



# **200 Problem Solving Tips**

**"common sense tips to help solve  
some of life's little irritations"**

### **1. Remove Broken Key From Lock.**

Put some super glue on broken off part, insert and hold a few seconds  
- will pull out rest of key.

### **2. Remove Broken Light Bulb.**

Stick a bar of soap into jagged edges, use soap as handle.

### **3. Remove Stubborn Screw.**

Heat with a soldering iron for a few seconds first.

### **4. Protect Children From Sockets.**

Keep a piece of electrical tape over them when not in use.

### **5. Good Glass Door Safety Tip.**

Put a BIG decal on those glass and patio doors.

### **6. Keep Nails From Splitting Wood.**

Blunt sharp end of nail before you use by hitting with a hammer.

### **7. Repair Small Holes In Screen.**

Plug holes with clear nail polish, let dry, repeat until filled.

### **8. Straighten Warped Phono Records.**

Place record between two sheets of glass, set in sun for a while.

### **9. Best Way To Clean Phono Records.**

Dip in solution of detergent and water, rinse and wipe dry.

### **10. Make Your Own Fireplace Logs.**

Roll newspapers up tightly in shape of log. Papers are wood.

### **11. How To Remove Oil From Driveway.**

Cover with sand, let stand a few days, then sweep off.

### **12. Keep Fish Hooks From Rusting.**

Stick them in a cork and submerge in some baking soda.

### **13. Make Sandpaper Last Longer.**

Back sandpaper with masking tape.

### **14. How To Revive Old Razor Blades.**

Rub them back and forth inside of a drinking glass.

### **15. Where To Sell Box Tops And Labels.**

Eggleston Enterprises, 207, Main Street, Milford, NY 13807.

### **16. Remove Labels From Bottles & Jars.**

Fill with hot water and then submerge in hot water, will just fall off.

### **17. Cut Glass Without Glass Cutter.**

Use tin snips and cut under water, smooth rough edges with sandpaper.

### **18. Easy To Unglue Stamps & Envelopes.**

Put in freezer a few hours then flip off with knife blade.

### **19. Get Water Out Of Your Watch.**

Strap watch to light bulb, turn on for a few minutes. Water drops will form on crystals, open up and wipe off.

### **20. Prevent Snow Sticking To Shovel.**

Coat shovel with car wax.

### **21. Tighten Your Hammer Handle.**

Soak in used engine oil for a day.

### **22. Low Cost Laminating- EASY.**

Cover article with clear contact paper. Works perfectly!

### **23. Open That Stuck Zipper.**

Spray that stuck zipper with shaving foam.

### **24. Remove Tar & Paint From Auto.**

The product to clean paint from your car is BENZOL.

### **25. Increase Your Mileage.**

Put 4oz of benzol to each ten gallon of gasoline to incr. mpg.

### **26. How To Renew Car Batteries.**

Dissolve 1 oz Epsom salts in water and add to each cell.

### **27. Easily Untie A Knot In A Chain.**

Cover the knot generously with cold cream.

### **28. Loosen Those Tight Shoes.**

Put some damp newspaper into shoes and leave for a few days.

### **29. Make Shoes Slip Proof.**

Take scissors and scratch Scissors on the soles.

### **30. The Ideal Pin Cushion.**

Use a bar of soap, makes sewing easier. Needle just slides through.

### **31. Make Your Own Metal Polisher.**

Take a black board chalk and rub into cloth, then rub on metal.

### **32. Good Dog & Cat Repellent.**

Place moth balls in areas where you are bothered by animal odors. They will avoid it. Animals hate mothball odors.

### **33. When Your Pet Has No Appetite.**

Try a saucer of beer. It's been known to perk up the appetite.

### **34. Easy To Rid Pets Of Fleas.**

Put a foam rubber pad in the pet's bed - fleas hate it.

### **35. Quick Way To Press Ties.**

Hang in bath while you shower - steam takes wrinkles out.

### **36. How To Remove Staples.**

An old nail clipper works just fine for removing staples.

### **37. Eliminate Odors From Disposal.**

Throw a lemon in it and let it be ground up.

