



Help Yourself

IRONING

When covering an ironing-board, wet the cloth thoroughly before tacking it into place. When it dries it will be taut and smooth.

If iron is sticky with starch, rub iron over a towel which has been sprinkled with talcum powder.

Before ironing a man's tie, insert a piece of cardboard the same shape. This will prevent seam marks from showing.

Stand on a rubber mat or a soft floor rug when ironing. It keeps your feet happy.

To save time when ironing, place a sheet on the ironing-board and iron pillow-cases and other small items on top of it. Keep moving sheet with each different item. It will get ironed without extra effort.

To make embroidery patterns stand out, place the piece face down on soft towelling, iron dry on the wrong side.

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YOUR HANDS

Most vegetable stains can be removed from the hands by rubbing with a slice of raw potato.

Before working in the garden, scratch your fingertips over a moist cake of soap. This will keep soil from getting under your nails.

Fine oatmeal mixed with a little lemon juice in the palm of the hand, and then rubbed well in, makes an excellent remover of ingrained hand dirt.

Keep hand lotion or a tube of lanolin in the kitchen and remember to use it after washing up.

Train yourself to wear gloves for dirty household tasks. It's worth the trouble in the long run.

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To prevent potatoes turning soft before you're ready to use them, store by spreading them out in a shallow box so that air can circulate freely round them.

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Fresh bread will cut more easily if the bread knife is heated first by holding it under the hot-water tap for a few minutes.

Washing Up

If the sink pipe gets stopped try putting a generous handful of washing-soda down the drain, then pour in half a glassful of vinegar.

Give longer wear to rubber gloves by turning inside out and sticking pieces of adhesive plaster over each finger tip.

Laundry blue in the washing-up water will make glassware sparkle.

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When Unexpected Guests Call

An easy way to freshen scones is to place them on an oven tray on the top shelf of a moderate oven. Underneath, place a dish full of boiling water. The steam rising from the water will soften and freshen the scones in about five minutes.

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Cooking Hint

Baked apples can be glamorised easily and quickly this way : beat an egg white until stiff, add sugar to sweeten then put a spoonful on top of each already baked apple. Return to oven until meringue is set and lightly browned on top.

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Soldering Sense

When short pieces of wire are being soldered, hold them in a spring-type clothes peg to prevent your fingers being burnt by the hot tip of the soldering iron. For best results, always be sure metal surfaces to be soldered are *thoroughly* clean.

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How's this for a winter day? Joe and Robert Davis, Charlie and Mick Cubby and John Trenchman, of Mungindi