

WOMAN'S WORLD

New Window Curtains Give Crisp Look

By Ertta Haley

JUST BEFORE the warmer weather makes its appearance, many a woman is apt to take a good look at her windows. The curtains look very dirty and sleazy after a winter's heating. If you're certain they won't stand another laundering session, then get out the tape measure and sewing machine. It's time to make new window dressings!

Glass curtains are among the easiest items that can be made at home. Most of them require only long stretches of straight seams. There's no fancy stitching or cutting, no elaborate patterns, and hardly ever any ripping if you follow the simplest rules.

Soft, full gathers will make the simplest materials exquisite when they're made into curtains. First measure the windows as to height and width. The curtain material should be purchased twice as wide as the window. You'll need at least two inches at both top and bottom for seam allowances, and from two to four inches for a shrinkage tuck, so add at least eight inches to window measurements on the length.

Net marquisette, scrim, sheer rayon or nylon are all used for glass curtains. A good quality, firmly woven material will give you the most satisfaction and most wear and is well worth the few cents more a yard which it costs.

No Purse Problem



You need never again worry about what to do with your purse when dining out, if you have one of these smart purse holderettes. These inexpensive gadgets are small and compact; they fit into your bag when not in use, and will help you avoid uncomfortable juggling of the purse on the lap or trying to find a place on the table or floor for the bag. They may also be used for holding umbrellas or packages.

cloth to catch any dirt, or you will soil the curtain.

Whenever possible, tear the curtain fabric, rather than cutting it, as this will give you straighter seams to sew. If the fabric does not tear, draw a thread and cut on the thread line. If you cannot pull a thread use a yardstick or ruler, and draw a chalk line on which to cut.

Pay special attention to the grain of the fabric in cutting, folding and stitching so the curtain will hang straight.

Salvage edges are woven tighter the the curtain fabric and should be removed before cutting and sewing the seams. Why? After the curtain is washed, you may find yourself with baggy curtains which never can be ironed smooth.

This salvage does not show up in the new curtain, but it will almost always show up after laundering.

Use Iron to Save Basting Stitches

Professional seamstresses always work with an iron and ironing board set up, ready to use, in their sewing room. Many edges can be pressed immediately after cutting so that the fold is sharp. This may be stitched without basting.

As soon as the curtain is cut or torn, turn the side seams, using an iron to fold them neatly. The hem edge on these is one or two inches when finished. Press first a quarter of an inch turn, then a second one inch turn. Pin the hem on the outside edge and then stitch, thus saving basting.

The top edge is turned in a casing, but this usually is basted first so that you can hang the curtain for a trial to see that it fits your curtain rod. This fitting will also help you in seeing that the curtain hangs properly.



Measure windows carefully.

Have Edges Straight For Good Appearance

Because curtains are so large, it is best to cut them on the floor where you'll have enough space to spread them out. If you place the curtain material on a rug, the fabric adheres to the rug and you



For nice, full curtains.

need no pins to secure it. Use the vacuum cleaner on the rug, and run over it with a damp

Use Stiffening At Heading

If you like transparent curtains to hang properly, it's best to use some stiffening at the heading of the curtain. Usually three inches or slightly more is best. Firm crinoline or buckram are fabrics which are best.

In measuring the turning necessary for the heading, decide first on the depth of the pleat, then turn the top edge in two inches more than this measure, allow a double turn so the buckram will not show.

When measuring the buckram, measure two inches from the edge, because the top stiffening should not extend to the outside hem of French-pleated curtains.

It's also possible to use washable buckram banding made with eyelets to form the French pleats. No rings are needed. The curtain pole is slipped right through the eyelets, thus giving the necessary pleat.

If you are putting in the shrinkage tuck of two to four inches, put this in at the top in a narrow heading above the casing. Or, to avoid the shrinkage tuck, wash the curtain material before sewing and it will shrink as much as it is going to, and no allowance need be made.

Be Smart!



This season silk prints are really back, for the first time, in substantial quality and quantity. You'll see them now as one of the favorites for resort wear: very classic as to lines, extremely brief as to sleeves and pleasing as to pattern. Polka dots will continue their popularity, and prints are innumerable. New and refreshing are the small scale patterns, often so conventionalized or stylized that they are entirely new looking. The lovely hand of silk makes it possible to give these new classics many original collar interpretations, and most of them are low-cut.

