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A Comfortable Hood of Cashmere.

THE exceedingly pretty and becoming hood, shown in Fig. 1, is made of white summer cashmere, lined with white Japanese silk, and has an interlining of soft crinoline. It is faced across the front with a bias strip of cashmere three inches wide, and is finished on the top with a heavy white silk cord, with pompons. A like cord serves to tie



FIG. 1. HOOD FOR ALL SEASONS.

it under the chin. To make one, cut a pattern according to the diagram Fig. 2, which gives one-half of it. It should be twenty inches high in the back or middle, measuring from forehead to neck. The bottom edge, from the middle of the back to the front, should be eighteen inches wide. Cut the front in a curve measuring thirty inches from middle of forehead to the bottom of the front edge. The material, however, has to be folded through the middle and cut double. After the lining and interlining are sewed in and the facing finished, sew, about three inches above the outer edge, a shirr,

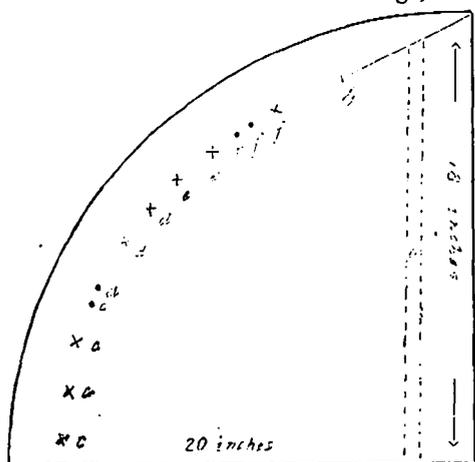


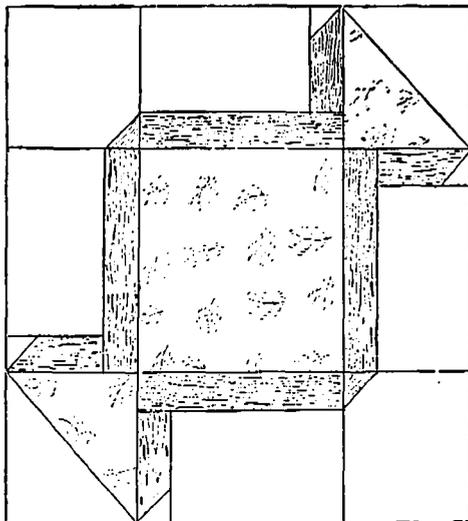
FIG. 2. PATTERN FOR HOOD.

through which draw narrow white silk ribbons, and tie the same in the middle of the back. The dotted lines *a* in the diagram indicate the lines for the shirr, and the short, inclined line *b* shows the crease where the front edge is turned back. Then make the folds across the front, about three inches below the edge, by plaiting in two-inch folds the

crosses *c*, upon the dot *c*; the crosses *d*, in one and one-half inch folds, upon dot *d*, and the crosses *e*, also in one and one-half inch folds, upon dot *e*; and last, make a three-quarter inch deep fold by plaiting cross *f* on dot *f*. Then arrange the box-plaits thus formed, as shown in the illustration, and with a few stitches fasten them back upon the hood, and finish it by sewing the heavy white silk cord and pompons in loops and ends over the seam.

The Vase.

THIS unique and seemingly difficult design for a patchwork square may be very easily cut out and pieced by making each one of the nine regular sections of which it is composed separately, and seaming them together afterward. As here represented, the centre-piece is six inches square and is all of one material—rich brocaded velvet. The four side pieces are each four by six inches when completed; and there are two pieces each of two kinds of material—plain silk and watered ribbon or silk, in every one of them. The corner pieces are each four inches square; two of them—forming the top and bottom of the vase—are composed of equal triangles of the plain silk and material like the body or centre square; the other two are chiefly of the plain silk, but small triangular pieces of the watered silk are fitted to one corner of each. It is well to make each section on a cambric or muslin lining if rich materials are used, but if prints or cambrics are chosen, it may not be necessary.



THE VASE.

Squares pieced by this or similar designs are pretty to combine with crazy patchwork. Four finished squares, somewhat smaller than the one described, put together so that the vases all point from the centre to the corners, make a pretty cover for a lounge or chair cushion.

Helpful Household Hints.

SPONGE or bread set to rise the first time will rise much more rapidly in a close vessel.

It is a good idea to keep large pieces of charcoal in damp corners and in dark places.

To polish a copper kettle rub with lemon and salt. Cut a lemon, dip in salt, and rub over the copper surface.

Cut a cucumber into strips and put into all places where ants are found, and it will surely drive them away.

A strip of flannel or a napkin wrung out of hot water and applied round the neck of a child that has croup will usually bring relief in ten minutes.

It is just as necessary to keep salt from absorbing bad odors as cream. A sack of best salt standing where there is a smell of fish or any objectionable odor will absorb the flavor.

One of the best things to cleanse the scalp thoroughly is to dissolve one-half teaspoonful of borax in a quart of water and apply it, rubbing it in well. Rinse thoroughly in clean water.

Telegraph wire of galvanized iron is much better to hang clothes on in winter than rope, as the clothes will not freeze to it. Have it hung by a lineman, and it will never "give," no matter what the weather may be.

Many housekeepers need warning against the frequent use of feather dusters. These dusters simply chase the particles from the furniture into the air, where they are inhaled. A soft cloth is good, and a chamois skin is sometimes better, for a duster.

Napkins and tablecloths, if mended carefully when they commence to show tiny breaks, will last much longer. Traycloths, made of butcher's or momie linen, will save the tablecloth greatly, and they can be made at home very easily, and either fringed or hemstitched.

If you have painting and calcimining to be done, the spring is decidedly your best time. Hard-finished walls may be washed with soapsuds and wiped dry. A bit of pumice stone will remove stains from them. White paint may be washed with ammonia water or with whiting and water, which is not so trying to the hands as the ammonia.

An easy way to make a pudding, and at the same time save cold rice that may be left from another meal, is to take one cup of the cooked rice, one pint of sweet milk, two eggs, lump of butter as large as a walnut, sugar to taste, a cup of raisins, and nutmeg to flavor. Beat the eggs, sugar, and butter together, then add the other things, and bake or steam until done.

Borax water is excellent for sponging either silk or wool goods that are not soiled enough to need washing. In washing cashmere or wool goods, put a little borax in the water. This will cleanse them much more easily and better, without injury to the colors. Do not rub them on a board, but use the hands, and throw on a line without wringing. Press them on the wrong side, and they will look almost like new.

All grained work should be washed with cold tea and wiped with a soft flannel cloth. For windows and picture frames soft flannel cloths with soapsuds, and, after wiping dry, polished with chamois leather, is far better than anything else. They leave no lint and are better than paper, which often scratches glass, and if you would best rid your walls of dust, wrap a cloth round a broom, while a solution of hot salt water or hot alum water will drive away insects of all sorts.

If the coffee is not ground home when needed it must positively be kept in a tight can. Beat an egg thoroughly, and add to it one teacupful of cold water. Wet the coffee thoroughly with a few tablespoonfuls of this mixture, and add it to the boiling water ten or twelve minutes before needed. The water should have just come to the boiling point; continued boiling injures its flavor. After adding the coffee draw the pot near the edge of the stove, where it will be six or eight minutes in coming to the boiling point. As soon as it reaches this point remove it to the back of the range.