

Little helpers

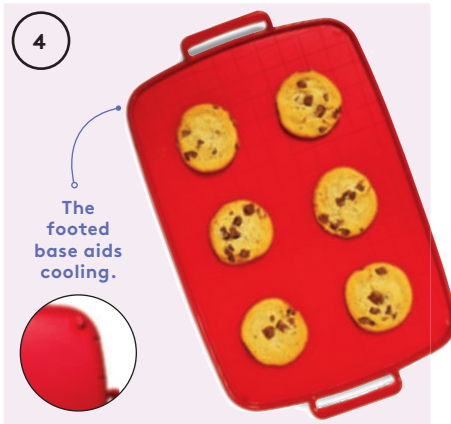
4 ingenious products to make your day easier

THE REALIST

1 TOUCH-UP KIT
Store leftover paint in this airtight can with (get this) a built-in brush. When the kitchen wall becomes your kid's canvas or a windowsill needs a refresh, you'll have a quick fix ready to go. \$16, mypaintsaint.com.



2 CLIMATE-CONTROL PJS
Hot flashes and night sweats are forces to be reckoned with. This cute set blends cool-to-the-touch fibers with moisture-wicking technology. From \$48, lusive.com.



3 SPORT EARBUDS
No more jostling while jogging—these adjustable ear loops will stay put. And the tangle-free reflective cable keeps you visible during still-dark-out runs. \$30, coloud.com.

4 BAKING SHEET 2.0
With just one silicone tray, you can do it all: Bake the cookies, cool them, and serve them. Chef'n Sweet Sheet Mat, \$25, amazon.com.

Written by Tanya Christian
Photographs by Philip Friedman



Eco quandary WHAT SHOULD YOU DO WITH LEFTOVER COOKING OIL AND BACON GREASE?

Oil that goes down the drain can clog pipes and pumps in public sewer lines or in wastewater treatment facilities, according to the Environmental Protection Agency. To dispose of used cooking oil and bacon grease responsibly, let it cool, pour it into a container, seal, and place in the trash. But in a perfect world, used cooking oil should be recycled. Check earth911.com or call your local municipality to see if there's a recycling facility near you. You can also ask local restaurants if they save and send old oil to be converted into biodiesel fuel and if they accept donations. For oil that will be recycled, filter food particles out with a strainer when the oil is cool, then store in a sealed container in the refrigerator until you've got plenty for collection.

According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, you can also reuse oil or bacon grease for, say, frying eggs. (Both will keep in the refrigerator for a month if strained and tightly sealed.) With either oil or grease, remove the excess from pots and pans with a paper towel before washing.

—KAITLYN PIRIE

PROP STYLING AND SOFT STYLING BY MAI TRAN; ILLUSTRATION BY PETER OUMANSKI