

Reader Recipes

We're looking for unusual, innovative, or just plain good-tasting recipes. If you have a favorite you'd like to share, send to: Reader Recipes, P.O. Box 1029, Lakeville, Minn. 55044.

Toffee Bar

1 cup butter (room temp)
1 cup brown sugar
1 beaten egg yolk
2 cups flour
1 tsp vanilla
1 pkg chocolate chips

Mix all ingredients together. Spread in a 9 by 13 pan. Bake 15 to 20 min. at 350°. Remove from oven and sprinkle package of chocolate chips over top. Let melt, then spread.

Potato Rolls

1 cup diced raw potatoes
2 cups water
1/2 cake yeast
1 1/2 tsp salt
1 tbsp sugar
3 tbsp fat
4 cups flour

Cook potato in water until soft. Drain and save 1 cup potato water. Rice the potato. Soften the yeast in the lukewarm potato water. Sift 3 1/2 cups flour with the salt and sugar. Rub fat in with fingertips, and add the yeast liquid and potatoes. Knead dough until it springs back into place when pressed with fingers. Add remaining flour if needed. Place in a greased bowl. Grease the dough, cover, and let rise until double in bulk. Without kneading again, pinch off small pieces, shape slightly, and place by threes in greased muffin tins to form cloverleaf rolls. Let rise again until double. Bake 25 min. in 375° oven until golden brown. Serve hot.

Homemade Toilet Cleaner

1 cup borax
1/4 cup vinegar or lemon juice

Combine the ingredients to make a paste. Apply it to the inside of the toilet bowl. Let sit for 1 to 2 hours, and scrub.

Automatic Shower Soap Dispenser

Say goodbye to slippery bars of soap in the shower.

The "Quick Shower" replaces your existing showerhead, simply threading onto the existing shower pipe. It consists of a detachable 32-oz. liquid soap container and a plastic showerhead. A soap adjustment knob is used to control the amount of soap being dispensed, and an air adjustment knob controls the aeration or lathering action of the soap.

Once the soap and air mixture is set for the type of liquid soap being used, the selected mixture will remain the same for every shower.

It's a fast and easy way to shower because you don't have to fumble with a bar of soap. Both your hands are free to bathe. It also saves time, water and energy by typically cutting your shower time in half.

A selector lever is used to switch between soaping and rinsing. Moving the lever to the soap position reduces the water volume by about 50 percent to avoid wasting soap. The lever also has an off position if you want extra scrubbing time without having to turn off the faucet.

"Once you use our automatic shower soap dispenser you'll never want to go back to using a bar of soap," says inventor Bob Bishop. "There's no wrestling with a bar of soap and no wasted soap. My wife and I both love it. We save money by buying liquid soap in gallon jugs for about \$7 per gallon. A number of companies make a combination shampoo/body wash which eliminates the need to ever switch bottles."

Sells for \$40 plus \$10 S&H.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Bob Bishop, 49 Barney Road, Enola, Arkansas 72047 (ph 877 578-4255; quickshower@yahoo.com; www.quickshower.net).



There's no fumbling with a bar of soap when you use the "Quick Shower". It consists of a detachable 32-oz. liquid soap container and a plastic showerhead.

Solid steel GrainMaker is built for heavy use.



Machined-Steel Grinder

Unlike most grinders made of cast aluminum, Bitterroot Tool & Machine's GrainMaker is CNC machined out of steel. That's important to people concerned with food quality, says manufacturer Randy Jones. "Over time, the aluminum from cast grinders can end up in the ground grain."

The burr designs - one stationary and one that rotates - are also unique and made of high-grade alloy steel. Since they started selling their GrainMakers 10 years ago, Jones and his partner, Rick Hixon, have never had to replace a part.

Jones made the first grinder when a Montana neighbor wanted a mill to grind his own wheat. It takes about 4 min. to hand grind a 4-cup hopper full of wheat.

