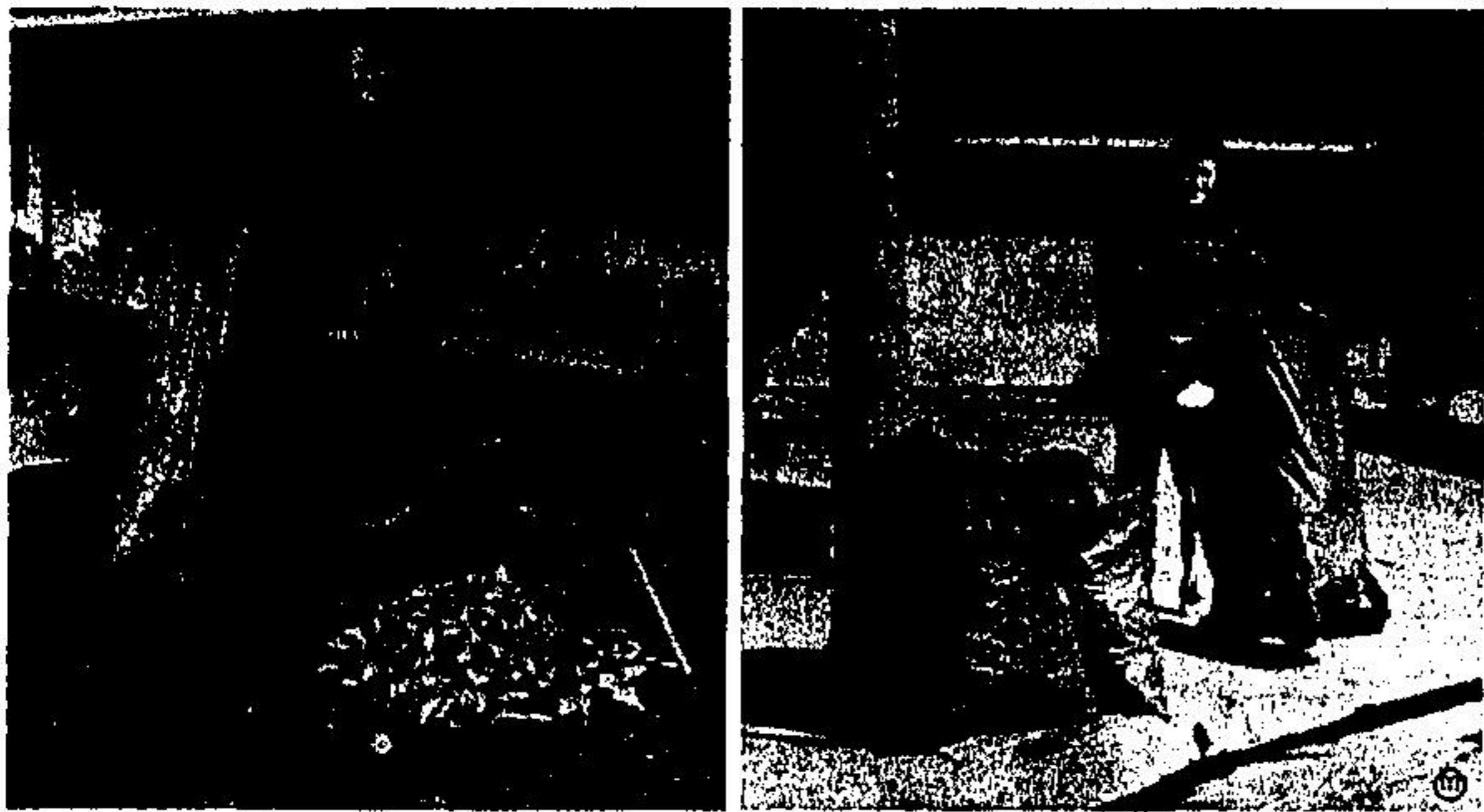


Makes yardwork easier



THERE ARE A VARIETY OF CONVENIENCE ACCESSORIES AVAILABLE which simplify yardwork. Wheels on this lawn-and-garden cart make it easier to move leaves, grass clippings and other refuse to the street. "Curb Service" uses 44-gallon-capacity bags and holds storage aprons for tools and accessories. Available in larger Sears stores.

