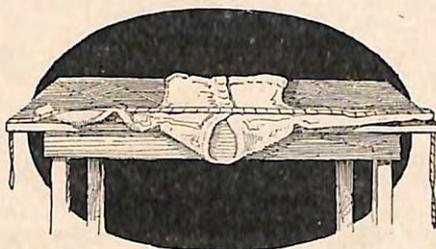


# SAVING MATERIALS AND MONEY

by

## SPECIAL CLEANING



In almost every house there are soiled garments and furnishings which can not be washed in the usual way and which hardly seem worth the expense of cleaning by a professional. Do you realize how easily you might clean some of them at home? This leaflet gives helpful suggestions for renewing:

WOOLEN  
SILK  
VELVET

CORDUROY  
KNITTED ARTICLES  
LACE

*Thrift Leaflet No. 8*

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE & TREASURY DEPARTMENT



## WAYS TO FRESHEN WOOLENS

**Washing with soap and water.** Woolens may often be washed with lukewarm water and mild soap provided the color is fast. Send for Thrift Leaflet No. 5, for directions.

**Washing with soap bark.** Soap bark is excellent for dark woolens which might streak or fade with ordinary soap (sailor suits and middy blouses, for example). It may be purchased cheaply at a drug store. Make a solution by boiling 1 cup soap bark (about 3 ounces) and 1 quart water for 5 minutes; cool, strain, and mix with wash water like ordinary soap solution; or put the soap bark into a small thin bag and soak and squeeze it in the wash water. A little soap bark used in the rinse water gives the goods a slight stiffness.

**Sponging and pressing** are used to freshen garments or goods which are not soiled enough to need washing or will not stand it.

To remove wrinkles, use clear water.

To remove grease and dirt, use mild soap or soap bark dissolved in water, then clear water.

To remove shine, use 1 tablespoon ammonia to 1 quart water, then clear water.

Apply with a clean, soft, lintless cloth, a sponge, or a piece of the material itself. Sponge with light even strokes in the direction of the grain of the goods, using only a little moisture at a time.

Iron on the wrong side with a medium-hot iron or press with a damp cloth over the right side. Brush up nap if too closely pressed down.

**Steaming** is especially good for removing water spots. Work over a tub or bowl of very hot water or use one of the special steam spreaders which fit on the spout of a teakettle. Shake dry; or, in the case of outer garments, dry on a hanger which holds the garment in shape.

**Dry-cleaning** is cleaning without water but not necessarily without liquids. There are two kinds of dry-cleaning, one by the use of gasoline, benzine, or naphtha, which dissolves out the grease and thus frees the dirt; the other by the use of powders or meals which absorb it.

**Cleaning with gasoline and benzine.** **Danger!** Cleaning with these is dangerous because they explode and take fire so easily. Never let a careless person use them and always *note these precautions: Use out-of-doors; in the shade; away from flame or fire; in a cool place; never store them in the house.*

Mark spots with white thread; otherwise they are hard to find after the whole garment is wet.

Immerse the whole garment in the bath. Take out spots by rubbing very lightly between the fingers.

Wash as you would with water—a hand washing machine is excellent.

Rinse in clean liquid, changing it until it remains clear. If too little is used, the garment will look grimy.

Dry out-of-doors.

*N. B.* Used gasoline may be strained through muslin and used again for the first washing but never for the final rinsing.

**Cleaning with powders.** Powders used in dry-cleaning are French chalk or magnesia, fuller's earth, corn meal, sawdust, etc.

Warm the meal or powder.

Spread it on the material and rub it in either with the hands or with a brush. Let it remain at least several hours.

Renew the powder or meal as it becomes soiled.

If one treatment is not enough, cover again with warm powder or meal and let it stand overnight.

Be sure to brush all powder or meal from the garment.

This method is especially good for collars or other parts which show soil before the rest of the garment.

## WAYS TO FRESHEN SILK

Silk may be treated in much the same way as woolens; send for Thrift Leaflet No. 5, for directions.

**Ribbons.** Spread the ribbon flat on a smooth, hard surface like a table top or a marble slab and sponge or brush with lukewarm water in which a little mild soap has been dissolved. Rinse by holding the ribbon stretched between the hands and passing it through a bowl of clear water of the same temperature. Dry by spreading it out straight and flat on a smooth, hard surface. Draw the hand gently over it to press out air bubbles which may have formed under the ribbon and would make it look "blistered" when dry.

## WAYS TO FRESHEN VELVET

Velvets get defaced by having the pile or nap crushed. It can often be raised again by careful steaming. Lay a wet cloth over the back of the velvet, lift the two together and pass them over an inverted hot iron, holding the wet cloth next the iron; or hold the velvet stretched over the steam from a vessel of hot water or a steam spreader on the spout of a teakettle, with the back of the velvet toward the steam.

Dust may be removed from velvet by brushing, then sponging carefully and steaming.

## HOW TO WASH CORDUROY

Corduroy is a kind of cotton velvet which may be washed providing it is not rubbed, squeezed, or ironed. If it is made up at home, stitch the seams with a loose stitch to prevent puckering when washed. Before laundering babies' coats or other lined garments loosen the lining at the bottom to avoid bagging. Use a solution of mild soap, or for dark colors which may streak or fade, a solution of soap bark. Souse the garment up and down in the soapy water, changing the water as it becomes soiled. Rinse in several clear waters until no more dirt and soap come out. Hang the garment up dripping wet and so that it will dry in the shape in which it is worn. Dry in the wind if possible. When dry brush briskly to raise the nap.

SPEND WISELY



SAVE SANELY

### HOW TO WASH KNITTED ARTICLES

Sweaters, scarfs, and other knitted or crocheted articles often lose their shape when cleaned unless special precautions are taken. Work as follows: Measure the article. Use lukewarm water and soap solution. Wash the article by squeezing rather than rubbing and keep it under water as much as possible. When lifting it, keep the hand under and put it into a pan. Rinse until the last water is clear. Squeeze out the water either with the hands or by putting through the wringer, keeping the hand under the garment to prevent stretching from the weight of the water. Put through the wringer several times, changing the folds to take out as much water as possible. Place on a covered table and stretch or pat into the original shape and size as shown by the measurements. If desirable, it may be pinned or fastened in place by thumb tacks.

### HOW TO CLEAN LACE

Measure before washing if, as in the case of curtains or collars, it is important to keep the original size and shape. Very delicate lace should be basted carefully on a piece of cotton cloth and washed on that to prevent straining the lace. Wash in lukewarm water and soap solution, squeezing rather than rubbing out the dirt. Bleach by setting in direct sunshine and keeping moist with soap or borax solution. Rinse thoroughly. Restore a faded cream or ecru color by rinsing in clear coffee or tea and stretching immediately; the color of the liquid as seen through a tumbler held up to the light should be the same as that desired in the lace. In drying, stretch on a padded board and pin into its original shape and size. Net or lace curtains may be pinned to a sheet on the floor or, better, placed on a curtain stretcher adjusted to the desired size.

Lace may sometimes be cleaned by covering it with warm French chalk, allowing it to stand overnight and then shaking thoroughly.

THEN BUY WAR



SAVINGS STAMPS