

:-: HOUSEHOLD HINTS :-:

A GOOD way to clean bronze articles is to sponge over with flat beer, wipe with a soft cloth, then polish with chamois leather.

SKIN shoes look like new if cleaned with a stiff brush and hot soapy water. Let them dry and then clean with a good cream in the ordinary way.

WHEN tidying the garden do not consign all the wood to the rubbish tip. Small twigs, rose cuttings, etc., if tied in small bundles and stored in a shed to dry, make rapid copper boilers and greatly reduce the wood bill.

AN apron of white marble oilcloth worn while washing clothes or dishes saves the wear of dresses a great deal. The water cannot penetrate it and it does not need any scrubbing, but only a quick wipe with a cloth.

IF you have a soup you wish to thicken (either meat or vegetable), try mixing some coarse oatmeal with a little water and adding that to the liquid. You will find the soup has a much nicer flavour.

TO clean a kerosene tin, crumple up a newspaper and put in the tin, then set light to it; when the paper has burnt it will be found that the odour has completely gone, and the tin can be used immediately.

IT is not always easy to obtain large quantities of soft water on washing days, and the regular use of patent water-softening powders is expensive. Few people know that glycerine is a splendid water-softener. A few drops of glycerine added to the washing water will make it soft, and any woolen articles treated in this manner will be far easier to wash.

WHEN roasting a sirloin, if it is first rubbed all over with olive oil, then half an hour later a large tablespoon of olive oil is basted over the meat, you will always have nice soft dripping. If no olive oil is obtainable, three tablespoons of melted butter, used in the same way, is a good substitute. Strain the hot fat through butter muslin. This makes excellent pastry.

WOODWORK in your kitchen that has become stained from smoke and grease can be cleaned by painting it with a solution of starch in water. After the solution has dried it is rubbed off with a soft brush or clean cloth, which removes the stains. Treating the woodwork in this way does not harm the paint, and any finished surface treated with starch will remain in good condition for several years.

AS this is moulting time in the poultry yard there should be plenty of soft fluffy feathers about. Gather the feathers, place in an oatmeal bag, sew up the end and wash in warm soapy water, afterward rinsing in blue water. Peg the bag on the line and leave till dry. The feathers can be put to various uses such as pillows, quilts, cushions, etc. The small quill feathers may also be gathered and if soiled, washed, after which they can be dyed and made into feather mounts for hats.

WHEN cleaning a gas or fuel stove, place your hand in a paper bag. This is much easier than putting on gloves, keeps the hand quite clean and saves knocking the knuckles.

FILL a discarded hot-water bottle with kapoc or sawdust, replace the stopper, and you will have a pad that can be used for kneeling on floor or ground.

TO clean the bath mix kerosene with whiting. Apply to bath, and wash with a soft cloth. Leave till dry, then remove with a dry cloth. The bath will always be clean and free from scratches.

A SIMPLE way of mending broken glass is to apply a little condensed milk to either side and press firmly together. The result is surprising.

MANY invalids and children find bananas indigestible. When this is the case mash the fruit with a silver fork. Add a teaspoonful of sherry for adults, and a teaspoonful of apple or red currant jelly and cream should be used for children.

ONLY warm water and a scrubbing-brush should be used to wash cane chairs. Soap should never be used, for this will be absorbed by the cane. If the chairs have become a bad colour, use a little oxalic acid in the water (a teaspoon to a bucket).



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