### **38. Keep Salt Moisture Free.**

Put pieces of ink blotter in shaker. It will absorb moisture. Or try uncooked rice.

### **39. Simple Eye-Glass Cleaner.**

Vinegar diluted in water makes a fine eyeglass cleaner.

### **40. Easy Clean Glass Doors & Mirrors.**

Just rub with a damp newspaper - they will shine.

#### **41. Easily Reduced Ashtray Smell.**

Keep a small amount of baking soda in ashtrays at all times.

#### **42. Messless Painting From Bucket.**

Punch several holes around rim of can with small nail.

#### **43. Take Lumps Out Of Paint.**

Cut a piece of screen to fit inside of can or bucket, it will float to bottom, taking the lumps with it.

#### **44. Keep Bugs Out Of Paint.**

Pour a little insect repellent in the paint. It does the trick.

#### **45. Prevent Flowers From Fading.**

Use a few drops of chlorine bleach in water, add an aspirin for life.

#### **46. A Simple Roach Formula- It WORKS.**

Crumble cigarette butts in water, let dry then spread in roach areas.

#### **47. Save Painting Clean Up Time.**

Cover roller tray with aluminum foil, then just throw away.

#### **48. A Novel Paint Can Cover.**

Use plastic lid from a coffee can.

#### **49. Keep Piano Keys Looking New.**

Keep cover open, ivory turns dark if exposed to darkness.

#### **50. How To Remove Grease From Rugs.**

Pour ample amount of baking soda on it, brush in, let stand for a day, vacuum off.

#### **51. Destroy Desire For Nicotine.**

Take before breakfast  $\frac{1}{2}$  tsp. each of rochelle salts and cream of tartar.

#### **52. Destroy Desire For Alcohol.**

Mix goldthread with golden seal tea. It creates a violent taste for alcohol.

#### **53. Excellent Insomnia Formula.**

One tbs. powdered milk, 2 tbs. honey, 1 tbs. brewers yeast, stir into cup of warm milk. Take before retiring.

#### **54. Famous Diet Formula Plan.**

Mix 1tbs safflower oil to 2 tbs. grapefruit juice, take before meals.

#### **55. The 40.00 Beauty Facial.**

Spread milk of magnesia over face, let dry, cover again, let dry, remove with damp cloth, then apply some warm olive oil, then apply some ice cold witch hazel.

#### **56. How To Improve Your I.Q.**

Hydrocotyle asiatica teas are a noted brain food.

#### **57. Make A Pantyhose Last Longer.**

One tbs. alum, 1 quart water, rinse, let dry, the wash with soap, rinse dry.

#### **58. Remove Blood Stains From Carpet.**

Sponge immediately with cold water, then use a bit of soap, rinse dry.

#### **59. Make Your Guitar Really Shine.**

Rub some toothpaste on, let dry, then buff it. It will shine!

#### **60. Keep A Burn From Blistering.**

Apply ice cubes to burn immediately.

#### **61. Remove Ink Stains From Carpet.**

Apply a paste of milk and cornstarch, let stand a few hours. Brush off.

#### **62. Dry Shampoo Your Pet (GREAT).**

Rub baking soda into fur and brush out. Will smell great!

#### **63. Put A Shine On Your Windows.**

Brush with nylon stocking, then use blackboard eraser to shine.

#### **64. Unwrinkling Plastic Materials.**

Heat ironing board, lay materials on, smooth with hands.

#### **65. Easy Needle Threading (NEAT).**

Dip tip of needle in clear nail polish and let dry.

#### **66. How To Clean Your Neck Ties.**

Put tie in jar with some carbon tetrachloride, shake, take out and let dry.

#### **67. Easy Clean Your Nail File.**

Press a piece of tape into file, pull off. Remove all dirt.

**68. How To Remove Scorches.**

Wet scorched area and cover with cornstarch, brush off when dry.

**69. What To Do If You Oversalt Food.**

Drop a potatoe or two in it. Absorbs the over-salt.

**70. Watermelon Ripeness Test.**

Look for a creamy surface underneath the melon.

**71. How To Freshen Stale Nuts.**

Stick them in the oven for 15 minutes at 250° C.

