

skirt was) it naturally gets damp, and that is excellent. Then flake off the paste, and the scorch mark should be much fainter, or even gone. You can repeat the whole treatment, if necessary; or follow up by sponging with glycerine. Now, for your comfort, I will add a copy of a letter from a boy who had the same trouble with his good new grey flannel sports trousers.

Success

Dear Aunt Daisy,

Thank you very much for the letter you sent me on getting scorch marks out. I tried the one that you thought was the best (i.e., starch and cold water) and put on two plasters. This took the scorch out to a certain extent, but there was still rather a dark mark left. I got lazy then (you know what boys are like) and gave up putting the starch plaster on; and just rubbed glycerine on it. This took the mark RIGHT OUT.

"Norman," Cambridge.

Mustard For Inkstains

Dear Aunt Daisy,

At last I have time to report on the inked upholstery. I sponged the loose covers with tepid water, then plastered the inkstains with the mustard pack and left 24 hours. Then I washed them in the usual manner, and heigh ho! Not a spot left! But—worse was to come! The lost ink was replaced with a large bottle. This wasn't in the house five minutes when our little girl emptied it on the selfsame cover! Same treatment, same result. Also, there is no alteration in colour in the place treated. I thank you sincerely for your help.

"Mary."

Dyeing Sheepskins

Dear Aunt Daisy,

I have been curing sheepskins. I did them with the soda and kerosene method and felt very proud of them, as the skins were soft and white like kid gloves. I washed them in warm water and the wool was beautiful and white. Then I thought I would dye them. I used a well-known dye and carried out directions very carefully. These said to boil the articles for 10 minutes and then take out and wash. Well, Aunt Daisy, can you imagine my horror when, on lifting the skins out of the dye, they all fell to pieces. Do you know of a way to dye the skins? I have seen them in the shops all different colours.

"Te Kuiti."

I can well imagine your horror—and distress—at the result of dyeing your beautifully-cured sheepskins. I hope you can get some more skins and begin again. Sheepskins can be dyed successfully, and almost any shade, by diluting and blending the various colours of dye on sale. Your mistake was in boiling the skins. To dye skins you must only sponge the wool with the dye—although I have had letters describing a method of dipping the wool-side only in a somewhat-cooled bath of dye. Two people each hold one end of the skin, and move it gently to and fro in the dye-bath, so that the wool absorbs the dye, but the pelt or skin side, does not go in at all. This is a quick way of doing it—afterwards combing the wool thoroughly with a big, coarse comb to make the dye even, and the rugs fluffy. Then dry them over a line, in the usual way. It is the skin (or pelt) which must be kept out of the dye. The usual method, however, is to make up a good dye according to the directions. Then get a soft sponge, dip it in the dye, and dab it thoroughly all

over the wool, so that it absorbs the colour evenly. Dry away from the sun, and comb with a coarse comb.

Two Crystal Bowls

Dear Aunt Daisy,

I have two beautiful crystal bowls, wedding presents, which, owing to lack of cupboard room, I stored away one inside the other. Now that I want to use them I find they are stuck together. I have tried putting cold water in the inner one and heating the outer; immersing in luke-warm water; and olive oil immersion, all without success. Do you think you could give me some helpful suggestions?

H.G., Eastbourne.

You have tried the usual methods—except the one of putting olive oil

between the two bowls, using a feather or little brush to work it down, and then putting them in a warm place, perhaps in a cool oven or in front of the fire, and tapping them gently all round, keeping it up for a long time.

Another way is to oil between the bowls (with a machine-oil-can will do) and then put them into hot soapy water and leave them there for several days. Did you leave yours in as long as that? I asked the Daisy Chain over the air for more remedies, and one Link suggested using glycerine. Another suggestion was to put very cold water into the inner bowl, which will make it contract; but do not put the outer one in hot water, as this only expands both sides of the outer bowl, so gripping the inner one tighter.

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