

BATON TWIRLERS GIVE IT A WHIRL

In modern America, more and more baton twirlers are having their fling. Leading parades and performing at football games half-time shows and other spectacular events, they're highly in step with the march of time.

Yet the pretty drum major-ette of today, with her attractive uniform of many flashing colors as she struts at the head of a marching band, gives little clue to the origin and development of batons and the art of twirling.

Baton twirling had its origin in the Orient many years ago, not with a regular baton, but with rifles which revolved around the military costumes of Turks and Moslems in their Whirling Dervish Spectacles. Some of the more expert of these performers came to Europe on exhibition tours, and

later came to America where they performed with circuses, in vaudeville and traveling tent shows.

Gradually smaller and lighter rifles were used to enable the performers more speed and ingenuity in their aerial maneuvers. After an interval of years, a number of American performers also became expert gun spinners, and from the whirling, still cumbersome rifles and with typical American know-how, the first twirling baton was developed.

Until recently, few if any innovations have been made in batons, particularly those used for small children and/or beginners. Girls World, a company that has dedicated twenty-five years to the manufacture of products for little girls, introduced a baton with a plastic-coated, steel shaft, super-

bounce, glow in the dark ends, in three eye-catching colors bound to make any little girl's heart jump. Called Super Ton, it is moderately priced and is expected to become standard equipment for all beginners.

The skillful and fascinating art of baton twirling was not always such an open activity for boys and girls. Veteran baton twirlers and veteran master showmen kept their techniques a closely guarded secret, to be passed on only to a select few younger performers who were sworn to secrecy.

Today baton twirling has become practically a world-wide activity for youngsters of all ages. The phenomenal activity and interest on the part of these youngsters indicates a desire to participate and take a leading role in sports and enter-



Among the most notable twirlers is Collette Dauite, the former Miss Teenage America and National Baton Twirling Champion, shown here with Super-Ton.

tainment.

There are over 4,000,000 youngsters who take part in competitions on the local and national level and over 2,000 teachers handling their skill and knowledge on to a new generation.

Not every child wants to pursue twirling professionally, but undoubtedly the introduction of Super Ton will open new horizons for the youngster who had had difficulty in mastering those first basic maneuvers with a cumbersome, so-called "toy" baton.

As an activity, twirling is one of the few sport-art forms (even experts aren't certain of its category) that can be engaged in indoors or out, year in and year out. So whether your youngster limbers up through playing with a Super Ton or learning techniques that require skill and concentration, he's going to be engaging in a first-rate body dynamics program.

Three volcanic eruptions alone have injected more particulate matter into the atmosphere than all of man's activity. Late in the last century the volcano Krakatoa erupted and put an estimated one cubic mile of sea water and other material into the stratosphere. For a year a lot of the world had green sunsets, but there was no measurable health, climatic or ecological ill effects.

Decorating Tips

By Rhonda Recz
Home Decor Director
Hardwood Institute

HANDY GUIDE TO THE CARE AND FEEDING OF HARDWOOD FLOORS

Many of my readers have written to me requesting information on how to maintain their hardwood floors. I must say I was quite surprised that so few women realize how simple it is to keep wood floors looking fresh and new.

Keeping your hardwood floors in top-notch condition is actually quite simple. Of course, like any high-quality product, wood floors do need some periodic special attention.

But when you think of all the advantages a hardwood floor provides as opposed to some of the synthetic substitutes on the market, it's fairly clear that a dash of extra trouble may very well be worth the additional effort. Not only do hardwood floors, (floors made of oak, maple, teak, pecan, cherry, etc.) increase the value of a house, but they have many decorative bonuses to boot.

To look their beautiful best, hardwood floors should always be kept dust and dirt free and polished to a gleamingly high luster. Here's how to do it:

• Vacuum clean or dry mop the floor with the wood grain to clean away normal dust and dirt. An oil-base dust and grime remover used on the mop will facilitate cleaning.

• Two or three times yearly remove surface dirt and old floor wax. A cleaner-wax with a solvent base is best for this purpose. Spread cleaner-wax with a cloth or fine steel wool, then rub gently to remove grime and old wax. Let dry for 20 minutes, then buff. A second coat of this wax will increase durability.

• Regular waxing should be done two or three times a year if a cleaner-wax isn't used. Between waxing, buffing the floor will help restore luster. Vacuum or dry-mop first, then remove discolored or soiled wax with

mineral spirits or naphtha. A wax with a mineral spirits or naphtha base will also help to loosen dirt if used instead. Follow manufacturer's directions to apply new wax. Use two thin coats instead of one heavy one. Let dry, then buff the floor, moving with the wood grain. Between waxings, buff generously to keep floors shining.

