

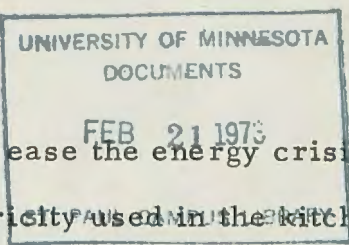
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AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE - UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

February 16, 1973

Conserving Energy



(0:30)

Homeowners can help ease the energy crisis by saving on the amount of gas and electricity used in the kitchen and at the same time reduce their utility bills.

University of Minnesota extension specialist Wanda Olson says leaving ranges on "high" when they could be as effective on "low" as soon as the boiling point is reached is wasting energy. Boiling on a low setting usually takes only about a fourth as much electricity or gas as boiling on "high."

With a thermostatically controlled unit, the heat is turned down automatically as soon as it reaches the desired temperature.

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4-H Consumerism

(0:25)

Be consumer wise, 4-H and youth specialist Phyllis Worden advises. Before buying cosmetics and grooming products, ask yourself:

What will it do for me? Do I have the facts I need to make a smart choice? Remember: Since labeling is not required on cosmetics, you really have no assurance that one brand of "hard to hold" hair spray is better than another. Also, you can't be sure that a man's deodorant is stronger than a family deodorant.

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Buying Carpets

(0:50)

Confused by the many terms, prices and types of rugs and carpets on the market today? So are a lot of other people.

University extension specialists say the five major fibers-- acrylic, nylon, polyester, polypropylene and wool--all are good and give satisfactory wear. Durability is affected by how the fiber is handled in the yarn and how much fiber is used. A thin, sleazy pile won't hold up under hard, prolonged wear, regardless of the fiber.

As pile compactness increases, wear life will increase and so will the price. Texture also contributes to wearability. Carpet with a short, very dense pile gives good results and is easiest to maintain for heavy traffic areas.

Textures that combine high and low tufts, either cut or uncut, usually give good wear. Color also can affect wear and appearance. A variation in dark and light, such as a tweed, will show less soiling than an all-light or all-dark color.

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Places To Buy Carpets

(0:35)

There are many places to shop for rugs and carpets. Speciality shops and department stores usually carry medium grade to top-of-the-line carpeting in terms of quality, style and price. They also handle installation and problems with faulty construction or other dissatisfactions.

Mail order houses handle low to better quality carpeting, but seldom offer top-of-the-line products. Discount house offerings range from promotional goods to medium quality. Places handling used rugs and carpets vary widely in what they offer and when it is available, depending on who is selling out next.

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