**72. How To Destroy Fish Smells.**

Rub butter on your hands or wherever smell is to be removed.

**73. How To Destroy Onion Smells.**

Dampen hands and rub some bicarbonate of soda over them.

**74. Keep & Use Over Ripe Bananas.**

Mash and freeze for making cakes and cookies.

**75. How To Boil A Cracked Egg.**

Add a dash of vinegar to the water.

**76. How To Make Mocha Coffee.**

Instead of milk or cream try some chocolate milk, MOCHA.

**77. Easy Boiled Egg Peeling.**

Keep lid on a few minutes after boiling, pressure causes shell to fall off.

**78. Eliminate Popcorn Duds- FAST.**

Freeze it first, the it will all pop.

**79. Easy Clean Kitchen Windows.**

Add starch to water and clean with a piece of newspaper.

**80. Easy Clean Silverware - The BEST.**

Use baking soda and damp cloth, clean, rinse and let dry.

**81. Vegetable For Liver & Prostrate.**

BEETS.

**82. Fruit Soothes Intestinal Tract.**

PAPAYA.

**83. A Fruit For Arthritic Gout.**

CHERRIES.

**84. An Appetizer Fruit- GOOD.**

PINEAPPLE.

**85. Fruit For The Stomach.**

COCONUT.

**86. A Fruit For Constipation.**

RAW APPLES.

**87. A Fruit High In Iron.**

STRAWBERRIES.

**88. Fruit For Neutralizing Acid.**

LEMONS.

**89. A Fruit For Healthful Kidneys.**

WATERMELON.

**90. A Fruit Good For The Nerves.**

BANANAS.

**91. Two Fruits Thought Anti-Tobacco.**

APPLES & GRAPES EATEN RAW

**92. A Fruit Thought Anti-Cancer.**

FIGS.

**93. Vegetable Good For Kidney.**

CELERY.

**94. Vegetable That's Antibiotic.**

GARLIC.

**95. Fruit To Tune Blood Vessels.**

ORANGES.

**96. Vegetable For Breath Purifier.**

PARSLEY.

**97. Ingredient Good For The Heart.**

HONEY.

**98. A Vegetable Good For The Eyes.**

CARROTS.

**99. A Good Source Of Iodine.**

KELP.

**100. Vegetable With 6 X More Vitamin C.**

GREEN PEPPERS.

**101. How To Shine Your Refrigerator.**

Use Bicarbonate of Soda on a damp sponge.

**102. How To Remove A Hot Cake Pan.**

Use clothes pins (pegs).

**103. Keep Windshields Frost Free!**

Apply solution of 1 part vinegar to 3 parts water over windshield.

**104. Make Dry Cell Batteries Last Longer.**

Seal in plastic bags, wrap in aluminum foil, keep in refrigerator.

**105. Remove Wax From Candleholders.**

Freeze holders in refrigerator and it will just peel off.

**106. Prevent Kitchen Stools From Slipping.**

Put rubber tips from crutches on bottom of legs.

**107. Rid Scratches From Plastic Watches.**

Use Q-tip dipped in nail polish remover, rub over face, scratch disappears.

**108. Excellent Lubricant For Appliances.**

Put a drop of glycerin in gears, makes an excellent lubricant.

**109. Keep Garbage Bags From Slipping.**

Use 3 or 4 clothes pins, keeps them from slipping.

**110. How To Clean Glassware.**

Clean with stale tea. If they spot, soak in buttermilk, let dry, wipe off.

**111. How To Clean Carved Furniture.**

Use an old toothbrush to clean then use furniture polish on brush.

**112. Remove Ink From Varnished Furniture.**

Rub with soft cloth filled with equal parts vinegar and linseed oil.

**113. Remove Mildew From Luggage.**

Put bar of soap in luggage before storing.

**114. Remove Smoke, Grease From Woodwork.**

Paint wood with solution of starch and water, when dry rub off.

**115. Really Shine Your Kitchen Floor.**

Add some sour milk to your rinse water, it will shine!

**116. How To Clean Rust From Chrome.**

Rub it with aluminum foil.

**117. How To Really Clean Enamel.**

Use a paste of salt and vinegar then wipe off.

