

Cod Liver Oil Stains

Dear Aunt Daisy,

My sister is a busy mother of four children. She has a new blanket rather badly stained with cod liver oil—a very distinct brown stain, which washing has not removed. When she asked me about it I immediately said "I'll write to Aunt Daisy." I have been married 14 months and find your session the most interesting half-hour of the day—not to mention the very many useful hints and recipes I have had. "Rita," Cheviot.

I think you will find this a difficult job as the blanket has been washed. These stains should be attacked before the whole blanket or other garment is washed, and (more especially) ironed. Try oleic acid, from the chemist. Rub well into stain. Dip in warm water containing a little ammonia. Wash as usual. Another idea: Mix 1 tablespoon soapflakes with 2 tablespoons boiling water. As these begin to thicken, add 2 tablespoons amylacetate (from chemist). Rub mixture well into stain; then wash with warm soapsuds.

To. Recolour Blinds

Dear Aunt Daisy,

Some time ago I remember seeing directions in *The Listener* for painting Holland blinds. I did not think at the time I should ever need the information, but having had a room painted and papered the present colouring of the blinds is not suitable. Would it be possible to repeat the directions in *The Listener*. I would be most grateful if this could be done. Thanking you in anticipation. "M.E." Remuera.

The only way I have on my files is to paint the blinds both sides with a thin varnish stain. But as you have made your room so nice with new paper and paint I think it would be a mistake to try to refurbish up old blinds. That was just an emergency measure during the years of the depression. Some people rubbed the blinds with a suitable colour of boot polish, and rubber it up afterwards with a velvet pad! My advice is to get opaque and suitable curtain material and "draw the curtains" at night time—a quite pretty way to manage. Then when you are ready, get the new Venetian blinds put in. These come in many different shades, and are most satisfactory.

Scarlet Colouring

Dear Aunt Daisy,

I wonder if any of your Daisy Chain could help me with the following problem? I do want to know how to make the real scarlet icing for writing the greetings on birthday cakes. I have tried most red colourings and the result has been a rather startling pink. I should be so grateful if you could help as I make a good many cakes for birthday presents. "I.P." Christchurch.

The old-fashioned cochineal makes a bright colouring, provided you use enough of it; and you can get three primary colourings (red, blue and yellow) from which to make all shades—the plain red is quite bright. I don't think anyone makes scarlet.

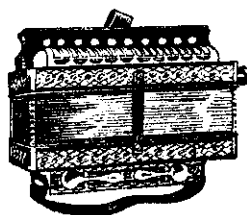
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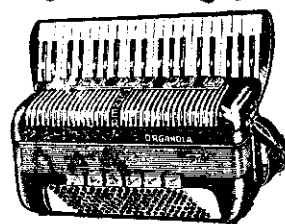
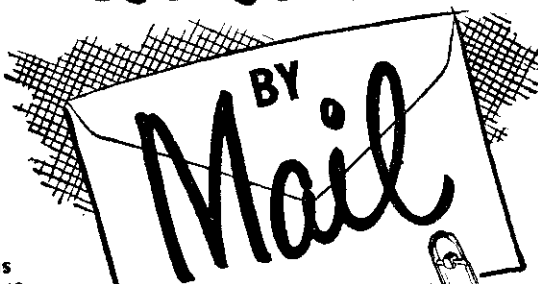


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