

# LATEST FASHIONS FOR COMMONER READERS

We have made arrangements to supply our readers with high grade, perfect fitting, seam allowing and easy to use patterns, designed by a leading firm of New York fashion publishers. Full descriptions accompany each pattern as well as a chart showing how to cut your material with the least possible amount of waste. Any pattern will be sent postage prepaid upon receipt of ten cents. We will also issue a new fashion book quarterly, Spring, Summer, Autumn and Winter, illustrating hundreds of new styles—Autumn number now ready. We will send this book for two cents postage prepaid if ordered at the same time that a pattern is ordered, or for five cents, postage prepaid if ordered without a pattern. Besides illustrating hundreds of patterns, this fashion book will tell you how to be your own dressmaker. When ordering patterns please give pattern number and size desired. Address all orders—Fashion Department, The Commoner, Lincoln, Nebraska.



**6468—Ladies' Kitchen Apron.**—This is a plain and practical apron, the front panel fitted in to the figure, and forming a bib and tabs over the shoulder. The sides end at the waist and are gathered, while the large pockets are stitched into the side front seams. Gingham, calico, brilliantine and all wash materials are suitable for this apron. The apron pattern, No. 6468, is cut in sizes 34, 38 and 42 inches bust measure. Medium size requires 4½ yards of 27 or 36 inch material.

**6327—Ladies' Two-Piece Skirt.**—This design shows an extremely pretty draped skirt for general wear. The drapery is caught up on the left side

under a broad lapped seam, there is a corresponding seam down the back. Serge, cheviot or broadcloth can be used to make this skirt. The pattern 6327 is cut in sizes 22 to 30 inches waist measure. Medium size requires 2½ yards of 36 inch material.

**6332—Misses' and Small Women's Dress.**—The one-piece dress remains a favorite—it is usually simple depending upon its cut for attraction, rather than trimming. Collar and cuffs are often of contrasting material. In this design there is seen the dropped shoulder, the new fullness at the waistline and a simple straight skirt. (Continued on Next Page.)

soften it; corn meal should be used as a preventive and cure for chapped hands, as it is cleansing, and can be used in place of soap. If a very good vegetable oil soap is used with tepid water, then, before the hands are rinsed, rub well with corn meal, it is excellent to make them smooth. Glycerine should not be applied undiluted to the skin, as it is exceedingly drying, and will absorb the moisture from the skin. It should always be first diluted with an equal quantity of water. The water may be rosewater, and half as much lemon juice may be added to whiten.

The face and hands should not be washed just before going out in the air when the weather is cold, but if it must be done, they should be well dried. Hard water should not be used; it can be made soft by dissolving a little borax in it.

### Window Plants

When liquid manure is used on window plants, it must be with caution, or results will be bad. If the plants are not growing, do not give them liquid manure, or if the plant is weakly, or newly propagated; but where a plant is making active growth, or when showing buds give the manure, and continue giving it through the blooming period. If the plants belong to the class that require to make a good growth before they go to rest, after the blooming period is finished, the manure should be continued until growth ceases, and then the manure should be withheld. Some plants can stand but very little liquid manure, and if given at all, it should be applied very weak, and only at long intervals. Most begonias, ferns, tropaeolums, some foliage geraniums and cacti do not require this feeding. Remember that it must be applied to even such plants as require rich food only while they are in active growth. It should be the color of quite weak tea and be given about once a week.

In January, thrifty plants of most varieties begin to show signs of growth, and should be carefully nourished and protected from the cold. Our coldest weather and strongest winds come in January and February. Plants should be watered very little during cold days, as wet soil and sap in the plants invite frost. Plants should not be watered at night during the winter, and at any time they do not take up much water during frosty weather. Plants should not be showered on cloudy or cold days, or in very severe weather. In a very dusty room, one should always cover the plants during sweeping in order to protect the leaves from the dust. A sheet made of cheese cloth will keep the dust from reaching them, and as it is very light-weight, will not damage the foliage or break the branches of tender plants.

Pick off all dead or diseased leaves and burn them. Keep the top of the soil in the pots free from all kinds of litter falling from the plants.

### Query Box

**M. L.**—To set colors in washable goods, before wetting the cloth soak in a water to which has been allowed a tablespoonful of ox-gall to each gallon of water.

**Emma S.**—To remove tar from the goods, saturate with turpentine, rubbing in well with the fingers, and the tar will come out.

**Ella**—Saturate a cloth with coal oil and go over the tin or other kettle and the discolorations will be removed. Rub well with the oiled cloth, then polish with a dry one.

**J. J.**—For filling the cracks in the stove, take wood ashes and common salt half and half, and make into a paste with cold water. Press this paste into the cracks and joints while

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