WORTHLESS? YOU TELL ME

I have always been the type of person who likes to try new gadgets and new ways of doing simple tasks. Of course, a lot of new things I have purchased I perhaps use one time and find out it is too time consuming to use it again. Then it just takes up space.

I have bought items such as a pasta cooker, pasta measurer, hot dog cooker, cookie shooter, salad shooter, juicer and a microwave egg cooker just to name a few.

I am very gullible when it comes to infomercials on TV. The late TV pitchman, Billy Mays, could have sold me an igloo in Antarctica and I probably would have taken the bait.

This past Christmas, Daughter No. 3 wanted one of the egg cookers that you put in a plastic egg shaped container and boil the eggs in the container. You crack the eggs into the individual holders which are egg shaped and put them in boiling water until they are done.

According to the advertisements you would be able to just take the egg right out of the plastic holder and voila you had a perfectly boiled egg. Plus, you do not have to peel it.

I wound up buying each kid one and from all reports, it takes more time and effort to clean it out than what it’s worth.

There is a list which was compiled earlier this year of the most crazy culinary gadgets. At the top of the list was a hot dog cooker call Hot Diggity Hot Dog.

This hot dog cooker looks like a toaster with a hole at each end and two round holes in the

middle. You place the hot dog in the round holes and then a hot dog bun on each end slot. Push down just like a toaster and you will have not only warm buns, but warm hot dogs as well. Now, the price on this gadget is at least $50. I think I will pass on this one.

The next item on the list was a container holder. If you don't suffer from arthritis and aren't under the age of five, how difficult is it to maneuver a 2-liter soda bottle or milk carton? Not very.

Taking up more space in the fridge than a standard bottle, this carton holder fits around large drink containers, providing a handle to assist with pouring. Hmmm. This one does not interest my wallet either.

Then there is Toothpick Man who is definitely not a necessity for your kitchen, but the idea of it does make me giggle a little.

After one quick lift of the plastic cover, what appears to be a mini-man pops up, lifting a toothpick above his head for you to use. However, at $40, it is just as easy to pick the toothpick straight out of the cardboard box it came in.

Another so called crazy gadget is a temperature controlled butter dish. This gadget is to keep your sticks of butter soft enough to spread. Now it sounds good enough, but carries a $50 price tag, so I think I will just spread my butter cold.

One gadget that really would be fun to try is the Twirling Spaghetti Fork. This little utensil will automatically wind your pasta so you can eat it easier. It runs off of two AAA batteries. The price for one fork? It is a little pricey at $10.45 per fork. Could this be a future gift for a family member or friend? Probably not, but it might be fun to try.

These are just a few of the crazy kitchen gadgets that have appeared on the market. I am wondering now if they have people who test these gadgets or should we just trust the infomercial that claims the product is good?

Have you ever tried any of these gadgets? Are you “taken in” by commercials? If you have or ever do try a crazy gadget, let me know and I’ll give You a Penny for Your Thoughts.