KATHLEEN NORRIS

Exaggerated Self-Pity Is Poison

Bell Syndicate-WNU Features

"WHEN MY SISTER was three and I almost five years old, our loved Daddy was killed in a motor crash," says a letter lying here on my desk. "Mother was left penniless, but she resumed her old profession of teaching and we had some happy years, we three together. Our little four-room apartment was full of love and harmony and Lily and I wanted only to be with mother for the rest of our lives."

"When mother married the family doctor, a widower," the letter goes on, "what has proved to be a fatal injury to my development took place. I was not conscious of it then, naturally, but the seeds of what grew to be absolute morbidity were sown then."

Sense Of Injustice

"Our stepfather loved Lily and me, but two boy babies came to take our places, and at 12 and 14 we were sent to boarding school. Our happy country summers and the letters and packages from Mother never could remove our sense of deep injustice and it has colored both our lives. Lily never married and has worked for years in the county home for mental cases. I have married twice unsuccessfully and now feel that while my present husband is an absolute angel, I am too sick, weary and disillusioned to be a good wife for him or good mother to my boys, now 17 and 5 years old."

"It was my psychoanalyst who, searching painstakingly through my past, unearthed this unhappy situation in my girlhood and has helped

destiny it is to complicate further rather than help straighten out this enigma that is life.

Some 40,000 of us die in auto crashes every year, so that detail didn't particularly distinguish these little sisters. Terrible, but it's the truth. And as for a pretty mother, at 29, taking a second mate, for happy years of motherhood and companionship—was that such a crime never to be forgiven?

"Mother," says another part of Diana's letter, "was always trying to make us like Uncle Rob, as we called her husband. But we saw through her devices."

In other words, you and Lily were ungracious little jealous minxes and did all you could to ruin your mother's chances for happiness in her marriage.

I'm all for modern psychological methods when they deal with the problems of the immediate present. Many good doctors and teachers and all good mothers know how to handle those cases that arise in connection with almost every child's development. Theiradroitness in analysis and method is amusingly evident to those of us who can remember our own young vagaries, inhibitions and fixations—only under simpler names. As long as the psychologists take today, tell their patients just what's wrong today, then I'm with them.

But when they encourage us to dig into the past, to discover that at four months one's bottle was late in arriving and at three years Mother said she already had kissed us goodnight and was going downstairs now—and that these heinous crimes lived on, and malignantly affected all our later years, then that is sheer nonsense.

Silly? You'll find all these instances solemnly portrayed in a recent moving picture that supposedly represents a woman's experience in a madhouse. These are the causes that sent her there.



"... too sick and weary ..."

me enormously by putting the blame for this injustice where it belongs—on the accident that robbed me of my father and my mother's second marriage."

This is only part of a 17-page letter, which I have not answered. It takes more patience than I possess to sympathize with such a woman. And yet she is typical of actual hundreds who write me every year that fancied slights injustices and disadvantages far back in their perfectly normal, everyday, give-and-take, up-and-down American childhoods, have upset their mental balances for life.

It has become the fashion to seek back for something Mother or Dad did or something they left undone and lay today's stupidities, resentments, failures and flaws in character all to that.

Must Compensate For Wrongs

But, good heavens, which one of us hasn't suffered wrongs far deeper than these imaginary ones Diana lists here, not once, but all through our younger years! Parents will have favorites, teachers will put the blame on the wrong child, and young bewilderment and confusion will lead children into embarrassing and humiliating morasses. Unless we make up our minds, at 5 or 7 or even earlier, that that's the way the stupid world of grownups is and develop some sort of shell, philosophy or spiritual balance to offset it, we shall grow up like Lily and Diana—lapsed human beings whose wretched

SEWING CIRCLE PATTERNS

House Dress Is Neat and Smart Two-Piecer Has Youthful Charm



Dainty House Dress

A SIMPLE, crisp, a daisy house dress to start the day with a song. Brightly colored rick rac makes a pretty trim; a narrow belt ties softly on the side—deep pockets are as handy as can be.

Pattern No. 8405 is for sizes 14, 16, 18, 20, 40, 42, 44 and 46. Size 16, 4 1/2 yards of 35 or 39-inch; 5 yards trimming.

ASK ME ANOTHER?

A General Quiz

The Questions

1. When Columbus discovered the new world in 1492, where did he land?
2. How many registered American voters failed to vote in the 1948 presidential election?
3. Has a vice president of the United States ever resigned?
4. What would you do with a demijohn?
5. How long is the world's longest railway tunnel?
6. In what country was the Battle of Waterloo fought?

The Answers

1. On San Salvador, in the Bahamas.
2. Approximately 20,000,000.
3. Yes—John C. Calhoun in 1832.
4. Fill it with liquid—it is a glass or earthenware vessel with a large body and small neck enclosed in wickerware.
5. 12 miles, 560 yards—Simpson tunnel in Switzerland and Italy.
6. In Belgium—about 12 miles south of Brussels.

