

## Proper care of finishes prolongs appliance life

**YORK — What's a finish?**  
As applied to major and small household appliances, finish is the protective and decorative outer layer of a product, what we see when we look at a refrigerator, a microwave oven or a range.

This outer layer, or finish, has to withstand moisture, contact with food, heat and the assorted cleaning

materials and techniques used by consumers.

Proper care of appliance finishes not only insures that your kitchen or laundry room will look cleaner and more attractive, but also prolongs the life of the appliance.

These surface materials, though, can be visual dead-ingers for each other and

yet vary markedly in properties and care and cleaning procedures required, according to York County home economist, Marceil A. Seckman.

As a matter of fact, appliances may even have several different kinds of finishes within a single model. You may find an especially durable finishing material on critical surfaces

— like washer and dryer tops and drums, dishwasher and refrigerator interiors and virtually all parts of the range — and one that's maybe not quite so durable on the less critical parts, like refrigerator and dishwasher exteriors and washer and dryer cabinets.

This can be terribly confusing to the consumer. It's a good idea to check the use and care booklet that came with your appliance before bringing out the scrub brush and the cleanser to determine what surfaces you'll be cleaning. If your use and care booklet long ago went the way of the circular file, write to the manufacturer giving the model number.

Basically, there are three types of "look alike" finishes used on major appliances today, says Marceil Seckman. They are: thermoplastics, synthetic enamel and porcelain enamel.

Thermoplastics are plastics which soften under heat and can be readily molded or vacuum-formed into the desired shape or component. Like most plastics, they have a petrochemical base and have tongue-twister names such as polystyrene, polycarbonate, polyvinyl chloride, ABS, and polypropylene. Clean using only warm water and a milk non-perfumed detergent or solution of baking soda and warm water.

Plastics scratch easily, so avoid harsh abrasives such as cleansers and steel wool. Beware of any kind of heat exposure — even relatively mild heat can cause severe damage. Most plastics also tend to retain odors, so it's a good idea to stay away from perfumed detergents.

Synthetic enamels are paints, usually plastic-based, which are applied to a metal base and either air dried or cured using mild heat. Other names commonly used include: baked enamel, alkyd, polyester, acrylic or just plain enamel. Clean using warm, soapy water or baking soda solution and a nylon scrub pad. On exterior finishes, periodic treatment with an appliance was helps protect the coating.

Painted finishes are easily scratched and stained, so avoid using ammonia, chlorine bleach, strong cleansers, abrasives, or solvents.

Porcelain enamel is a highly durable glass coating, bounded to a metal base at temperatures around 1500° F. Since this finish is made like glass and china, it cleans in much the same way. Usually detergent and water is enough. If sterner measures are needed, steel wool, cleansers or even a razor blade can be used.

Since porcelain enamel is a glass, a blow heavy enough to bend the metal base can cause chipping. Also scouring too hard or too often with abrasive cleansers will gradually remove some of the glaze. Although the finish will still be fully protective, it will be a lot harder to clean.

## New dishwashers use less energy

**YORK —** The cost of the electricity needed to operate the mechanical parts of your dishwasher is pretty insignificant. It's the cost of heating all that hot water you need to get good washing and drying results that makes an impact on your monthly fuel bill, says York County home economist, Joan Lamberson.

In fact, about 80 per cent of the energy involved in operating a dishwasher is in heating the water. Several manufacturers have recently redesigned their dishwashers in an effort to provide good results that we've become used to with less hot water.

At least two manufacturers have introduced dishwashers with high performance systems that use about 40 per cent less water

than did earlier models. Newly structured spray arms, changes in chamber design and elimination of one rinse are a few of their innovations.

In home tests have shown that performance is most satisfactory; dishes, glasses and pots and pans come out as clean as ever.

Another manufacturer, who has also reduced water consumption somewhat has incorporated a heat booster into its dishwashing system, which up the water to 150 degrees F. for the first wash and final rinse.

The booster heats just the water in the dishwasher. This dishwasher is also very heavily insulated, which means it's quieter as well as more heat retaining.

Keeping a hot water heater set at 120 degrees F.

means that approximately 10 per cent or more of the energy needed to heat water for your home can be saved.

For several years manufacturers have been providing an air dry feature, so you can let dishes dry naturally. Now some have incorporated a no-heat drying system that uses a fan which cycles on and off during the drying time. Others have introduced the option of reduced wattage drying, which means that less electricity is used in the drying process. There is some evidence that dishes dried without the traditional high wattage heating element spot and film less in hard water areas. It's also safer for fine china, plastics and other delicate items.

If you're in the market for a new dishwasher, ask your dealer about the new energy saving options that more and more manufacturers are offering.

All forecasts indicate that energy prices are going up, not down, — so cost of operation should be a major consideration in your purchase decision.

## Elanco farmers to hold corn management meeting

**TERRE HILL —** The Adult Farmer Program of Eastern Lancaster County School District will sponsor a Corn Management Meeting on Thursday evening February 14 at 7:30 p.m. in the Union Grove School.

Speaker for the evening will be Mr. William McClellan, Penn State University Extension Service Specialist.

McClellan will discuss all aspects of corn production to include: fertility, weed control, insect control, and disease control

Special emphasis will be given to the control of problem weeds like john-

songrass, shattercane, and wild (prickley) cucumber.

McClellan also will discuss problems associated with the over use of manure.

Interested persons are invited to attend the corn management meeting to be held at the Union Grove School at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday evening February 14.

The school is located two miles north of Rt. 23 on Rt. 625. Anyone desiring more information may contact Bob Anderson 215-445-5041.

**Teach FIRE PREVENTION Early!**

**CUSTOM BUILT  
LIQUID MANURE PUMPS**



**WE CAN SAVE YOU MONEY**

**Built to your specifications  
From 6 ft. to 12 ft.  
For Chicken Houses, Cow Pits,  
Hog Houses**

**HENRY K. BLANK**  
Specializing in Liquid Manure Pumps  
Gibbons Rd., Bird-in-Hand, PA 17505

**CUSTOM SLAUGHTERING  
CATTLE & HOGS  
CUT, WRAPPED & FROZEN  
CUSTOM:  
Curing & Smoking — Bologna Making**

**HOMEMADE  
Pa. Dutch Mince Meat  
With Beef - Wholesale & Retail**


**Send The Cattle To Us On The Hoof,  
We Will Return It To You Ready To Sell**

**FRESH & SMOKED  
MEATS**

13 N. Market St.  
Elizabethtown, Pa  
Ph (717) 367-1246


**GROFF'S  
MEATS**

★ USDA INSPECTED ★



### Slurry Conditioner / Pump

- Chops and mixes slurry materials.
- Pumps 650 to 1000 GPM.
- Liquid manure pump 1000 RPM - 100 H.P. req.
- Designed for use with sprinkler application of slurry materials.



**MAIDENCREEK FARM  
SUPPLY**  
Blandon, PA  
215-926-3851

**WENGER'S, INC.**  
S Race St  
Myerstown, PA  
717-866 2138

**ROOKS FARM  
SUPPLY INC.**  
RD3, Hwy No 77  
Elmer, NJ  
609 358-3100

**CLAPPER FARM EQUIP.**  
RD1, Alexandria, PA  
814-669 9015

**I.G. AG SALES**  
Silverdale, PA  
215-257 5136

**COLUMBIA EQUIPMENT CO.**  
Bloomsburg, PA  
717-784-7456

**CANYON IMPLEMENTS, INC.**  
RD1, Rt 6  
Mansfield, PA  
717-724-2731

Get Full Details  
From Your Nearest  
Long Dealer...