

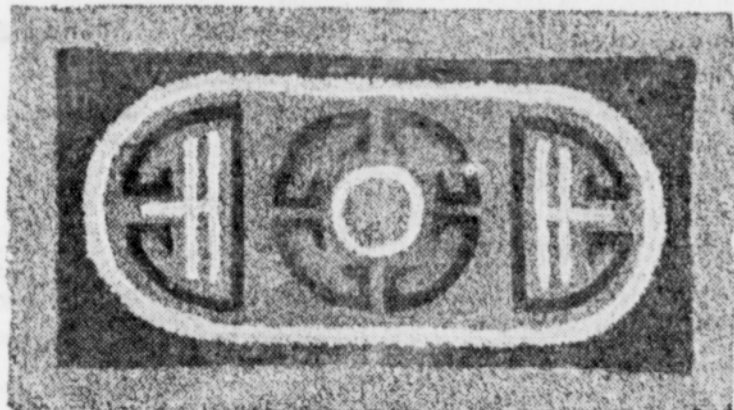
Pretty Things that are Made at Home

"EARLY American," that is a description to conjure with whether the conversation is of architecture in a home, or the furnishings of the home. A wave of appreciation for early American art in home furnishings has swept across the country. Lucky possessors of fine pieces of furniture, handed down to them, have learned how precious these pieces are and a new interest has been awakened in the work of women in colonial times, in the craftsmanship of their weaving, quilt piecing, rug making and the like.

The old art of rug making has been revived and women are making hooked rugs of coarse yarns. Some of them are piecing quilts, as their grandmothers did and copying the quaint, old

of becomingness has grown to be vastly important in them; it is stressed in all shoes except, perhaps, those for special sports wear, and even these must consider the element of style.

Besides the usual black and brown shoes for the street, there are new light browns, beige, parchment, honey, gray and gray-beige that harmonize with fashionable colors in suits or costumes, and are inconspicuous. But the color range is much wider and includes sauterne, blond and bois-de-rose as well as pastel colors in very smart oxfords. These are provided for those who are particular about choosing a color to harmonize perfectly with the costume. But kid leather in the brown, beige, gray-beige, parchment and honey shades, con-



DESIGN FOR HOOKED RUG

patterns that are well worth preserving. These are occupations for women of leisure and the finished rugs and quilts are valuable from a money standpoint, as well as from the standpoint of sentiment. Rugs made of rags, cut into strips, braided and sewed in oval and circular shapes are well established and some of them are now made of discarded silk stockings. The legs of these are cut into continuous strips, the strips braided and sewed together. Table mats are made in the same way—the colors arranged according to the fancy of the maker.

A handsome design for a hooked rug is given here. These rugs are made on a burlap foundation and a modern needle, invented for the purpose, makes the work go quickly. "With a colonial bed or bureau, a pieced quilt and homemade rugs one can make a splendid start in refurbishing at least one room so that it shall be a tribute to the early Americans.

Strips of silk in many colors sewed together and loosely woven in the old "hit-and-miss" rag-carpet pattern,

tributes shoes that will fill all ordinary requirements. Pumps seem to be cut a trifle higher than they were and oxfords somewhat lower, and becomingness depends upon cut.

There are a good many shoes of reptile skins—or of leathers that look like them. The alligator, the lizard and numerous snake skins, very often in combination with plain leathers, add interest to the collections of spring footwear. These may or may not be genuine, the innocent kid and calf, for all one knows, may be masquerading as lizard or rattlesnake—if so, the limitation is so clever that no one is the wiser. The utmost luxury is reached in these smart shoes combining two leathers. For sports or semi-sports wear linen and kid skin are shown in white, brown, beige and in white and brown combinations. Shoes made of braided strips of leather are popular with sports frocks and so are white "saunter oxfords" like those worn with a smart jumper frock. The slippers shown in the oval are of bois-de-rose kid skin and appear

KITCHEN CABINET IS GREAT CONVENIENCE



Cooking Materials and Utensils Easily Assembled.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

There is no need to demonstrate to the modern housewife the value of having most of her supplies grouped near together, so that she can prepare foods with the fewest possible motions and steps. A kitchen cabinet, either bought in a store or home-made, answers this need perfectly, although its usefulness is not always realized until work with it has actually begun. A glance at the illustration, which shows how easily materials and utensils for cake making are assembled when one has a cabinet, will suggest many other ways of using this very convenient piece of equipment.

Convenient Position of Cabinet.
You have, of course, a stool in your kitchen, to sit on as often as work

permits. Notice the convenient position this cabinet occupies with respect to the sink, which is just to the left of the cook. Used bowls and mixing tools can be laid on the drain board without an extra step, and the working surface of the cabinet is thus easily kept clear. The United States Department of Agriculture suggested this particular arrangement.

Improved Cabinet.