• If old wax isn't discolored, simply apply new wax. Use either a paste wax or liquid wax made with a solvent base especially for hardwood floors to achieve best results. After wax has been applied, let dry thoroughly and then buff.

On Wednesday, December 16, 1970, Pioneer 6 completed its fifth year in solar orbit. It has covered 3,300,000,000 miles and has filed 7300 miles of analog data tape since its launch in 1965. Now the National Aeronautics and Space Administration believes that the satellite, which had a planned life of six months, can serve as a reference point by which manned spaceflight network stations can locate themselves precisely on earth. This is possible, reports the authoritative Aerospace Daily, because although the spacecraft has not made an orientation maneuver since 1966 it acts as a small planet completely subject to solar system gravity. Because its radio signal can be tracked precisely it serves as an exact reference for planet orbits and masses and relativity measurements.

Tips From Mr. Enginuity

Adjusting The Lawn Mower Carburetor

When a gasoline engine powered lawn mower sputters unevenly, stalls or dies frequently, it could mean a clogged gas line or dirty air cleaner is the fault.

More than likely, it simply indicates the need for carburetor adjustments that most home handymen can make.

Explicit instructions for carburetor adjustments are included in the owner's manual supplied with your power equipment. Since there are many different types of carburetors — some requiring more, less or no maintenance — it is important that these instructions be consulted. They will indicate what adjustments can be made and the proper procedure.

Most outdoor power equipment around the home, like mowers, tillers and snow blowers, are powered by either Tecumseh or Briggs and Stratton air-cooled gasoline engines. Here, in brief, are the carburetor adjustment instructions for Tecumseh engines equipped with standard float bowl or diaphragm carburetors:

1. Close the power adjusting needle finger-ight by turning clockwise. Then open one turn.
2. Do the same with the idle adjusting needle, then open it one turn for a diaphragm-type carburetor or 3/4 of a turn for a float bowl carburetor.
3. Start engine. With the throttle control open to RUN or FAST, turn the power adjusting needle 1/2 turn at a time, forward or backward, until the engine runs smoothly. If the engine tends to stall under load, enrich mixture slightly by turning needle counterclockwise.
4. To adjust for smooth idling or slow speed, move the throttle to IDLE or SLOW position and adjust idle needle until engine runs smoothly, proceeding as in step 3 above.

Briggs and Stratton recommends the following procedure for simple adjustments to its carburetors:

1. Close the power adjusting

needle valve by turning it clockwise. Then open it 1-1/2 turns.

2. Set engine throttle control at normal operating speed. Turn needle valve clockwise until engine starts to lose speed (lean mixture). Then slowly turn needle valve out past the point of smoothest operation until engine just begins to run unevenly (rich mixture). Turn needle back clockwise to midpoint between rich and lean mixture to point of smoothest operation.
3. Move engine control to run engine at SLOW. Turn idle adjusting screw until a fast idle is obtained.
4. To check adjustment, move engine control from SLOW to FAST speed. Engine should accelerate smoothly. If engine stalls or dies out, increase idle speed or re-adjust carburetor, usually to a slightly richer mixture.

For those who do not want the nuisance of periodic carburetor adjustment, there are new rotary power mowers powered by Tecumseh engines with the "AutoMagic" no-adjust carburetor.

The "AutoMagic" carburetor is factory programmed for fast, sure starts, even idling and smooth running in varying as well as normal load conditions. It is a chokeless, float bowl carburetor with an automatic prime. Because it is chokeless, it also cannot be flooded. There is always a proper fuel mix — never too rich, never too lean — to start quickly and run at peak efficiency.

From its exterior appearance, the "AutoMagic" carburetor looks very much like any other premium type float bowl carburetor found on outdoor power equipment, except it does not have or require the normal adjustable needle valves. Look for it on your next power mower.

CROSSWORD

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	6. A new frontier	19. At home (Chin.)	17. An Arctic dweller	32. Radium (sym.)	39. Like a wing (Hist.)	45. Evening sun god
	11. Mellow	20. Pronoun	21. Chief deity (Baby.)	33. River	40. River in Africa	
	12. Of the ear	21. Chief deity (Baby.)	22. Copy	34. No (slang)	43. Permit	
	13. Occurrence	22. Copy	15. Wait upon	35. Granulates	44. German city	
	14. Gridiron	15. Wait upon	16. Young girl	37. Thin	45. Of Norway	
	16. Young girl	17. An Arctic dweller	18. A boxer's dread (abbr.)	38. St. —, fire	49. Encounters	
	17. An Arctic dweller	19. At home (Chin.)	20. Pronoun	40. River in Africa		
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