Sensible cleaning tips

Completing home care chores has become a management art, as finding the necessary time becomes more and more difficult.

The growing number of two-income families and single-women households is forcing homeowners and renters to be more efficient in the maintenance of their property and furnishings, according to experts at Racine Industries, Inc., manufacturer of the dry extraction carpet cleaning system called Host.

"Those who can afford it are freeing up time by hiring professional cleaning services," says Shannon Rench, national sales manager — consumer products, for the company.

"Others are finding ways to streamline their efforts, such as accomplishing a few cleaning tasks every day, rather than attempting them all on the weekend."

Cleaning carpet is one task that should never be difficult or time-consuming, according to Rench. "It's earned a reputation as a major all-weekend job, which means a great deal of effort is being wasted. And there is an easier alternative," she said.

She offers the following labor and time-saving tips to help carpet owners keep their entire carpet investment looking good every day:

- **Vacuum smart** — Only 30 to 40 percent of most carpeted areas is actually used; this includes high traffic areas — entries, doorways, hallways, stairs, around furniture. Concentrate on these areas, vacuuming frequently.

Carpets thrive on regular vacuuming. A good vacuum (with brush and beater bar) removes most of the soil trapped by carpet fibers, preserving the beauty of the carpet, and reducing the wear and abrasion the soil can cause. (It takes three or four passes to remove the deep down soil, which often is not visible.)

Use the other attachments and vacuum furnishings — upholstered furniture, draperies, windowsills, etc. — as you go from room to room. And break the work into chunks.

Monday, for example, is an excellent time to vacuum the first floor; this will remove the soil tracked in by the increased foot traffic over the weekend.

- **Address accidents immediately** — Put-

ting off cleaning a drink or food spill or a pet accident decreases the chance of removing it permanently, and it will create more work later on.

Blot a wet spill as soon as it occurs with a dry, white towel; scrape up as much of a solid spill as possible.

Cover the spills with a dry cleaner (absorbent compound), working it through the spill with a brush. After the cleaner is dry, vacuum it away. (Dry cleaners consist of millions of tiny sponges that dissolve soil and spots before absorbing them.)



CONCENTRATE CARPET CLEANING EFFORTS only on soiled areas, advise the experts at Host/Racine Industries, Inc.

Better safe than sorry

"Better Safe than Sorry," says KinderGard, a Dallas-based company that specializes in child protection devices for children under the age of six.

Nationally renowned for the original development of the Cabinet Latch in 1973, followed by Corner and Edge Cushions, Outlet Plugs, Doorknob Guards, Cabinet Locks and, most recently, Outlet Covers, Electrical Cord Shorteners, Light Switch Extenders, Shopping Cart Safety Belts and Child to Parent Security Straps, KinderGard is constantly developing and testing new products for child protection in order to help make the home and environs "a safer place for children to play, explore and discover."

The obvious answers to the questions of what precautions should be taken by a parent (or even in a household frequently visited by children) in order to avoid injury are:

- Cushion 90 degree edges with corner and edge cushions;
- Insert outlet plugs on electrical outlets;
- Install cabinet latches on the inside of lower level drawers and cabinets;
- Install doorknob guards on doors

leading to potentially dangerous areas;

- Install cabinet locks on the outside of reachable higher level cabinets;

- Install outlet covers on outlets that are in use;

- Install cord shorteners to remove excess and dangerous electrical cords and light switch extenders to avoid falls from a small child trying to reach the switch;

- Use portable shopping cart belts to prevent falls from carts in retail stores;

- Utilize child to parent straps to keep parent and child safely connected when in heavily-congested public areas.

In order to find the potentially dangerous areas of the home as seen through a child's eye, KinderGard published a "Guide to Home Safety," which recommends that parents get down to a child's eye level and roam the house on all fours to see what actually exists in the child's world.

KinderGard says that, "it's important to experience for yourself the temptations which lure a child into an accident."

The "Guide to Home Safety" is available at no charge by sending a return-addressed, stamped envelope to KINDERGARD, Dept. M, 14822 Venture Drive, Dallas, TX 75234.

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