With clothes a very expensive item these days, a little extra care is a big money-saver. Fasten discarded shoulder pads on to the ends of coat hangers and you'll find your clothes hang much better. The bulky, curved pads keep the shoulder shape of winter suits stored in garment bags for the summer. They also are good for freshly ironed cotton clothes.

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If you—or your children—keep young kittens and puppies, you are probably continually mopping up after spilt saucers of milk. Try using a discarded baby food plate. The heavy dish is difficult to tip over, and all the food can be served in this one plate. And another hint for pet problems. If your small dog slips out of his collar when he's out on a leash, double up on him. Put two small collars around his neck and fasten the leash to the back collar. It's slip-proof!

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Do you occasionally have poor radio reception? Try wiping the aerial with a cloth dipped in kerosene and you will be amazed at the better results.

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Don't discard an old beret. Tied to a mop it makes an excellent polisher for floors. But for something a little more attractive but just as practical—clean it thoroughly and decorate with motifs of bright felt or wool, cut a hole for the spout and it makes an excellent tea cosy.

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The pipe in the kitchen sink a ways becomes blocked at the most inconvenient time. Here's a quick way to clear it. Put into the pipe one tablespoonful of carbonate of soda, add two tablespoonfuls of vinegar and quickly replace the plug. The gasses formed will clear the pipe at once. A little later remove the plug and scour with boiling soda water.

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Now for some simple hints to meet those annoying laundry problems. Add a teaspoon of glycerine when making starch to prevent articles from sticking to the iron. To remove inkstains from handkerchiefs, rub well with a piece of ripe tomato. When the ink has loosened, wash in the usual way. Washing blue will last much longer and remain quite soft if kept in an airtight tin. And add a little salt to the blue to prevent clothes from streaking.

Now that eggs for cooking are so expensive, use golden syrup as a substitute. A tablespoonful of golden syrup in a cup of warm milk equals three eggs. Used in a pudding this will replace both sugar and eggs. And did you know that meringues will stay white and keep their shape if a pinch of cream of tartar is added when making?