

of muslin and tie, and pop this on top of each bottle. This keeps the beetroot a good colour. When using, leave mustard-bag in jar until jar is finished. "Bathmates," Te Aroha.

Oil on a Carpet

Dear Aunt Daisy,

Would it be possible for you to tell me of an effective means of removing oil from a carpet? The oil was spilt a few months ago and has seeped through to the felt underneath. I would be most grateful for some helpful advice in this matter.

"S.M.B.," Alexandra.

As the oil has been in so long, you may find it almost impossible to remove the stain now. Try this. Get the chemist to mix for you a quantity of benzol and carbon tetrachloride, equal parts. This must be thoroughly soaked into the oil. If you could lift the carpet and soak it and the underfelt very well for several days—renewing the solvent frequently—you may manage it. Do let me know how you get on.

A Yellowed Panama Hat

Dear Aunt Daisy,

I am a pupil of a girls' college and, like most other schools, we wear a white panama hat. My hat has faded to a creamy yellow colour. Soon our school will have its annual sports day, and I wonder if you know of any quick way of cleaning it to a whiter colour.

"Pauline," Otahuhu.

Try making a saturated solution of borax and hot water, and apply this while fairly hot with a soft brush. See that you do both under the brim and on the outside of it. It is a good idea to put the hat over an upturned basin, to hold it in position. Brush off the crystals when thoroughly dry. Another idea is to mix powdered magnesia to a paste with cold water and rub well in, all over, with a clean nailbrush. When dry, brush off thoroughly.

Mildew Again

Dear Aunt Daisy,

I wonder if you would be so kind as to give me a recipe for removing mildew stains from a white uniform. They are not bad stains, but the marks are noticeable enough to prevent my wearing the garment.

"E.M.," Wellington.

Soaking in a solution of chloride of lime removes mildew, but it must be thoroughly rinsed out afterwards, preferably with baking soda in the water, to kill the lime which weakens the fabric if left in. Chlorogene, diluted as directed by the manufacturers, is easier to use; but you can make your own solution if you like. Dissolve ¼ lb. chloride of lime in 1 gallon of water. (If for a small article such as a table napkin use about 2 teaspoons to ½ pint of water.) Strain thoroughly through thick tea cloth or something similar so that no lumps of lime remain. Immerse the mildewed material in this and watch it until the mildew fades—perhaps 20 to 30 minutes. Then rinse very thoroughly, in water containing baking soda, to kill the lime. For white things only, as this is a bleach.

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N.Z. LISTENER, JUNE 11, 1954.

DRESSMAKING

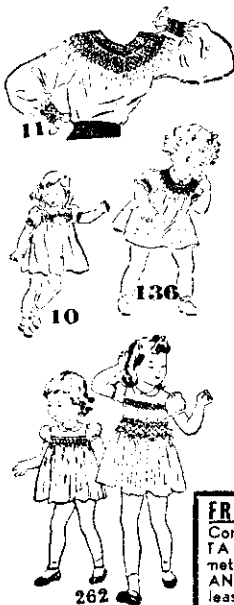
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