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CLOTHING—RENOVATION AND REMODELING

BEFORE AFTER

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Clothing—Renovation and Remodeling

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The first step in getting one's clothes ready for winter should be the renovation of those garments carried over from the previous winter, which require only minor changes to put them in wearable condition. The second step is to make over or cut down for smaller members of the family garments which require complete changing. These will then furnish the basis of the winter wardrobe, or wardrobes, and determine what garments will have to be bought and what color schemes may be carried out. Dresses, coats, suits and other woolen garments that have been cleaned and stored properly during the summer will be found free of mildew and the ravages of moths and other insects.

To Freshen. If garments are not soiled, only dusting, airing and pressing are necessary. Select a bright, clear day for the work. Brush the garments thoroly on both right and wrong sides, fasten them on coat hangers and hang them in a shady place in the open air for several hours. Place the garments wrong-side-out over the ironing board and press, or right-side-out and press under a damp cloth.

If only slightly soiled, a garment may be freshened before pressing by sponging it all over on the right side with a cloth (preferably of same material as the garment) wrung out of clean water to which a few drops of household ammonia have been added.

Garments that need a thoro cleaning may be washed or dry cleaned, the method used depending upon the fabric, the nature

of the soil and the design of the garment. Soap and water are, by all odds, the most satisfactory cleaners if used used properly.

Washing. Wool, silk and synthetic fabrics are injured by high temperature and rubbing such as may be used safely on cotton and linen. Strong soaps and washing powders cause woolens to harden, yellow and shrink; they destroy the luster of silk and weaken synthetic fabrics.

How to Wash fabrics of wool, silk and synthetic fibers.

1. Do not soak, and do not rub soap on them.
2. Use a mild soap, flakes or beads of soap.
3. Make an emulsion by dissolving the soap in boiling water.
4. Have the temperature of washing water a little above blood heat—about 110 degrees F.
5. Add sufficient emulsion to water to make a rich suds, and continue to add it as washing progresses and foam disappears. A one-inch foam should be maintained to assure satisfactory results.
6. Souse garment up and down in suds, turning and squeezing, for about fifteen minutes. Do not rub, pull or twist.
7. Squeeze out of this suds and put thru a second one of the same temperature, prepared in the same way.
8. Very soiled places such as cuffs and collars may be cleaned by patting emulsion into them and manipulating gently between the palms of the hands.
9. Rinse thru at least two waters of the same temperature as the wash-waters.
10. Squeeze out, pin on coat hanger and place in the shade to dry.

Wool sunburns if put into the sunshine while wet. It shrinks if dried in too hot a place or if allowed to freeze. It should be ironed while damp. If allowed to dry thoroly, creases are hard to iron out. Press on the wrong side with a medium-hot iron, or on the right side under a thick, damp pressing cloth, until almost dry. Pressing until "bone" dry causes marking or shining.

Press silk and synthetic fabrics on the wrong side after allowing to dry. Use a medium-hot iron on silks. Test the temperature of the iron for synthetic fabrics on a sample or hidden portion of the garment. As a rule they require a much lower temperature than do other fabrics.

To Dry Clean. Home dry cleaning is *not recommended* because of the great risk involved. Anyone who undertakes it should take every precaution against fire. There are on the market solvents prepared especially for dry cleaning. Altho some are inflammable, they are much less so than naphtha and gasoline.

All dry cleaning should be done out-of-doors and away from flame or fire. Garments cleaned should be left out-of-doors until the solvent has entirely evaporated. To avoid an explosion from statical electricity (which may occur when no fire is present), do not clean on a dry day and do not rub garments as in washing. Also, when pouring gasoline from one container to another. keep their edges in contact.

If garments are grease spotted, remove spots before placing garment in the cleansing bath. Also remove buttons, buckles and metal or composition ornaments.

