

Times Remembered
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Sewing

Line skirt. She also made me princess-line jumper, and a Dotted Swiss dress with buttons down the front.

I could just show Mom a picture in a magazine of a dress that I wanted to wear to a party, and without a pattern, she whipped it up on her beloved White sewing machine. I felt gorgeous under the lights of my friend's party as I danced to the local band.

I learned to sew in Home Economics Class, however, I never could sew as well as mother did; in fact, I always turned to her for tricky zippers, buttonholes and hemming dresses. Basically, all I ever sewed was a straight shift dress, a cobbler's apron and a gathered skirt.

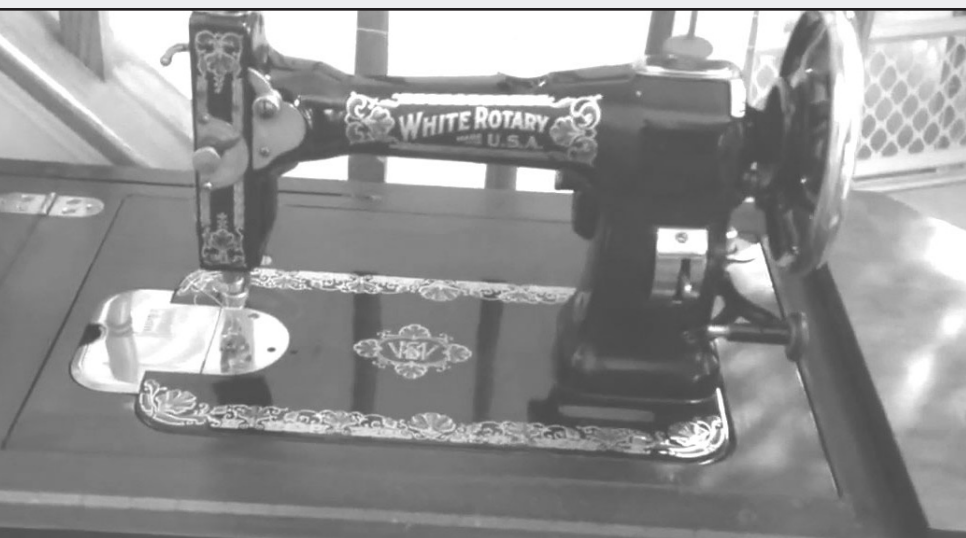
The clothes Mom made for me are long gone except for a black and white check, 3 tier square dancing skirt that I wore when I performed with a local square dancing team at the county fair about 1963-64.

I would like to say that I have the beautiful White sewing machine with an oak cabinet; but I don't; like I said, I think my oldest sister received it and she passed a little over a year ago. Tootise was the seamstress in the family like Mom. From there I don't know who has it or what happened to it. I sure wish I did have it. It was simple to sew on.

I have a new sewing machine that I received from my husband 2 years ago for Christmas and I haven't used it yet. It has too many gadgets and fancy stuff. I need a tutor! I had much rather cook than sew.

My Mother's White, 1930s Treadle Sewing Machine, made in Cleveland, Ohio, in my opinion, was the best sewing machine ever made. My Mother sewed almost all of our clothes.

My sister and I were proud of our matching Easter dresses; they were buttercup yellow with organdy white puffed sleeves and collars with lace. Mom also made me pleated skirts and sewed me a vest too, in high school, to match a black-and-white checked A-



Tips for tackling spring cleaning

Source: Sarah Hanks, senior extension associate

Spring cleaning is a long-time ritual. In the past, common winter heat sources caused soot and grime to collect in homes and on home furnishings. After winter subsided, spring was a time to open the windows and remove the dirt and sooty buildup. While many of us have cleaner heat sources for our homes today, spring cleaning is still a ritual many of us practice.

While spring cleaning your house may seem like a monumental task, it does not have to be. Here are some tips and tricks for making spring cleaning more effective and less daunting.

- Develop a plan of attack. Think about where, when and how you are going to clean and what cleaning products you will need. You may want to dedicate an entire weekend to cleaning or you may want to space it out an hour or two at a time over several days. You may want to tackle one room at a time or one project, such as washing all your curtains, at once. There is no wrong answer. It depends on your cleaning style.

- Gather your supplies beforehand. Go through your cabinets to determine the products you already have on hand and those you need to purchase. Common cleaning items you may need include an all-purpose cleaner, abrasive cleanser, non-abrasive cleanser, chlorine bleach, glass cleaner, furniture/dusting cleaner, toilet bowl cleaner, cloths, trash bags and vacuum bags.

- Declutter before cleaning. We all tend to accumulate things and having things on furniture and on the floor can make it harder to clean. If you have unwanted items, now is a good time to sell, recycle or donate them.

- Ask for help if you need it from family members and friends. You do not have to tackle cleaning by yourself.

- Take the cleaning momentum



outside. While you may think of spring cleaning as an indoor activity, it is also a really good time to do some outdoor cleaning and home maintenance projects like cleaning windows and door exteriors, checking the chimney for damage, inspecting weather seals on windows and doors, and removing the lint from the dryer vent.

More information on effective cleaning and healthy homes is available at the Estill County office of the University of Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service.

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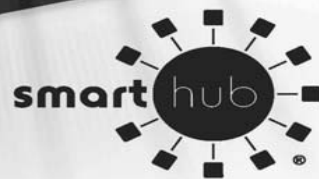
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