answer this letter in *The Listener*.

"Avonside."

That so often happens when knitting is done on steel needles, and it is a great disappointment after all the work that has gone into it. However, I think we can make it much better for you. Lay the frock out on a towel, and sprinkle the back liberally with powdered chalk, which you can buy from the chemist. Roll it up in the towel and leave it for two or three days. Then shake it out—it will take a bit of shaking to get the chalk all out—you could even beat it very lightly with a stick; and I think you'll find then that the frock is the same colour both sides. This method is also very good when you have knitted white babies' garments, for white knitting often gets grubby with handling.

Shabby Carpet

Dear Aunt Daisy,

I have a large mat in my living room, and it is looking very shabby, the pattern is almost worn off. I believe there is a way of painting them, and if so would you kindly let me know what type of paint to procure. Thank you.

"Manurewa."

Well, the first thing is to shampoo the carpet and get it clean—it is no use trying to put on dye or paint if it is dirty. It brightens it up a lot, too. Of course, some dyeing firms will dye carpets beautifully—they do them just the one colour of course. But it is quite fun to do it yourself. If you want to put the pattern back, make up small pots of the required dyes, and then get small, firm brushes, and just brush these colours into the pattern of the carpet. The sort of brush artists use for oil colours would do—or a very small ordinary paint brush, but a child's camel-hair water-colour paint brush would not be firm enough.

But you can also make up a larger quantity of dye, and using a larger paint-brush, or soft sponge, apply it evenly all over the carpet.

To Make Into Lino.—You can also make a carpet into an artificial linoleum. Reverse the carpet, so that you are working on the canvas backing. Beat it well, then paint all over with a thick, boiled starch paste. Let it dry

thoroughly, then apply two coats of enamel in any colour. You can make up patterns and designs, even, and paint them in with different colours. That wears well, especially if you use a special floor enamel.

Cleaning the Wallpaper

Dear Aunt Daisy,

Tell the lady who asked how to get the fly-marked wallpaper clean that this method has been found very good. Just mix up a very firm paste of flour and water and rub the paper with that. It acts just like a rubber, but you must not have it at all wet. It does not crumble so much as the bread, which you recommended for the purpose. I

hope this will be handy to someone in the near future. Wishing you all the best,

Iodine Stains on Linen

Dear Aunt Daisy,

I read, in a *Listener*, a few weeks back, of a shirt being buried in the ground to erase iodine. Here is a much easier, and quicker, remedy. Simply apply a cold pack immediately. I use a bunched-up towel, underneath, and hold a very wet face cloth on top. The result is astonishing. Iodine of longer standing comes right out in the same way, but the cold pack must be applied more frequently and continuously. Try it on an old piece of material for yourself.

"Nelson."

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