

How to Crack an Egg

By Kay Mauser

Have you ever wondered how to crack an egg? It had never occurred to me.

My mother had taught us children the basic skills of cooking. But one day mother sent me to a neighbor's home to be sure the lady was okay. This was a habit of mother's, when she could not do it herself she would send one of us youngsters to do the checking on the neighbors.

Mrs. Vance, an older women, was busy making her lunch of eggs. When she saw me she started to laugh and asked, "Do you know how to crack an egg?" "But of course. Mother had shown me," I told her.

Mrs. Vance began an interesting tale. She said that when she was first married her husband loved eggs over-easy for breakfast, but she had no idea how to crack an egg. She wasn't about to confess this to her new spouse, so she would take a large bowl and drop an egg into it. The shell would break and if it didn't crack the yoke she would pick out the shells and fry the egg. If the yoke cracked she put it aside and got another egg and repeated the operation until she had at least two eggs for her hubby.

The eggs must have been very good as he kept asking for them every morning. One morning she told him that they were just too much work. He could not understand this and so the next morning he entered the kitchen while his new bride was preparing his breakfast. He of course burst out laughing when he saw the work involved in making his eggs. He then showed her how easy it was to crack an egg.

When she was done telling me this story she said every once in a while when she is cooking eggs she just has to laugh at how dumb she was when she married. It seemed her mother would not let anyone in her kitchen while she was preparing meals. Now I want all of you who learned from your mother how to crack an egg to say a silent thank you to her.