

Sewing Room Helps

A combination like the following makes a nice gift for a friend, or will be found useful at home. A small fancy emery, a small pair of scissors and fancy needle book, each attached to a piece of narrow ribbon, and fastened to a substantial belt of ribbon. The needle book may contain a pocket on the outside, large enough to hold the thimble. The friend thus favored, spends little time in looking for the articles, which are usually so easily mislaid.

A bit of veiling basted over a hole in a stocking to be darned, for a foundation, will help the darning when the worn place is large. Old lace may be used for this also.

On all my dress skirts, I stitch three hooks on the band, one in the middle of the back, and others about two inches from each side of the middle. On my blouses, instead of eyes, I sew small rings that have been covered with buttonhole stitching. I find this better than any of the patch arrangements I have tried for keeping skirt and waist together.—Jessie Brown, Peel Co.

My little boy's flannel underwear proves quite expensive, as he grows so fast, so to lengthen the sleeves of the shirt, I insert a strip of flannel just above the elbow. As soon as the drawers grow short for him, I take the bands off, sew flannel pieces to the tops and put new bands on. In this way, flannels can be worn three winters.—H.F.G., York Co., Ont.

When I mend a woolen garment, I take a scrap of the same goods, tear it lengthwise and ravel one thread at a time. Thread an embroidery needle, and weave the torn parts together carefully; then dampen and press well on the wrong side, and the threads will never be seen.—Annie Backus, Hastings Co., Ont.

When cheap, seamless gray socks are slightly worn, they make good kitchen towels. Cut lengthwise, and hem them, or overcast the sides. One sock will make two towels. They can be bleached until white, and are easily washed.—Lottie Robbins, Nova Scotia.

When a hole is discovered in a starched waist just before ironing, the easiest way to mend it, is to baste a patch on the wrong side. Make the patch of stuff like the waist, dipping it first in starch, and then iron flat to the blouse, on wrong side. It does not show, and will stay on the waist until it is soiled; it then can be mended in the usual way.—Laura Woods, Halton Co.

If you have a rug on your sewing room floor, turn it wrong side up when doing your sewing. When through the work, gather the rug up and shake it out of the window or door. This saves sweeping.

Our boys wear ribbed stockings, and, when mending has to be done, if the holes are not too large, I sew them on the machine. The stitching does not show on the ribbed part, besides it is much neater and stronger than darning would be, and more easily and quickly done.—Mrs. Starr, Welland Co.

Save all the trimmings from the un-

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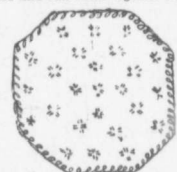
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even ends of new table linen when hemming same. Nothing else darns the thin places, or a cut in a tablecloth so nicely. It shows much less, than when darned with cotton.

A Lap Shield is Useful

For this attractive lap shield take two squares of heavy cheese cloth, (each from two feet to three feet square), between them place a double layer of fine cotton batten and baste them together through and through. Cut off a small triangular piece at each corner, turn in the edges of both covers and run them together neatly.



Tie with double Zephyr-blue, or any pretty washable color. Go all around the edges with long and over stitches, taken regularly, and finish by tacking the shield all over with bright fluffy knots, just as a comforter is tacked, using the wool double in the needle and leaving the ends an inch long. A set of shields, each tied with a different color, would be highly valued in any nursery. Daisy shields are tied with yellow, and rose shields with pink.

To Fold a Coat

There are few women who have mastered the art of folding a man's coat, yet it is simple when one once knows how. Lay the coat out perfectly flat and with the right side up. Spread the sleeves out smoothly, then fold them back at the elbow until the bottoms of the sleeves are even with the collar. Fold the revers back and double the coat over the centre back seam. Smooth all wrinkles out and lay in the drawer.

Extra Ruffles and Touches

The large department stores show some very pretty additions to the lingerie, many of which one can make at home very easily. A silk or linen lawn ruffle, which is worn across the top of the corset at the bust line, is made of any dainty color, or white, preferably the latter. The edges, if it is made of silk, are pinked, and it is then pleated so closely in large box pleats, as to form a ruching.

Nearly every one nowadays wears unlined shirt waists made of silk and wool and this ruching holds the waist out prettily at the bust line, without the use of pads.

The underwear counters in the large stores show a kind of corset which goes on over the head, and which is one mass of narrow ruffles in the front, running across horizontally. When starched, these ruffles fall out the blouse in graceful lines and curves. One could make and apply the ruffles to any full front corset cover, allowing special fullness in the middle where the ordinary cover buttons.

These are two articles any woman can make and all of them go to improve the effect of one's gown. It is the very little touches that make or mar one's appearance, and when these are just right, one feels "well dressed."

Two Good Books

Lovers of canaries can not do better than to send us 50 cents for our book, "Canary Birds," which is a manual of useful and practical information on the canary. These little feathered songsters need the best of care and



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Our Winter Fun Contest

A large number of interesting and new letters have been received from our boy and girl readers in reply to the contest which was opened in the Feb. 20th issue. Those who have not yet sent us a letter, are urged to do so as soon as possible. This contest will close with our March 25th issue. All letters should be in not later than March 31. Let us have all the photographs possible. Get your big brothers and sisters busy with the cameras for perhaps your letter would win a prize if it had a nice photograph sent with it.

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