A clean porcelain jar is a much better vessel to use for cleaning than a dishpan, which is shallow and has sides sloping outward. A deep vessel of alumnium or tin is good. Put the garment to be cleaned into this and add sufficient solvent to cover. Cover the vessel and let the garment soak for thirty minutes. With a hand-suction cup—the kind used to unstop a clogged sink—work the garment up and down for about fifteen minutes, turning it from time to time so as to expose every part to the action of the cleaning fluid. Squeeze out, do not wring, and rinse in clean solvent. If the garment is badly soiled, use a dry-cleaning soap in the first bath and rinse thru two baths. Fasten on a coat hanger and dry out-of-doors. If possible, let hang for twenty-four hours before pressing.

The solvent used for rinsing may be strained thru a thick muslin cloth and used again for the first washing, if care is taken not to pour off the sediment with it.

SPOTS AND STAINS

Too much emphasis cannot be placed upon the importance of removing spots and stains as soon as they are discovered. Grease spots spread, sugars and gums harden and stains of all kinds are more difficult to remove if allowed to dry on fabric. The prompt use of absorbents such as talcum, chalk, or blotting paper and warm iron removes grease spots. Successive applications of salt, if brushed well into the material, will absorb all but the slightest trace of wet ink from woolen material, and this can be removed by sponging with clean, cold water.

Silk, wool and rayon are very different in composition from cotton and linen and much more easily destroyed by strong chemicals. For this reason some bleaching agents which can be used safely on the last named two cannot be used on silk, wool or rayon. It is always best to try out a cleaning fluid on a sample of the material from which a garment is made before applying it to the garment.

Stain removers are grouped into three general classes: Absorbent, solvents and bleaches.

I. Absorbents. These are a first aid to the removal of all kinds of liquid stains and, if promptly applied, take up the excess before it penetrates deeply into the fabric. Table salt, blotting paper, French chalk (talcum powder), chalk, starch and coarse corn meal are absorbents found in almost every household.

1. *Ink.* If a bottle of ink is overturned on the carpet, immediately pour on it plenty of clean, dry table salt, which will quickly become saturated with the ink. Brush this salt off and apply more, rubbing it well into the fabric with the tips of the fingers or a stiff brush. When this becomes discolored with ink, brush away and make another application of salt, again rubbing it thoroly into the fabric. Repeat until salt comes away clean. Next sponge the carpet with skimmed milk. Remove traces of milk by sponging with tepid water in which a mild soap has been dissolved. Care-

ful, thoro work will remove practically every trace of the ink.

2. *Oil or Grease.* Immediately take up the excess by pressing between clean blotters. Then press between fresh blotters with a moderately warm iron. Use fresh blotters until the spot disappears. Remaining traces of grease can be removed with talcum powder or carbon tetrachloride.
3. To remove old grease spots, cover with talcum or chalk and rub well into the fabric. Leave for a while, then remove by brushing and shaking. Repeat until spot is removed.

II. Solvents. A. *Water* is used to remove spots made by sugar, starches, gums, milk, paste, eggs and blood. It is well to remember that any spot that is made by water or a substance which dissolves in water, must be removed with water. Milk, ice cream, sauces, gravy, and salad dressings contain fat as well as water-soluble substances, and require two treatments, one to remove the fat and the other to remove the non-fatty substance. The cloth should be entirely free of the first solvent before the second one is applied.

B. Spots of a *greasy* nature require the use of a cleaner that dissolves the grease and sets the dirt free. Benzine, gasoline, kerosene, naphtha, chloroform, ether and carbon tetrachloride may be used. Carbon tetrachloride is recommended for general use because it is non-inflammable, inexpensive, and is effective in removing practically all greasy substances, paints, varnishes, tar, and chewing gum. Turpentine may be used to soften dried paint and other substances before applying the solvents. Acetone is a better solvent for dry paint than turpentine, but is very inflammable.

General Method. First scrape away the excess of spotting substance.

1. Place table or board on which the work is to be done in good light.
2. Put on this a cloth folded to several thicknesses, or a clean, white blotting paper to absorb the cleansing liquid.

3. Spread spotted material on this, wrong side up.
4. Sponge with a clean, soft cloth, moving the cloth from time to time to a clean place on pad.
5. Work from edges of spot toward center to avoid spreading it.
6. Reverse material, putting right side up, and sponge with cloth of same material as that spotted.
7. Do not rub hard enough to injure the fabric.

