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NOW HERE'S A TIP

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By JoAnn Derson



- Need to transport a bow while you are transporting a present? Place it inside a zip-top sandwich bag, close partway, fill with air and seal. The bow will make it to your destination uncrushed, and you can stick it on at the last minute.

- “The combination of one part warm water and three parts baking soda makes a great paste for removing rust spots. Simply use an old toothbrush in a circular motion to smear in the paste and wipe away rust.” — C.B. in Alaska

- Having trouble starting that backyard charcoal grill? Maybe you just need to head for the snack table. Potato chips and nacho tortilla chips (like Doritos) will burn bright and hot enough to cook your dinner, and certainly well enough to give your charcoal a great start.

- Make a floating noodle cooler for your pool with this easy trick: You’ll need a plastic container, a bungee cord or length of rope that will wrap around the container and a pool noodle cut into four pieces, no longer than the sides of the container. Run the cord or rope through the noodle pieces, line noodle pieces along sides of container, and secure rope or cord tightly an inch or so lower than the container’s lip. Toss in pool, fill with drinks and ice, and enjoy.

- Recycling one glass bottle saves enough electricity to light a 100-watt bulb for four hours.

- “Small lids from plastic margarine containers can be used as a burger-patty size guide. And if you have more than a few around, you can use them to separate patties for the freezer. They make it easy to grab one or two patties for the grill right from the freezer. Otherwise, I find that I must defrost several that are stuck together.” — P.W. in Indiana

Send your tips to Now Here's a Tip, 1800 Pembroke Dr., Suite 300, Orlando, FL 32810.

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