



## The History of Aprons

This is the story for those who would know and love the story about Grandma's aprons. Or maybe it could be a history lesson for those who have no idea how the apron played a part in our lives

The principal use of Grandma's apron was to protect the dress underneath, because she only had a few. It was easier to wash aprons than dresses, and they used less material, but along with that, it served as a potholder for removing pans from the oven.

- ❖ It was wonderful for drying children's tears and on occasion was even used for cleaning out dirty ears.
- ❖ From the chicken coop, the apron was used for carrying eggs, fussy chicks and sometimes half-hatched eggs to be finished off in the warming oven.
- ❖ When company came, those aprons were ideal hiding places for shy kids.
- ❖ And when the weather was cold, Grandma wrapped it round her arms.
- ❖ Those big old aprons wiped many a perspiring brow, bent over the hot wood stove.
- ❖ Chips and kindling wood were brought into the kitchen in that apron.

- ❖ From the garden, it carried all sorts of vegetables. After the peas had been shelled, it carried out the hulls. In the autumn, the apron was used to bring in apples that had fallen from the trees.
- ❖ When unexpected company drove up the road, it was surprising how much furniture that old apron could dust in a matter of seconds.
- ❖ When dinner was ready, Grandma walked out onto the porch, waved her apron, and the men knew it was time to come in from the fields to dinner.
- ❖ It will be a long time before someone invents something that will replace that "old-time apron" that served so many purposes.

Grandma used to set her hot baked apple pies on the windowsill to cool.  
Her granddaughters set theirs on the window sill to thaw!!

They would go crazy now trying to figure out how many germs were on that apron.  
I don't think I ever caught anything from an apron  
..... but love!!

**Submitted by Margaret Clark**

**Photo below contributed by Sandra Gow**