**118. Remove Shoe Polish From Clothing.**

Use carbon tetrachloride or rubbing alcohol.

**119. Remove Cigarette Stains From China.**

Rub it with a cork that has been dipped in salt.

**120. Make Your Own Ink Eradicator.**

Mix one part liquid bleach to ten parts water. Works great.

**121. Make Your Appliances Really Shine.**

Rub them over with rubbing alcohol, they will stay shining.

**122. Remove Stains From Coffee Cups.**

Rub with salt and vinegar.

**123. Make Your Own Furniture Polish.**

Use 2 parts olive oil to 1 part vinegar. Have it warm while using.

**124. Make Your Own Silver Polish**

Tooth paste or baking soda makes an excellent silver polish.

**125. A Really Good Copper Cleaner.**

Use a paste of salt and vinegar.

**126. To Clean Your Diamond Rings.**

Use tooth paste with an old tooth brush, rub and rinse and let dry.

**127. Clean Tarnished Gold & Silver.**

Rub with a paste of water and baking soda, rinse and let dry.

**128. How To Make Good Jewelry Cleaner.**

Clean with a solution of 1 tsp. ammonia and 1 cup of water.

**129. Reset Stone In Your Jewelry.**

Put clear nail polish in the base, set the stone in and let dry.

**130. Prevent Costume Jewelry From Tarnish.**

Put a thin coat of transparent nail polish over it.

**131. Good Cleaning Aid For Dishwashers.**

Add some vinegar to dishwasher.

**132. Cure Scratches From Furniture.**

Use machine oil or same color shoe polish.

**133. Make A Good Fingernail Brush.**

Cut down the bristles on an old tooth brush.

**134. Food For The Whole Litter (HOW).**

Use a muffin pan so the runts can have some.

**135. Lengthen Life Of Wooden Clothespins.**

Boil them in a salt solution.

**136. Make A Neat String Dispenser.**

Nail a funnel to wall and pull string out of bottom of funnel.

**137. Tip On Storing Plastic Curtains.**

Sprinkle talcum powder between the layers as you go.

**138. Basting Made Real EASY.**

Just tape and sew around the pieces of tape.

### **139. How To Revive Old Clothing.**

Shave those little fluffs off with a safety razor.

### **140. Make An Emergency Clothes Brush.**

Wrap a piece of tape around the hand, sticky side out.

### **141. Stop Clothes Catching On Hangers.**

Put a coat of clear nail polish over splinters and rough edges.

### **142. A Needle-Sharpening Pincushion.**

Use steel wool to fill your cushion, keeps needles sharp.

### **143. Make A Good Yarn Preserver.**

Wrap yarn around a moth ball for storage.

### **144. Handy Tips On Cutting Fur.**

Use a razor blade on back of fur when cutting, you won't cut any hair.

### **145. Tips On Sewing Slippery Material.**

Stick a piece of waxed paper in seam, pull away when finished.

### **146. Easy Pick Up Of Needle Spills.**

Use a small magnet to pick up any needle spills.

### **147. Excellent Knitting Tip.**

Keep ball of yarn in nylon stocking, will flow out free of tangles.

### **148. How To Get Rid Of Shiny Pants.**

Make a solution of 1 part vinegar to 4 parts water, soak a cloth in it, wring out, put over the pants and press lightly.

### **149. When You Need Heavy Duty Thread.**

Use dental floss.

### **150. Make A Handy Tape Measure.**

Just put tape around an old tape spool.

### **151. Prevent Nylon From Yellowing.**

Add some baking soda to wash and rinse with water.

**152. Make A Perfect Sock Darner.**

Pull socks over light bulb, makes it easy.

**153. How To Restore Velvet Like New.**

Brush good, then hang in steamy bathroom.

**154. Get Rid Of Knots On Sweaters.**

Just rub a piece of sandpaper over sweater.

**155. How To Remove Lint From Wool.**

Use a damp sponge and touch lightly.

**156. Caring For Leather Upholstery.**

Brush with skim milk every 3 months.

**157. Repair Scuffed Patent Leather.**

Cover with same color polish, let dry, then cover with clear nail polish.

