

# HELP YOURSELF

Never hang a mirror where the sun shines directly on it or it will gradually become dim and deteriorate.

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If you are thinking of trying a little home dyeing, rub the hands well with grease before beginning and the stains will later wash off easily.

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Varnish and paint stains will come off instantly if rubbed with cotton-wool dipped in nail-polish remover.

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To remove the smell of paint after the work is done, place a pail of water in the room and change it every few hours.

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If you are not a seasoned cake baker you could probably do with a few hints. Cakes will not burn so easily if the tin is greased out with lard and not butter and sprinkled lightly with flour.

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When making chocolate puddings or cakes, a drop or two of vanilla is always good, but for a change try adding a pinch of ground cinnamon instead. This gives a distinctive flavour.

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Lots of cake recipes include golden syrup. When weighing this glutinous substance, flour the scales well and the syrup will slip off without sticking.

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Scones need plenty of baking powder. Use one level tablespoonful to half a pound of plain flour and half a level tablespoonful to half a pound of self-raising flour.

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Always put a pinch of salt in any cake or scone mixture, it brings out the flavour of the other ingredients.

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When making a rich cake beat the butter and sugar together with the hand—it will be lighter than if mixed with a spoon.

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If you are taking any velvet garment out of the moth balls and you find it badly "plushed" hold the marks over a steaming kettle and brush gently with a soft hat brush. Try to follow the grain of the velvet. Ribbon velvet can be rejuvenated almost to new if you prop a hot iron upright, place a wet rag over it, then pull the ribbon firmly back and forth over the surface through the steam.

You do know, don't you, that in making up velvet for frocks it will look richer if the velvet brushes upwards from hem to waist.

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To teach baby to begin to drink by himself there is a new plastic disk made to fit into a cup. This has two pierced holes to enable him to get enough to drink but not enough to spill all over himself. As a stop-gap, until you can obtain one of these, use one of the card lids that seal cartons of jam, and bore two holes in it.

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When working shoes become a little rubbed give them a freshener with raven oil. Rub this in well and allow to dry. Then clean in the ordinary way.

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Don't put up with a squeaky door. Oil the hinges well, using a little oil on a feather.

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A leak in a pipe may be stopped temporarily by applying a thick mixture of whitening and ordinary yellow soap.

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Do you know that whitewash may be made permanent if a handful of alum and a pint of skimmed milk is added when mixing. And, if you are making a pot of flour paste to use in the children's scrap-books, a little alum can be added to this. Put what is left over in a screw-topped jar and it will keep several weeks.



Iris Hoskin of Wallaga Lake was rather doubtful about having her photograph taken.