If you do not wish to buy a cabinet it is quite possible for the "handy man" of the house to improvise one which will fulfill the main requirements: a place to keep the supplies and a counter to work with them easily. If this is a built-in feature it should be located so as to save steps in moving about the kitchen from sink to cabinet and cabinet to stove.

TO SECURE TIME FOR EXTRA TASKS

Various Odds and Ends Are Confronted at Once.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

A period of spring freshening is inevitable in every good housekeeper's calendar, no matter how careful and systematic she may be about cleaning throughout the year. The furnace fire is dispensed with; screens go up; portieres and many window curtains come down or are exchanged for those of more seasonal fabric; slip covers appear, and best rugs as well as winter flannels are put away with moth marbles. Such changes as these, as well as miscellaneous tasks of turning out boxes and cupboards, mending furnishings and getting rid of articles no longer wanted, confront one almost simultaneously, and while many of them are not, strictly speaking, cleaning processes, doing them frequently reveals corners that have been overlooked and that need attention and rearrangement.

In the home that is always kept reasonably clean the actual washing of woodwork, windows, floors or furniture may be less of an extra task in the general spring freshening than attending to these other requirements. If the housekeeper's time is already largely consumed by the ordinary duties of her home it becomes a problem to get in such additional jobs. As nearly all of them require some decision on her part, they cannot be delegated successfully to anyone else, so she must find some way of gaining time for them without neglecting the daily needs of the family.

The bureau of home economics of the United States Department of Agriculture suggests that in such cases a time schedule or plan of work may be of real assistance. It should be made several weeks before the period of spring change is due, and followed until the transformation of the house is completed. Begin by keeping a record for one week of the time actually spent in your successive activities each day. Include housework, sleeping, dressing, care of the children, talking or telephoning, and any other ways you spent your time.

Now go over these time records day by day to see how long you spent on routine work, and what free times are available, even in spaces as short as five minutes, or half-hours. Decide, first, whether any of the tasks recorded could be eliminated altogether, at least for the period of extra spring work, or delegated to some one else, permanently or temporarily. Could one of the children set the table, sort the laundry or dust the living room? Could you send the washing out for a few weeks, to gain time for those tasks no one else but yourself can possibly do? Then see whether time could be gained by speeding up any of the regular work. Your method of dishwashing may be at fault; you can at least simplify meals for a while, so as to have fewer dishes and cooking utensils to wash. Fifteen minutes gained on several little tasks daily will prove worth while. Think it all out clearly. Look at the location of the scattered short periods of free time. Could any of these be brought together by combining other duties in a different order? The longer the space of time available the more one can accomplish. Such a slight change as rising a little earlier (offset, of course, by going to bed earlier!) may enable you to prepare part of dinner early in the day while getting breakfast and so leave a longer space free later.

Mercerized Fabrics Now Are Strong and Durable

Some confusion exists in the minds of many housekeepers as to distinctions between "mercerized" cotton goods, and those fabrics having more or less temporary glossy finishes produced by paste mixtures. "Paper cambric" is an example of a fabric with the paste finish. Artificial silk, or rayon, is a more lustrous fabric than either of these, but should not be mistaken for mercerized cotton.

Many years ago, says the United States Department of Agriculture, John Mercer, for whom the process is named, discovered that when cotton yarn or cloth was dipped in strong solutions of lye for a short time and then washed, neutralized, and dried. It became much stronger. In later years it was noted that if the yarn or cloth was held under well-regulated tension during the process it was rendered glossier as well as stronger. Hence, mercerization is a process that adds not only durability but beauty. There are today on the market many cotton fabrics in which the entire cloth is glossier and stronger than ordinary cotton materials, or in which bright mercerized yarns have been introduced to form stripes, checks, or figures. Some of the best known mercerized fabrics are batiste, mill, cotton damask, cotton foulard, sateen, venetian, and cotton poplin. Each of these is valuable for some special purpose, according to its character—the sheer, fine fabrics like batiste for underwear and infants' dresses, and the heavier ones for linings or household uses.

Vary White Sauce Used in Serving Many Dishes

To vary the white sauce used in serving such dishes as creamed potatoes, eggs, toast or vegetables, or in making scalloped dishes, try adding half a cupful of cottage cheese to each pint of sauce. Cool the sauce slightly before adding it to the cheese, says the United States Department of Agriculture. Stir till well blended, and then reheat in a double boiler. Avoid boiling the sauce after the cheese is added.

If the cheese is strongly acid it may be necessary to add a small amount of baking soda to it before mixing with the sauce. If a half a cupful of cheese is to be used dissolve a quarter of a teaspoonful of soda in a little hot milk or water and blend with the cheese, then combine the latter with the sauce.

Variations in the flavor of the sauce may be made by seasoning with cayenne pepper; by mixing a dash of curry powder with the flour used to thicken the sauce and adding a few drops of onion juice; by adding a little Worcestershire sauce and some finely chopped parsley; or by adding chopped parsley and pimientos.