**158. Prevent Patent Leather Cracking.**

Before each wearing, rub briskly with your hand, then a soft cloth.

**159. Repair Scuffed Baby Shoes.**

Rub shoe with white of an egg.

**160. Tip On Buying Shoes.**

Buy shoes in afternoon, feet tend to swell in the morning.

**161. What To Do When Shoes Get Stiff.**

Cut a raw potato and rub all over. They will come back to life.

**162. Black Suede Shoes Last Longer.**

Wash with warm water, then rub castor oil into leather.

**163. How To Soften Leather Shoes.**

Sponge with black coffee.

**164. Remove Salt Rings From Shoes.**

Brush with a solution of vinegar and water.

**165. Keep Vegetables Green While Cooking.**

Lift the lid of the cooking vessel from time to time while cooking.

**166. Get Juice From Dried Up Lemon.**

Boil it for a few minutes.

**167. Quick Onion Rings.**

Onions slice more easily if you leave skins on while slicing.

**168. How To Kill Taste Of Olive Oil.**

Add a touch of salt.

**169. Good Bread Crumbs Substitute.**

Potato chips, corn chips or pretzels.

**170. How To Keep Your Berries Fresh.**

Don't wash until ready to use and keep in refrigerator until ready to use.

**171. How To Cut A Soft Pie.**

Use a buttered knife to cut through a soft pie.

**172. How To Cut A Frosted Cake.**

Rinse a knife in hot water first, each time you cut a slice.

**173. How To Make A Fluffy Egg Omelet.**

Add a teaspoon of corn starch when mixing eggs.

**174. Keep Dressing From Going Rancid.**

Put a spoon of sugar in it.

**175. How To Stop Cabbage Odors.**

Throw a couple of walnut kernels in pot while cooking.

**176. How To Soften Butter Quick.**

If your butter is frozen, grate it, it's same as soft butter.

**177. How To Keep Cauliflower White.**

Pour a little milk in the water when boiling cauliflower.

**178. When Is The Omelet Done.**

When you press it lightly and it springs back.

**179. Keep Milk From Scorching.**

Add a pinch of sugar while cooking and do not stir.

**180. Cheese Cutting Tip.**

A dull knife is more successful than a sharp one.

**181. When You Need An Extra Egg.**

When you need an extra egg for the recipe add a little corn starch.

**182. Peel Onions Without Tears.**

Let water run over them while peeling.

**183. The Proper Way To Ripen Fruit.**

Keep it out in open at room temperature. Refrigerator slows down ripening.

**184. How To Pick Fresh Eggs.**

Old eggs are shiny, fresh eggs are rough and have bumps.

**185. How To Cut Acidity In Coffee.**

Add a pinch of salt.

**186. Good Refrigerator Deodorizer.**

Keep an open box of baking soda in it at all times.

**187. What To Do About Grease Spills.**

Pour ice water over it, it will lift off before it can soak in.

**188. Make A Good Egg Separator.**

Crack egg, put in small funnel, white will come through separated from yolk.

**189. Reduce Wilting Of Root Vegetables.**

Cut off the tops as soon as you get them.

**190. Keep Vegetables Fresh Longer.**

Put paper towels in bottom of bin. It will absorb moisture which causes decay.

**191. How To Keep Meat Fresh Looking.**

Cover the cut side with leaves of lettuce.

**192. How To Perk Up Wilted Lettuce.**

Soak in cold water with a dash of lemon juice, cool in refrigerator for half hour.

**193. Make Frozen Vegetables Fresh.**

Pour boiling water over them. Restores fresh taste.

**194. The Best Way To Slice Onions.**

Freeze them first.

**195. Keep Beets & Cabbage Red.**

Add lemon juice or vinegar to water.

**196. Keep Potatoes From Sprouting.**

Store apples with them

**197. Get Rid Of Cooking Odors.**

Boil hand full of cloves in water for 30 min. All odors will disappear.

**198. Truss Poultry Up So It Will Stay.**

Use dental floss, it won't burn.

**199. Tell When Custard Is Done.**

Stick knife into custard, if it comes out clean, it is done.

**200. Tips For Cutting Hot Cake.**

Use a thread, hold both ends tightly and lower through slowly.