

HOME HINTS

Here's a delicious savoury dish that would be especially appreciated by an invalid. Mash a quantity of boiled potatoes, add some chopped parsley, and spoon into individual oven dishes. Scoop out a hole in the centre of each dish, and place an egg in the middle of the hole. Put in the oven to set the egg, then sprinkle grated cheese over the top, and put in the oven again until the cheese is melted.

* * * *

Nails, screws, hooks and all the hardware that is necessary for doing the odd jobs around the house, are usually found jumbled together in a box or jar. An easy method of separating and assembling them is to use the compartments of a patty tin. Put nails in one compartment, bolts in another, and so on. Then, they'll always be tidy, can be seen easily, and selected quickly, without damage to the fingers.

* * * *

To prevent a soggy crust when you're making mince meat pies, sprinkle the bottom of the pie shell with a layer of crushed cornflakes before you put in the mincemeat.

* * * *

Black suede shoes that are looking the worse for wear can be restored with this simple mixture. Just apply equal parts of olive oil and black ink, and they will come up like new.

* * * *

Try this spic flavoured caraway cheese. You'll need about one cup of cottage cheese and two teaspoons of crushed caraway seeds. Add these to the cheese, and season with salt and pepper. Serve in barbeque style with slices of rye bread, it's delicious.



An interstate visitor,
Noeline Pearce of Robinvale.

Put your discarded powder puffs to work, by washing them free of powder and using them to clean and polish silverware or metal jewellery.

* * * *

One way to make the burden of shopping easier is to put a pocket for your shopping list on the side of your shopping bag or carryall. With some sticky tape attach a square of cellophane or clear plastic to the outside of your shopping bag. Then you can slip your shopping list in the transparent pocket where it won't get lost and will save you much awkward fumbling.

* * * *

Drying clothes inside the house in wet weather is an uncomfortable and untidy process. It's a good idea to use the frame of an old umbrella for this purpose. Take off the old cover, and paint the frame so that it won't rust. Hang it from the ceiling by putting the handle on a small hook. You'll find the spokes will accommodate quite a number of small articles, and not take up too much space.

* * * *

If you have unseemly-looking wide cracks in your floor boards, try using plastic wood to fill in the cracks. First, work a little varnish into the crack and then force the plastic wood in. When it has dried, sand it off evenly with the boards and stain it the colour you require to make a perfect match.

* * * *

For the housewife who has brass or copper ornaments in her home, it is a labour saving idea to clear lacquer them. This protects the surface for years from corrosion.

* * * *

If your dining table is an extension type with an extra leaf which is difficult to put in or close up, vaseline will limber it up sufficiently. Pull the table out as far as possible and coat the sides of the sliding members with vaseline.

* * * *

If your polished timber sun furniture has become dull through being exposed to the sun, use a cotton cloth which has been soaked in methylated spirits and rub lightly over a small area at a time. This will remove the stains and give a shine to the furniture.

* * * *

The housewife who takes a pride in the meals she cooks, will be interested in a hint for turning faded cauliflowers to a fresh whiteness. When cooking the cauliflower simply put a pinch of sugar in the water.

* * * *

You'll find that jar lids are often difficult to unscrew, if your wrist is not particularly strong. Wrap an elastic band around the lid tightly several times and you'll get a firm grip and extra strength.