Some Children Need Iron
Anemic children need iron. Egg yolk is unusually rich in iron and is very valuable in such cases, according to the United States Department of Agriculture. Prunes, raisins, orange juice, green vegetables, especially spinach, are valuable sources of this important constituent. Liver has been shown to be especially valuable in such a condition.

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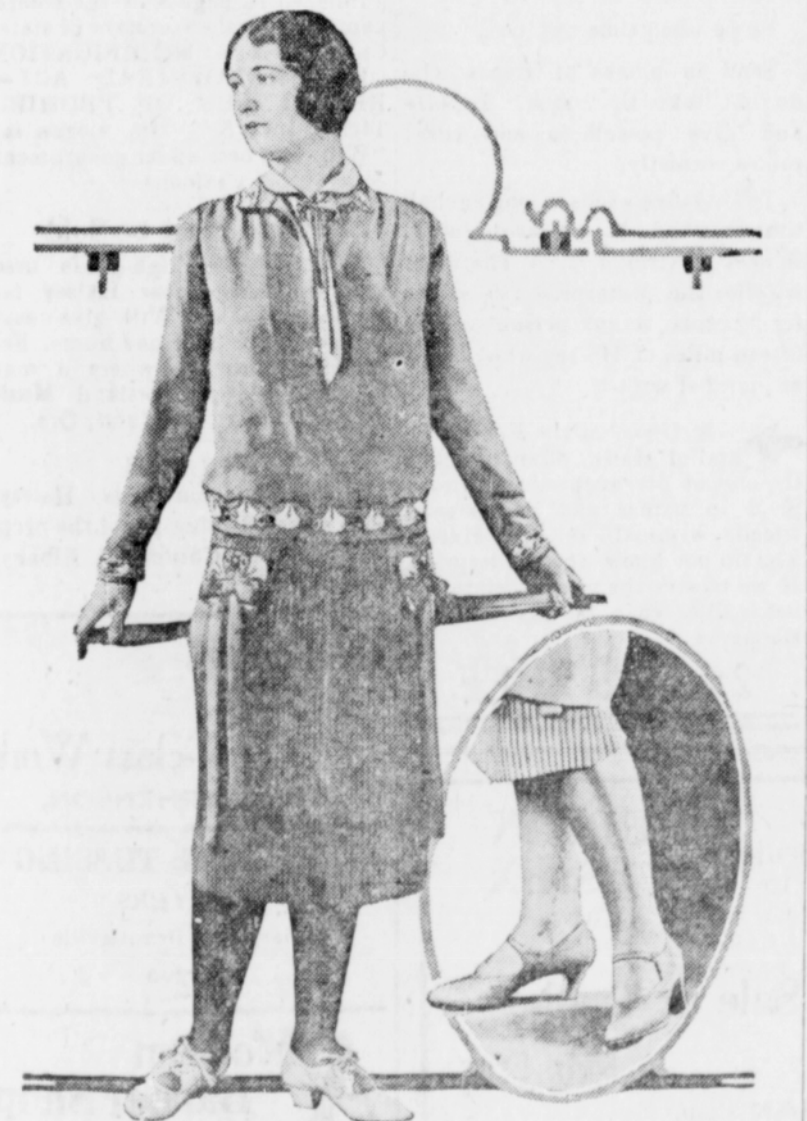
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W. N. U., San Francisco, No. 18-1926.
It is said that haste makes waste, yet you seldom find a hustler in an almshouse.



STYLES IN SHOES

made beautiful couch covers, pillow covers or portieres and small colonial rugs more closely woven and made of cotton or woolen rags, are staple articles of merchandise that find a ready sale. But the most alluring of all revivals seems to be the pieced quilt, because of its quaint, homey beauty, and because it is convenient pick-up work which anyone can do.

In front of windows filled with spring and summer shoes, women are clustering like bees about a honey-suckle bush—studying the new styles industriously and enthusiastically. Their footwear consciousness has been developed very rapidly during the past few years and they are quite as mindful of the clothing of their feet as they are of their millinery. Meantime shoe styles have grown more complicated and much more greatly varied than they ever were and the element

to have a fanciful emplacement of lizard skin as a finish.

For evening wear metallic brocades, in slippers appear to lead. There are many black satin slippers with touches of gold or silver and handsome rhinestone buckles have lost none of their prestige. Metallic kid and brocades are combined in some of the smartest evening slippers.

About the best choice for mid-summer wear with all one's day dresses, is the kid shoe in beige, gray-beige, parchment, honey or light brown, with stockings and gloves to match in color. Even the street hat is often chosen with reference to the color of the shoes, and these matching accessories worn with tailored suits or frocks insure a chic ensemble.

JULIA BOTTOMLEY.
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