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CLEANING THE CUPBOARD  
AND BREAD BOX

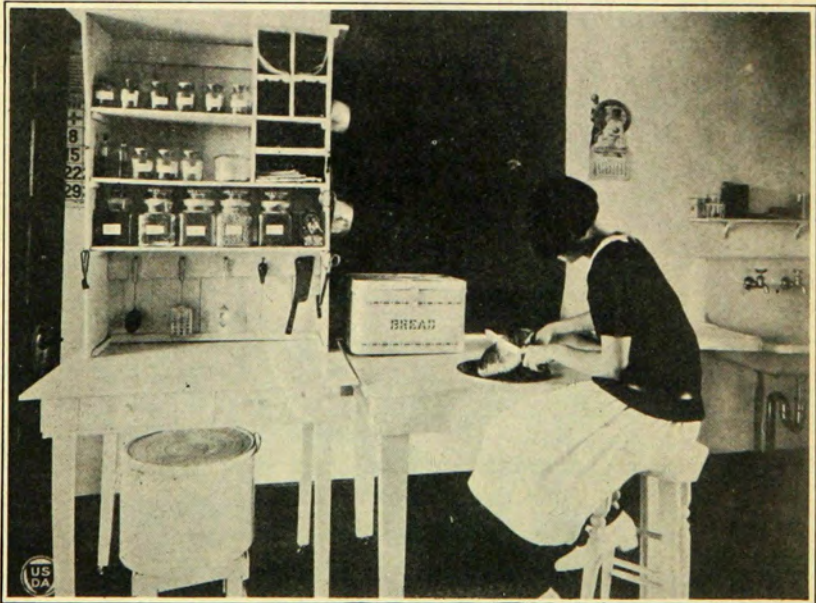


CO-OPERATIVE EXTENSION WORK IN AGRICULTURE AND  
HOME ECONOMICS, COLORADO AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE  
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An Easy-to-Clean Cabinet



Uniform Containers Make an Attractive Cupboard

## CLEANING THE CUPBOARD AND BREAD BOX

Two girls can work to advantage in cleaning kitchen shelves or kitchen cupboards, especially if the shelves are high. Before starting the work, there should be available a supply of hot water, soap, cleaning cloths, and clean newspapers. Clear the kitchen table or similar space on the kitchen cabinet for the articles to be removed from the cupboard. If the kitchen table can be moved easily, bring it near the cupboard in order to save steps.

**Cleaning the Shelves.**—Start with the top shelf and work down, doing one shelf at a time. A combination kitchen stool and ladder is a great convenience for girls in reaching the top shelf. If a chair must be used, place a folded newspaper on it before standing. This will protect the paint or varnish on the chair.

With two girls working together the cleaning progresses rapidly and well. The girl on the ladder can hand things to the girl below. In turn, this girl hands her the damp cloth for wiping the shelves. If necessary, the shelves may be scrubbed with hot, soapy water.

**Covering the Shelves.**—The ideal shelf is the one which is painted and then enameled in white or a light color. It does not require any paper cover, is easily cleaned and is neat in appearance. The painted shelf is next best. It does not require paper covering; in fact, paper too often sticks to the painted surface.

Unpainted shelves should be covered with clean paper. It is not necessary to buy special shelf paper for this purpose. Clean newspapers cut to fit the shelf look more attractive than the overhanging edge of fancy shelf paper. Place the fold of the newspaper at the outer edge of the shelf. It gives a neater finish and wears better than the single edges of paper.

**Arranging the Cupboard.**—Uniform containers add to the attractiveness and neatness of the shelves. Imperfect glass jars make satisfactory containers for cereals, cornstarch, powdered sugar or brown sugar. Empty coffee cans make good containers for food which attracts mice or other pests. These cans are exceedingly attractive when painted in some light color and then labeled in large letters. All labels should be uniform in size and position on the can. Spices may be stored in the original containers. These should be clean before being returned to the cupboard. Wipe off bottles which are kept on the shelves.

Arrange on the lower shelves the articles which are used most often. In cleaning utensil cupboards, arrange near the front the pans or kettles which are used daily.

### **CLEANING THE BREAD BOX**

The bread box should be emptied, scalded and aired out in the sunshine at least once each week. This may be done at the same time the cupboard is put in order. Neglect of the bread box means mouldy foods and unpleasant or stale odors.