The grinder works for all types of grain. Jones recently started grinding rice for a new grandchild. It also grinds coffee and turns peanuts into peanut butter.

"Other grinders will do coffee and peanuts, but ours cleans up easier," says Jones. "You can take it apart without any tools at all. Pop off the dust cover, take the front burr off, rotate the back burr and it's easily disassembled."

Some customers are health conscious and just want to grind their own food. Others have food allergies, but can consume wheat and other grains if they sprout before grinding. Jones also has had customers who use the grinder to make beer.

The GrainMaker has sealed roller bearings for smooth maintenance-free operation, a handle extension for better leverage, and adjustable burr pressure control for coarse to fine grinding. It weighs 20 lbs., can be bolted or clamped in place, and is set up to attach a motor. They have a limited lifetime warranty and sell for \$445, including shipping.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Bitterroot Tool & Machine, P. O. Box 130, Stevensville, Montana 59870 (ph 406 777-7096; sales@btm-mt.com; www.grainmaker.com).

FARM SHOW®

New Products Especially For Women And The Farm, Ranch Home

"Plug-Proof" See-Through Trap

The see-through trap from PF WaterWorks makes cleaning clogged drains as easy as turning a dial. It also makes it easy to retrieve anything dropped down the drain.

"It's catching on like wild fire," says Sanjay Ahuja, PF WaterWorks. "People love the way it takes the work out of keeping drains clean."

FARM SHOW talked to Ahuja at the recent International Builder's Show. From all the attention his booth was getting, we weren't the only ones interested in the innovative new design.

The trap, which simply installs in place of existing p-traps with no modification, is made out of clear plastic. It has a circular chamber at the base of the trap. A paddle mounted in the chamber can be turned by twisting a knob on the outside.

"If the drain slows or you check and see material built up in the elbow, just turn the knob, and the paddle pushes it on through the pipe," explained Ahuja. "The paddle sweeps and scrapes the chamber, keeping it cleaned out."

In operation, the paddle stays in the bottom of the chamber, forcing drain water to spill over it. That alone actually creates more turbulence so less debris tends to collect. The paddle also helps trap items that accidentally fall into the drain like a ring. Turning the paddle slightly lifts them up for easier retrieval.

"Because you can see through the trap, it's much easier to pass a wire down the drain and snag the item," says Ahuja.

Ahuja gave FARM SHOW a sample to try. Installation was easy, and it seems to work as described. The units are available direct from the company's online store. Ahuja says they will soon be available at ACE Hardware, Home Depot and other stores. Suggested retail price is \$39.95.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, PF WaterWorks, 1880 S. Dairy Ashford St., Suite 202, Houston, Texas 77077 (ph 281 573-8422; toll free 877 265-9777; fax 281 573-8501; sales@pfwaterworks.com; www.pfwaterworks.com).



Knob on side of trap quickly clears clogged drain.

How To Keep A Clothesline Tight

If you still like to dry clothes on an outdoors clothesline, you'll be interested in this idea from John Jamieson of Monterey, Tenn. He replaced the aluminum wires on his clothesline with plastic-coated high tensile wires, and uses ratchet-type electric fence tighteners to keep them tight.

"As the lines stretch, I can easily tighten them by simply turning a crank on each tightener," says Jamieson.

His 20-ft. long clothesline has four wires spaced 10 in. apart. He drilled four holes into one end of the clothes line and inserted a metal hook in each one, which he welded into place. Then he attached the fence tighteners to the hooks. On the other end of the clothesline he installed just the hooks. Then he attached the high tensile wire to the hooks and to the ratchet fasteners.

"All it takes is a couple of clicks of the tool to tighten up each line," says Jamieson, who notes that the fence tighteners cost about \$2 to \$3 apiece.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, John Jamieson, 11 Yellow Creek Rd., Monterey, Tenn. 38574 (ph 931 335-0211).



Ratchet-type electric fence tighteners are used to keep clotheslines tight.