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CARE OF RANGE, FIRE AND  
WOOD BOX



CO-OPERATIVE EXTENSION WORK IN AGRICULTURE AND  
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The Outside Wood Box Helps to Keep the Kitchen Tidy

## CARE OF RANGE, FIRE AND WOOD BOX

Anyone working around a stove needs to wear a cap to protect the hair from ashes and dust.

Clean out the grate in the fire box by shaking down the ashes. In doing this, leave the stove lids on, close front and back dampers and turn the stove shaker. If no stove shaker is available, the lids must be removed and the ashes raked down with the stove lifter or poker.

Clean the top of stove by rubbing it with crumpled newspaper.

**Starting the Fire.**—Arrange crumpled paper or shavings on the grate. Lay small sticks of wood criss-cross on this foundation so the air may circulate. On this fine wood, place sticks of heavier wood, then sprinkle with two shovelfuls of small lump coal. Put the coal toward the back of the fire box. Replace the lids, open all closed dampers, apply the lighted match under the grate, and the fire is started.

**How To Keep a Fire.**—It is of little value to start a fire unless it is kept going. Since free circulation of air is necessary, there should always be one section of the grate free from coals. Before adding more fuel, rake the burning coals from the back of the fire box toward the front, leaving the space at back of the grate free for the circulation of air.

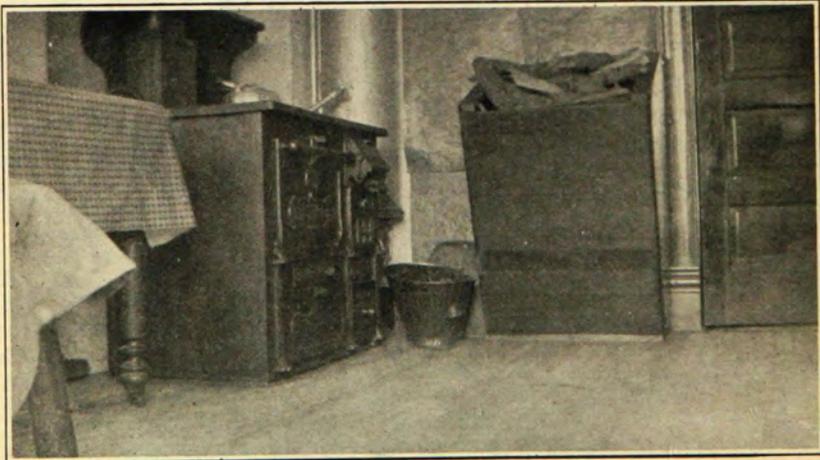
To check the fire, open the check damper.

**Polishing the Stove.**—Nickel-trimmed stoves require daily care. It is not difficult to keep nickel clean if it is thoroughly wiped each morning. If grease and dust is allowed to accumulate, the nickel must be washed with hot, soapy water and polished with a soft, dry cloth. If stains remain, an application of nickel polish may be used. Stove polish may be used to blacken the top of the stove. However, this is not necessary provided the stove is washed each morning with a damp cloth and rubbed dry with crumpled newspaper. Paraffin oil may be used rather than blacking. Apply it with soft cloth when the stove is cold. Overheating the stove is responsible for the white appearance of the lids.

## WATCHING THE WOOD BOX

**Types of Wood Boxes.**— The wood box which can be filled from the outside or from the back porch has the advantage of keeping dirt out of the kitchen. The objections to this box are that it is difficult to install in an old house, and that it allows cold air to enter the kitchen. The indoor wood box shown in the illustration is used daily on a Colorado ranch. It has ample capacity and yet is so constructed that it does not use much floor space. If it is kept well filled, the wood may be taken from it without unnecessary stooping.

**Time For Filling Wood Box.**— Club members may decide for themselves just what time is most convenient for filling the wood box each day. It is desirable to form a definite habit of attending to the wood box at a certain time. Then it is never forgotten and mother does not have to go out for wood.



**This Wood Box Does Not Require Stooping or Floor Space**