III. Bleaches. Stains made by fruit, ink, medicine, mildew and corroded metals require the use of a bleach. Chlorinated lime and bleaching solutions such as B. K., zonite, or hydrochlorite can be used on cotton and linen, but destroy silk and wool. Potassium permanganate solution, hydrogen peroxide, Dakin's Solution, and weak or dilute acids, except nitric acid, can be used on them, if necessary precautions are taken. Before using a bleach on any colored fabric, test it on a sample, or on some hidden portion of the garment to determine whether or not it will destroy the color.

General Directions. Place the stained portion, wrong side up, on a folded cloth and sponge with tepid water to remove as much as possible of the stain. Then stretch over a bowl of clean water and apply bleaching chemicals to stain with a medicine dropper.

Some Common Stains and their Solvents.

Ink. Ordinary writing ink. Treat with warm oxalic acid, or with lemon juice and salt. Keep moistened until stain disappears. Rinse well.

Iodine. Sponge with alcohol or dilute ammonia.

Iron Rust. Bleach with lemon juice and salt, or oxalic acid. Repeat. if necessary, but rinse before each fresh application.

Mercurochrome. Treat with potassium permanganate solution made by dissolving one teaspoon of the crystals in one pint of water. Repeat application until stain disappears. Remove the brownish stain left by the permanganate by applying lemon juice, weak oxalic acid, or hydrogen peroxide made slightly acid

with lemon juice or acetic acid. Dakin's Solution may be used to remove mercurochrome. It should be washed out of the fabric thoroly. It can be used on silk or rayon.

Coffee. Bleach with potassium permanganate, if ordinary laundering does not remove it.

Mildew. Try the following in the order given. Ordinary laundering, soak over night in sour milk, moisten with lemon juice and salt and allow to lie in the sun. If persistent, bleach with potassium permanganate.

Perspiration. Use soap and water, hydrogen peroxide, or potassium permanganate.

Scorch. Wet with soap and water and expose to sunlight for a day. Slight scorch stains can be removed from any white fabric with hydrogen peroxide. Dampen a white cloth with it and lay over the stain. Lay a clean dry cloth over this and press with a warm iron. Repeat, if necessary.

TINTING AND DYEING

Tinting and dyeing are effective aids toward maintaining an attractive and economical wardrobe. Faded colors may be restored to their original freshness, or be re-dyed an entirely different color. White silk materials that have become yellow with washing may be made to look like new by tinting them in delicate colors.

Faded prints and checks, too, may be re-dyed to give attractive effects, provided a dye closely related in color to that of the colors in the cloth is used. For example, a white printed in red, yellow and black, which has become faded and dingy from washing and perspiration, if dyed a light yellow will have the appearance of new material, since the dye strengthens the colors in the print and covers the dinginess of the background. Often the wear of a garment can be doubled, thus saving the price of new material; and a clothing outfit carrying out a definite color scheme may be assembled at small cost.

Our grandmothers used walnut hulls to dye brown; hickory bark. yellow; and willow, gray. These home methods have given way to commercial dyes which may be had in convenient form, at small cost, and in a great variety of colors. A number of commercial firms manufacture dyes. Some of these dyes are put up in powder form, others as soaps. Some of these dye all fibers —silk, wool, synthetic, cotton and linen—equally well. Others dye only silk and wool, or cotton, linen and synthetic. Since so many materials and garments are made up of both animal and vegetable fibers, one is more apt to get satisfactory results if a dye which colors all fibers alike is used. The method of procedure in dyeing differs with the composition and purpose of the dye, so that no accurate general directions for dyeing can be given. Just remember to follow carefully the directions accompanying the package of dye you are using and results should be satisfactory.

Bleaching. There are a number of color bleaches on the market. With these it is possible to bleach many materials so that they may be tinted or dyed an entirely different color. As with dyes, the method of using them differs, so be careful to follow directions accompanying the particular bleach you are using.

Equipment for Dyeing.

1. A vessel of tin, aluminum, or porcelain—in fact, anything except iron. It must be large enough to hold sufficient water to cover the material well and allow it to be lifted and stirred without crowding. It must be absolutely clean, and if of enamel, must have an unbroken inner surface.
2. Smooth sticks for lifting and stirring the material.
3. Rubber gloves to prevent staining the hands.
4. Heat that can be regulated.

