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## Linens That Last

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Reflect you in your home

with *Linens that last*

by Jean Redman

Home Economics freshman

**W**HAT FUN to plan a linen trousseau! Think of the array of colors, the difference of textures and weaves in sheets, towels, and table linens from which you can choose. No need for confusion, though, if you know what to look for before you start.

Purchase the best quality you can afford. In selecting sheets, you should know that good muslin is inexpensive and durable. Often you will be tempted to skimp a few cents and be satisfied with bargain textiles of lesser quality. However, for just a little more, you can buy combed percale which feels luxuriously soft and lasts equally as long.

Do take advantage of the good buys in household linens during sales. The stores are prepared with full stocks of towels, sheets, blankets and other household textiles. Although the stores may call it a "white sale," you'll be dazzled by the colorful bath towels and washcloths. Sheets, too, in delectable pastels turn white sales into a color carnival.

Buy more washcloths than you actually need; they wear out faster than towels. Also, it may be hard to match colors later, and you'll be glad you purchased the extra supply.

In all linens, look for a firm, close, even weave and you'll be sure of longer wear. Examine the selvage for reinforcement and strong, tapered appearance, and check for straight, even hems.

You'll need enough linens for both everyday use and for emergencies, too. Who knows ahead of time when someone will be ill, the laundry will be late or when unexpected guests will arrive?

Linens last longer when rotated in use. Place clean linens at the top of the pile and draw the fresh supply from the bottom, or vice versa. It really doesn't matter how they are rotated, but do distribute wear evenly.

Your choice of table linens depends greatly on your personal plans for living and entertaining. You will need to ask yourself several questions, including whether you prefer family or informal dinners, and how often you plan to entertain guests.

Above all, express your own personality through your linens. Blend all of the colors, designs and textures in your own way, for these linens will be all yours. In your linen closet will be a new creative expression of yourself.

Remember that the linens you buy now will last for a long time, so buy quality, quantity and beauty.



The following lists have been compiled to show you the minimum linens you'll need in your first "real" home. If you and your husband-to-be will be moving a great deal during your first year or two of marriage, you'll want to cut down these requirements still more.

*Bathroom needs*

- 12 large-size terry bath towels
- 18 matching hand-face terry towels
- 18 matching washcloths
- 3 matching bath mats
- 2 bath rugs
- 12 small guest towels

*Bedroom needs*

- 6 sheets for each bed
- 6 pillow cases for each pillow
- 1 pair winter blankets for each bed
- 1 pair summer blankets for each bed
- 2 bedspreads for each bed

*Kitchen aids*

- 12 towels for china and glassware
- 12 towels for drying kitchen utensils
- 12 dish cloths
- 6 utility or scrub cloths
- 6 pot holders
- 12 terry hand towels
- 12 dusters
- polishing cloths for silver and windows