



Have You Heard?

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How to Clean Ceiling, Walls and Woodwork

With fresh air streaming through open windows, it is a good time to give painted ceilings, walls and woodwork a thorough cleaning. Though it is a big job, careful organization and proper techniques will get the job done well and as quickly as possible.

First be sure you have the necessary equipment. Gather supplies: pails, detergent or household cleaner, scrub brush, sponges, cloths, plastic drop cloths, and a sturdy stepladder or stepstool.

Before getting underway, test the finish for washability. Choose an inconspicuous area and wash with a sudsy sponge or cloth. Fading, running or peeling are signs that painting or wallpapering rather than washing may be in order if the surface is really dingy. In this case, the surface must still be cleaned so that fresh paint or wallpaper will adhere securely. If there are no problems, it is safe to proceed.

Remove wall decorations. Move furniture away from walls. Cover items that cannot be taken from the room temporarily. Beginning with the ceiling, dust away cobwebs and surface dirt. Use a clean dust mop, a broom wrapped with a cloth or the vacuum cleaner with brush attachment.

It is easier to use two pails or basins, if available. Fill one with a sudsy detergent solution and the other with warm rinse water. When using a household cleaner, dissolve in water following manufacturer's directions for amount. Set pails on a plastic drop cloth to protect floors.

Begin with the ceiling. Be sure stepladder or stool is steady. Do not lean in any direction for

greater reach. This is a common cause of falls. Use a scrub brush or sponge to wash. Wash and rinse in overlapping sections. To rinse, dip a sponge or cloth in clean water, wring out excess water and wipe the section. Repeat to be sure all dirt is removed.

Wash walls from the bottom up. Rivulets of water running down on dirty sections will leave hard-to-remove streaks. Work a manageable section at a time and overlap washing and rinsing. Change to fresh suds and rinse water as often as necessary.

Finish by washing baseboards, door and window frames. Gloss or semigloss paint is generally used on woodwork and is not difficult to clean. But for stubborn spots, use a full strength liquid cleaner or a spray type. Rinse well.

Don't Buy Blind

These days buying furniture is serious business — few of us can

afford to make mistakes. Yet many consumers are buying blind because they don't know how to judge quality. It's often quite difficult to see the difference between a well-made piece and just a high-priced one. Good and bad furniture comes in all sizes, descriptions and price ranges.

There are four clues to judging the quality of upholstered furniture. Investigate these and you will be a much wiser buyer.

• **Look at the Tailoring** — if the outside workmanship is sloppy, the inside may be too. Make sure the seams are strong and straight and that the fabric is well matched. Cushions should fit snugly into corners and there should be no lumps at all. Generally, cushions with welt cording at the seams wear better than those with butt seams. Furniture with loose seat and back cushions give extra wear because you can turn them over.

• **Look at the Fabric** — tightly woven, knit or tufted fabrics wear longer than thin or loosely constructed fabrics. Light weight fabrics can be durable if quilted. Read all the tags to know if the fabric has been treated to repel water and stains and if it carries a wear warranty. Furniture arms should be made of exposed wood or, if upholstered, should be covered with an extra set of arm covers.

• **Look at the Construction** — since you cannot see inside you will have to feel, read the labels, and ask questions. First ask about

warranty in case of defects in workmanship or construction. Higher quality furniture is usually made with polyurethane foam as cushioning and polyester fiberfill as filling materials.

• Try it — if it is comfortable, well padded, sturdy, and you like

the shape and design, you may have found the piece you were looking for. It is better to ask a few more questions than to buy blind and be sorry. You will probably live with the furniture you buy for many, many years.

Boots and Saddles 4-H Club

In June members and parents of the Boots and Saddles 4-H Club will have the opportunity to spend three days studying coastline ecology and the wild ponies of Assateague Island. Reservations were accepted for the trip at a recent meeting at the Farm and Home Center.

During the meeting the group heard reports on the successful All 4-H Open Horse Show held April 26. Sponsorships were collected and club jacket orders taken.

Members voted unanimously to contribute to Hospice of Lancaster County in memory of Jim Hickey, one of their leaders. Jim had been a loyal supporter and faithful

leader for 11 years. As a token of appreciation for all he gave to the club, members and their parents participated in a work day at his home May 10.

As a community service project, members will paint the fences at the Columbia Riding Club. The group, also discussed dates for upcoming shows, and summer and fall overnight trail rides.

Following the business meeting a film on Quarter horses titled, "Survival of the Fittest," was shown.

The group will meet next on June 13 at the home of Tammy Long at 7 p.m. Members unable to attend are expected to inform Rose or their teen leader.

Guernsey 4-H Club

The Guernsey 4-H club met for the second time this year at the home of Judy Rohrer on May 13.

Janice Garber and Tina High demonstrated how to fill out a record book.

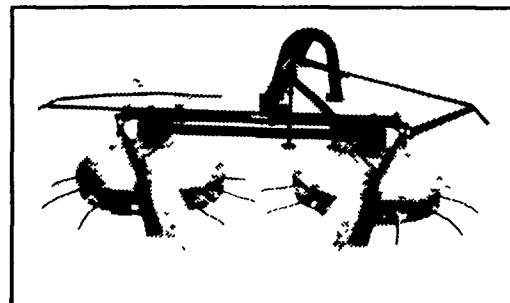
Kim Stroud explained the dairy bowl and encouraged members to join. Later, the group had an auction.

The next meeting will be held July 8 at the home of Janice Garber.

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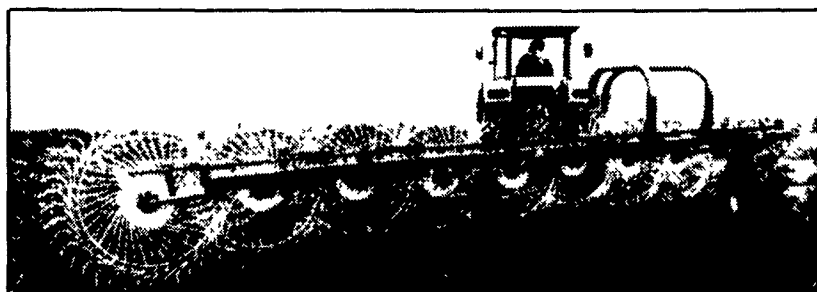


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