Rules that must be observed in bleaching, tinting and dyeing.

1. Follow carefully the instructions accompanying the package of dye or bleach to be used.

2. Prepare the material carefully.
   (1) Remove stains and grease spots as thoroly as possible.
   (2) Wash the material thoroly in soft water and rinse well. Dirt prevents getting a clear, bright color; perspiration and grease prevent the material from taking dye properly.
3. Dye, tint, or bleach the material while still moist from washing.
4. Stir and lift the material constantly while in the dye or bleaching bath.
5. Lift the material from bath when adding salt, and do not return it until all of salt is dissolved.
6. Rinse thoroly before drying.
7. Press while moist, either on wrong side or under a pressing cloth.
8. Weigh the material and use bleach or dye in proportion to weight. Too much dye for the quantity of material is apt to cause spotting; therefore, start with the amount required in the instructions and, if more is needed, lift the material from the bath before adding more dye, which should be stirred thoroly before returning the material to the bath.
9. Material that has been bleached must be washed thoroly with soap and warm water, then rinsed carefully before it is dyed, to remove all the bleaching agent.

Some aids to successful dyeing.

1. Try a sample of the material in the dye bath before adding the material to be dyed, and keep a sample in for testing depth and fastness of color.
2. Flat goods take dye best, so, whenever possible, rip the garment before dyeing.
3. When dyeing a garment that is not to be ripped, take out the hem, and remove belt, buckle, buttons, and ornaments.

When dyeing silks.

1. The temperature of the dye should be kept slightly below boiling.
2. The time of boiling depends upon the depth of color desired. Darker shades require longer boiling.
3. Put from dye bath into COLD water and rinse until water runs clear.
4. Black silks should be allowed to dry before rinsing.
5. Do not wring silk. This causes what is known as chafing of silk, and gives slightly whitish streaks or specks on the surface of the cloth. It should be squeezed gently and hung dripping on the line.

Tied Dyeing. Many attractive articles such as scarfs, handkerchiefs, drapes, and so on, can be made by twisting, crushing, folding and tying materials, then dipping them into dyes. A number of dye manufacturers have prepared illustrated leaflets showing just how it is done. These are free to customers. Inquire for these when buying your dye.

MAKING OVER

Economy in making over.

1. Woolen garments offer the best opportunity for making over satisfactorily, because of the weight and durability of the materials, and because all traces of the original stitching can be removed.
2. Cutting down clothes for someone who is smaller gives opportunity to use only the best parts of the garments.
3. A real saving is effected only when the old material is durable and will make a garment that looks and wears almost like new.
4. The amount spent for new material to combine with old should be small.
5. Simple rather than elaborate design, finishes and decoration are used.

6. An old garment which is in good condition, fits comfortably, and is not noticeably out of style should be worn as it is, rather than made over because one is "tired of it."

Types of remodeling.

1. Making minor changes, as replacing worn parts, refitting and adjusting, adding new collar or vest.
2. Changing the garment completely. Cutting down for smaller person, making different type of garment out of it, combining with new material.
3. Combining two garments to make one, as making dress from skirt and waist.

Suggested uses for old garments.

Old Garment	New Garment
Woman's coat	Dress for woman or child, skirt, child's coat.
Woman's coat suit	Misses or boy's suit, woman or girl's dress, boy's coat.
Woman's dress	Dress for smaller person, skirt, small boy's suit, girl's coat.
Woman's skirt	Girl's dress, boy's trousers, bloomers, skirt.
Silk blouse	Combine with wool dress to make girl's dress
White crepe blouse	Tint and use for collar, cuff and vest set.
Wool sweater	Sweater, leggings and cap for child.
Man's overcoat	Woman's or child's coat, boy's overcoat.
Man's coat	Child's coat, little boys' trousers.
Man's suit	Small boy's suit.
Man's trousers	Boy's trousers, little girl's dress, leggings, cap.

Preparation of old material for use.