Youthful Two-Piecer

YOUTHFUL, figure-flattering and so wearable is this two piecer for misses. Sleeves can be wing or three-quarter length—edge the pert peplum and brief sleeves with tiny ruffling.

Pattern No. 1752 is for sizes 10, 12, 14, 16, 18 and 20. Size 12, blouse short sleeve, 1 1/2 yards of 35 or 39-inch; skirt, 2 1/2 yards of 39-inch.

Send an extra quarter for your copy of the Spring and Summer FASHION—it's brimful of sewing ideas for every home dressmaker. Free pattern printed inside the book.

Lights Increase

Egg Production

Fluorescent tubes convert a little current into a lot of light. So when Ralph B. McKenzie of Kane county, Illinois, put 1,000 laying hens into a pen 40 feet wide and 100 feet long in a remodeled dairy barn, he installed 16 four-foot tubes to augment the little light which was available through the windows.

The lights, when all burning, consume 640 watts per hour. At the reduced rate McKenzie pays for extra electricity, the average is less than seven cents per hen annually; thus, two of the many extra eggs laid by each bird during the year, pay the light bill.



U. S. Filming Old Documents

Microfilm to Preserve Records for Posterity

A campaign to save part of the world's cultural heritage is being carried on by the United States library of congress.

A library of congress laboratory in Mexico City, Mexico, has photographed 20,000 historical documents of northern Mexico. The library operates a second laboratory in Japan. A third project, still in the planning stage, is photographing medieval manuscripts of value in St. Catherine's monastery in Palestine.

George T. Smisor, head of the Mexico laboratory unit, recently returned from Washington where he conferred with library of congress officials.

"Both the state department and the library," said Smisor, "feel a responsibility for cooperating to preserve documents throughout the world, documents that are a part of our heritage and part of our culture."

"The United States is the only country in the world with the experience and the desire to do it." The desire entails plenty of hard work. Men from Smisor's unit have ridden muleback across Mexico's bleak Sierras to photograph precious manuscripts in old colonial towns. They have, to date, put on film the complete cabildos (records of city councils) for Durango from the 16th century to the time of Benito Juarez, the middle 19th century. Durango was a big operating base for the early church fathers.

THE GARDEN SPOT Beware of Over-Cultivation

By Eldred E. Green

"TAKE IT EASY. You'll live longer," is a common saying and in the garden you will enjoy yourself more if you apply that principle. The most pathetic garden is the one that started out early in the spring as a grand affair and then fizzled out as the hot weather caused the worker to "done run out of ambition" as one lady put it.

The first factor is soil preparation. A clay, loam or any stiff soil is benefited by a turning to loosen it up. Plowing, spading, or rotary tilling will do the job. In hand spading remember that you do not plant all the garden at once. Dig it as you need it. This will save backaches and keep a crop of weeds from starting on the soil that is

the plants are to be set. The area in between can be taken care of later.

Heavy soils will be aided if rotted humus of some kind is worked in. Leaves, old sawdust, manure, peat, compost are all valuable. This can be mixed in when the soil is prepared. Generally a depth of eight inches is enough for most plants. Trees and large shrubs may need more.

Cultivation in the garden should be limited to one idea: killing weeds. In lawns and around shrubs the new preparations of 2-4-D are fine; in the garden a light hoeing or scuffing of the soil is generally sufficient.

Watering is a chore unless a hose is able to reach. Watering and weeding can be kept to a minimum or eliminated if a good mulch is used. Dried leaves, grass clippings, straw, old manure, sawdust or strips, of heavy, weighted paper can be used to cover the soil between plants or around larger ones. The mulch prevents weeds from taking hold and keeps the soil from drying out.

Fertilizing may seem difficult but in the home garden a sack of a complete plant food is the best and cheapest way of adding fertility. Manure is excellent if it can be obtained and worked into the soil. Testing for individual elements may be a pleasant pastime but the amount of special chemicals needed in most can be more easily added in a ready-mixed, balanced formula.

Pests may cause trouble but now there are many preparations that will control all of the garden pests with one spray. These combination products have been supplemented to good advantage by DDT, which most of them contain.



turned too long ahead.

Sandy or light soils may need only a raking to fit them for planting. The soil needs to be loose; that is all.

In planting large perennials as peonies or trees and shrubs, the soil need only be prepared where

FOR WOMEN (WHO BAKE AT HOME) ONLY

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