

Helpful Things You Never Knew

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- Opening a sealed envelope

Put in the freezer for a few hours; then slide a knife under the flap. The envelope can then be resealed.
- Storing appliance cords

Use an empty toilet paper roll to store appliance cords. It keeps them neat and you can write on the roll which appliance it belongs to.
- Icy door steps and sidewalks

Put some Dawn dishwashing liquid in it and pour over the surfaces. They won't refreeze. (Wish I had know that!)
- Crayon marks on walls

Use a damp rag, dipped in baking soda. The marks come off with a little elbow grease
- Removing permanent marker from appliances/counter tops (like store receipt BLUE!)

Use rubbing alcohol on paper towel.
- Double use of S.O.S. pads

Whenever I purchase a box of S.O.S Pads, I immediately take a pair of scissors and cut each pad into halves. After years of having to throw away rusted and unused and smelly pads, I finally decided that this would be much more economical. And now a box of S.O.S pads last me indefinitely! In fact, I have noticed that the scissors get sharpened this way!
- Blood stains on clothes

Just pour a little hydrogen peroxide on a cloth and proceed to wipe off every drop of blood. Works every time!
- Window Washing for Dummies

Use vertical strokes when washing windows outside and horizontal for inside windows. This way you can tell which side has the streaks. Straight vinegar will get outside windows really clean. Don't wash windows on a sunny day. They will dry too quickly and will probably streak.

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- Homemade air freshener

Spray a bit of perfume on an unlit light bulb in any room to create a lovely light scent in each room when the light is turned on.

- Homemade clothes freshener

Place fabric softener sheets in dresser drawers and your clothes will smell freshly washed for weeks to come. You can also do this with towels and linen.

- Extending the life of a candle

Candles will last a lot longer if placed in the freezer for at least 3 hours prior to burning.

- Cleaning artificial flowers

To clean artificial flowers, pour some salt into a paper bag and add the flowers. Shake vigorously as the salt will absorb all the dust and dirt and leave your artificial flowers looking like new!

- Removing burnt food from a skillet

To easily remove burnt on food from your skillet, simply add a drop or two of dish soap and enough water to cover bottom of pan, and bring to a boil on stovetop.

- Stain prevention on Tupperware

Spray your TUPPERWARE with nonstick cooking spray before pouring in tomato based sauces and there won't be any stains.

- Extending the life of celery

Wrap celery in aluminum foil when putting in the refrigerator and it will keep for weeks.

- Sweeter corn on the cob

When boiling corn on the cob, add a pinch of sugar to help bring out the corn's natural sweetness.

- Cure for headaches

Take a lime, cut it in half and rub it on your forehead. The throbbing will go away.

- Another use for wine

Don't throw out all that leftover wine: Freeze into ice cubes for future use in casseroles and sauces. (Left over wine? What's that?!)

Helpful Things You Never Knew

- Relieving the itch from mosquito bites

To get rid of itch from mosquito bites, try applying soap on the area and you will experience instant relief.

- Cleaning mirrors

Use air-freshener to clean mirrors. It does a good job and better still, leaves a lovely smell to the shine.

- Removing a splinter

When you get a splinter, reach for the scotch tape before resorting to tweezers or a needle. Simply put the scotch tape over the splinter; then pull it off. Scotch tape removes most splinters painlessly and easily.

- Cleaning a toilet

Drop in two Alka-Seltzer tablets; wait twenty minutes, brush and flush. The citric acid and effervescent action clean vitreous China.

- Cleaning a vase

To remove a stain from the bottom of a glass vase or cruet, fill with water and drop in two Alka-Seltzer tablets.

- Polish jewelry.

Drop two Alka-Seltzer tablets into a glass of water and immerse the jewelry for two minutes.

- Clean a thermos bottle.

Fill the bottle with water, drop in four Alka-Seltzer tablets, and let soak for an hour (or longer, if necessary).

- Unclog a drain.

Clear the sink drain by dropping three Alka-Seltzer Tablets down the drain followed by a cup of Heinz White Vinegar. Wait a few minutes; then run the hot water to flush.

We hope you enjoy using these helpful hints and remember to call HRS for your home remodeling, repair and touch up needs.