

To Renew Old Mattings.

It is very poor economy to buy the very cheap mattings, though they are very pretty and serviceable to a certain extent, but a good, firmly woven matting will last as long as a good carpet, if carefully used, it is far more easily kept clean than any other floor covering, and then it is more healthful, less work, and cheaper.

Housecleaning usually reveals the fact that some of the mattings are too worn for further use, but sometimes an old matting can be made to do duty for another season, by changing the widths from the centre to the sides allowing the sides to come to the centre where there is more wear. When an old matting is to be put down again, it can easily be freshened if not very much soiled, by wiping the surface with warm water containing a handful of salt to a pailful of water. If there are any grease spots found on good matting, cover them with a thin paste made with fuller's earth and cold water, and allow it to remain for two or three days before sweeping off.

A matting that had been in use for four years but was still good, was swept thoroughly on the right side, then the tacks were removed, each width rolled up and taken out doors and laid on the ground right side down and swept until no more loose dust would sweep off, then it was tacked to a clean dry floor, and given a thorough scrubbing with a strong lather of good soap and warm soft water, and as a small portion was cleaned it was rinsed with clear water and rubbed as dry as possible with clean, soft cloths. When the matting was perfectly dry it was fresh and clean looking and it is kept clean, by brushing every day with a soft broom, and once a week the rugs are taken out and hung over the line and beaten with limber switches, then the matting is swept clean and wiped off with a damp, not wet cloth, the rugs replaced and the room is as fresh as possible.—A. M. H., in 'Religious Telescope.'

Holiday Gifts

Every one fond of fancy work will appreciate these patterns, which are in full size on cambric, and may be used over and over again. As an additional accommodation for readers out of the reach of lace supplies, we can send materials also. Read directions carefully and send the correct amount in money order or registered letter. Stamps for small amounts.

Readers will bear in mind that the materials we supply are not cotton, but the best imported linen throughout, so that if the cost is higher than the braids ordinarily sold, the quality fully makes up for it in beauty of appearance and in durability.



Design No. 27.

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No. 2.—Fifteen inches; pattern, 18 cents; material, 45 cents extra. (17 yds. No. 2 linen braid, 12 rings, 1 thread).

No. 3.—Eighteen inches; pattern, 20 cents; material, 50 cents extra. (21 yds. linen braid, No. 2, 20 rings, 1 thread.)

No. 4.—Twenty-one inches; pattern, 20 cents; material, 70 cents extra. (30 yds. linen braid, No. 2, 24 rings, 2 thread).

Address 'Northern Messenger' Pattern Department, 'Witness' Office, Montreal.

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