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Heloise

Clip the Ladle Out of Soup

When we have home-made soup we really make a meal of it. I serve it in a big tureen right on the table.

Our problem has been that the soup ladle kept slipping down into the tureen. Then I thought to clip a clean, snap-type clothespin to the ladle about three inches from the top of the handle.

Now the pin hangs on the edge of the tureen and keeps the ladle from falling in. No more fishing for that ladle now.

PATCHWORK
I've worn a patchwork quilt who still has lovely patchwork quilts.

Try using a horizontal striped material on the back. Then you can always tell the long way of the quilt when making the beds. It also eliminates all that twisting and turning to tell which end is which.

Something else. If you use cotton flannel on the back for lining, the quilt won't slip off the beds so easily.

FEWER CLEANUPS
I have lived for years in an area where the water is soft. And I've watched women dump too much detergent in their washing machines which usually results in the suds overflowing.

The directions on most detergent boxes do not take soft water areas into consideration. It isn't necessary to use as much as you would in a hard water area. Using less detergent in soft water will not only save money, but bits of clean-up jobs too. —Heloise

SHE'S SAFER
I travel a great deal and my wife is usually alone at night. So that she would feel safer and to prevent anyone from entering through a window, this is what I did:

I drilled holes through both of the center sashes of each window. Then I took nails and tied strings on the head of each one with a knot on the opposite end. Each knot I tucked right near the hole so that the nails wouldn't get lost.

When I leave now, all she does is insert the big nail through both holes and there is no way possible that either the top or bottom window can be opened.

BAG STORAGE
I would like to tell you how I store my handbags. At one end of the closet I put several hooks on the wall, spacing them a considerable distance apart. Then I hang my handbags on them. This has proved so convenient for me, thought others might like the idea, too. —Gloria Thompson

Head-Banger May Need More Love
By WILLIAM G. CHORR, M.D.

Q—We have two boys and a baby girl. Our second son, 18 months old, is a perpetual head-banger. I know he'll outgrow it, but I'm still worried. When I put him in bed, he'll fuss. But about 10:30 he starts and goes on for hours. The banging is quite violent most of the time. He sometimes has a black and blue forehead by morning. I have consoled, begged, lulled and sometimes hit him, but it does no good. And at times, in order to get some sleep, we have him in bed with us. Then there is absolutely no head-banging.

A—It looks as if you are between a rock and a hard place. I don't blame you for not wanting a child with a black and blue forehead. And I agree that it isn't a good idea to have children make a habit of sleeping in their parents' bed.

Why not put the head, foot and sides of his bed with sponge rubber, 2 to 4 inches thick? This would absorb most of the force of the blow so that even though he continued to bang his head he wouldn't hurt himself.

Here's another thought: perhaps you head-banging child, being the middle child, isn't getting as much attention as he wants and needs. Although many perfectly normal, healthy, well-adjusted children bang their heads excessively, some observers feel that head-banging occurs more often in children with emotional deprivation.

You might try giving this youngster a little more time and attention. Talk to him, make a fuss over him, cuddle him, sing and read to him. I can't promise that this will work, but it's a good idea. If you can't work it into your schedule. And if you don't have time, maybe his grandmother or a friend or neighbor could give him a little more time and attention.

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