1. Rip carefully and remove all threads, or cut off seams if size of garment permits.
2. Brush and dust.
3. Remove spots.
4. Wash, sponge or dry clean.
5. Dye, if material is faded and cannot be reversed.
6. Press.

7. Examine carefully and determine best possible use to be made of the garment.
8. Hold each piece between you and the light and examine for weak places. Outline these with thread of contrasting color so that they may be easily located when placing the pattern.

Selection of new material to combine with old.

1. It must be suitable in quality and cost to the old—good, but not too expensive.
2. Plain woolen materials may be combined with: plaids, checks, stripes, or contrasting colors in woolen materials; with figures, checks, plaids, stripes or contrasting colors in crepes and other silks; or with velvets and velveteens in same or contrasting colors.

When new woolen material is to be used with the old, it should be shrunk. If it is the same material as the garment, it may be necessary to weather it for a few days so that the two will look alike. To weather means to expose to sunlight, air and general weather conditions.

Cutting the garment.

1. Selection of pattern. Select (1) simple rather than elaborate design. (2) One that will necessitate as little piecing of material as possible. (3) If to be combined with other material, a pattern showing an attractive or modish combination.
2. Placing the pattern. (1) Lay all pieces out on table, right sides up. (2) Note location of worn places. (3) Place all pieces of pattern on material before beginning to cut.
3. Care necessary when placing pattern. (1) Match grain of material, stripes or large designs. (2) Plan so that necessary piecing comes in inconspicuous places or will be covered by trimming. (3) Place weak spots in the material where they will receive as little strain as possible when the garment is worn.

4. Cut, then mark notches indicating joinings or placing of trimming, before removing the pattern.

Making the Garment. Plain seams pressed open generally are best to use on woolen materials. Stitch them with a fairly slack tension and a long stitch. If the material does not fray, finish the seam edges by pinking; otherwise, bind or overcast them.

Finish and press each seam before joining another to it.

Make the garment as carefully as if it were of new material and when completed it should not have that "made-over" look.

Mending.

It is easier to repair worn places in material before the new garment is put together. Do this after placing the pattern to see what worn places cannot be avoided, and before cutting.

Reinforcing is used to strengthen weak places in material before the threads have broken.

Method 1 is to be used on heavy woolens of plain weave, such as tweeds. Use a lengthwise ravel of the materials, work on the wrong side, and weave the thread in along the line of crosswise threads of the cloth. Cover the entire thin place with close darning, carry the darning thread under and over same threads as the line of thread being followed. Short lengths of threads may be used, their ends left free to extend about one-half an inch on the wrong side.

Method 2 is suitable for any kind of material, especially for silks and light-weight woolens. Baste the part to be mended, right side down, on a piece of tough paper or table oilcloth. Baste smoothly over this a piece of fine-mesh net of the same color as the material. With a fine cotton thread of matching color, darn back and forth parallel with the weaker threads of the weave until the entire surface has been covered. Let darning extend somewhat beyond edge of worn place. Make short stitches, and as far as possible keep them from showing on the right side. Ends of threads are not fastened, but cut off fairly short on the wrong side.

A woven darn is necessary when a hole has been worn thru the material. In this case the threads are woven both lengthwise and crosswise with the weave of the material. The lengthwise threads are run first. This is satisfactory for outer garments only when the hole is small and on coarse, plain-weave material that is easily copied. A hole in a twill or pattern-weave material is best mended with an overhanded patch.

The overhanded patch is used when it is necessary to insert a new piece of material in a worn outer garment. By neat work and careful matching of threads and design of material, it may be made almost invisible.

Cut away the worn portion around the hole, making it square or oblong. Place a piece of matching material under the hole, match the threads and pattern on all four sides and pin. Baste with tailor's tacks about one-fourth inch from edge around all four sides of the hole. Trim away the patch to one-fourth inch seam allowance on all sides.

Separate patch from material as far as tacks will allow, then clip threads. Notch the corners of the hole diagonally almost to the line of tacks and cut off the corners of the patch about half way to tacks. Turn seam edges on both hole and patch toward the wrong side, fold along the line of tacks and baste. Place the patch in the hole as fitted, and with small overhanding stitches sew it in place. Press the seams open and overcast edges.