Aunt Martha's Work Basket
Home and Needlecraft
For Pleasure and Profit
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Ideas for the Bazaar, the Home, Gifts and Sparetime Money-makers—with Many Inexpensive, Easily Made Articles that find a Ready Sale.
Your Next Issue

The first fragrant breath of spring surely will remain indefinitely in a bedroom done in this charming lilac design—your WORKBASKET will bring you patterns and directions for making a complete ensemble. The bedspread is composed of crocheted blocks working out the spray of lilacs in filet with a pretty border. The odd blocks contain the same spray of lilacs, embroidered in French knots and lazy daisy stitch. A lace border edges the spread. To complete the ensemble, there are motifs of baskets and sprays of lilacs suitable for use on pillow slips, scarf ends, vanity sets, and perhaps even curtains.

Removing Shine from Serge

If you have any blue serge material that has a shine on it, you can remove the shine the next time you press the garment by wetting a pressing cloth in water, cold or hot, whichever you use, that has a few drops of bluing in it. The bluing will take the shine away.

Handy Mandy, lower right, will require the help of the family "saw specialist." While a jig saw would be best, a coping or keyhole saw will turn out a creditable piece of work. Mandy is a stuffed pincushion with pockets in her voluminous hem and ample room on her broad bosom for pins and needles. Her tray holds scissors, thimbles and a spool or two.

As usual, your WORKBASKET will bring you a variety of other things, including a quilt pattern. This time it will be for an applique quilt, the hyacinth, with quilting design.

More Convenient Closet

When a closet is too shallow to allow a good bar for clothes hangers, buy a towel rack, fasten it to ceiling, perhaps diagonally, thus providing for more hangers. To accommodate shoes, odd pieces of picture molding may be nailed to the wall of the closet or inside the door to form cleats on which to suspend shoes by their heels.
Your NUMO Transfer

Basket quilts have always been favorites and here is one that has a number of other things to recommend it. There are appliquéd flowers in which you may show contrast and use dainty prints, and then there’s the butterfly, always so popular, in a new and novel use. The complete block is shown in upper left corner. This is made up of the upper half “A” with appliquéd handle and the lower pieced half. Flowers are placed later.

The basket may be of any desired color, either brown, green or to match your room. White, eggshell or unbleached muslin as well as very delicate pastels would lend themselves well for background use. This same material with color forms part of the sash work between blocks and the foundation for the small block, which is used at intersections.

To make a quilt about 76x92 (this does not include a border), 28 large blocks will be needed, the same number of small blocks (with butterfly). You should have 72 groups of strips, at lower left, using two pieces of color and one white or light for each group. To even up the edges, use a portion of triangle “A,” labeled “C”—you will need 8 of these. “B,” the small square, is marked through the center by a dotted line. Cut 9 of these halves to be used in filling in at the edge of the sash strips. To piece the basket you will need 308 white and 448 colored triangles.

Now a border may be added, either of three strips cut 2 inches wide or a single wider piece. Small pieced triangles may be used, as shown, or an edge of folded points may be added to border. These are made by cutting a square either 3 or 4 inches (the smaller is prettier); then fold the diagonally opposite corners together twice. This gives a triangle with smooth edges and is to be sewed to the straight border. Quilting should be done on the seams.

The various pieces for appliqué are numbered. Cut 28 of each piece—seams have been allowed as shown. If you prefer to place some
of the flowers differently, the variety will be interesting.

You will need about 4\(\frac{3}{4}\) yards white for blocks and strips; 3\(\frac{1}{2}\) yards color for basket and strips; one yard print; ½ yard color for flowers; ½ yard green; 4 inches yellow.

On the same sheet are many designs suitable for a layette—for slips, dresses, bonnets, hems, towels, blankets and other things. A variety of stitches in dainty colors will make these intensely interesting and no two need be alike. Here is ample opportunity for the woman who has a shop and desires a good assortment.

French knots, lazy daisy, eyelet, buttonhole, rambler rose, seed stitch, and satin stitch may be used, and some pieces are large enough to be appliqued. The crib spread shown, with two baby faces and ribbon would be pretty on pink or blue or a sheer material. Faces might be appliqued and features done with a single thread of floss. The festooned ribbon effect may be actual ribbon or it may be embroidered. Shadow embroidery is pretty here. It is done on the reverse side of the material with tiny stitches taken on the outline, first on one side, then on the other; the needle should point toward you and in crossing, a layer of thread crisscrosses over the ribbon.

How to Use

This transfer, as it comes to you, will seem wrong side out, but when directions are followed, the design you stamp will be like the picture.

1. Heat your iron very hot—almost to the scorching point. Use the small test design or a corner of the pattern to test the heat of your iron.

2. Cut out the design you plan to use, removing all unnecessary lettering. Lay PRINTED SIDE DOWN on the material in the position you wish it to be stamped.

3. Hold paper firmly in place and press, keeping the iron moving to prevent scorching in case it should be too hot. A piece of tissue or thin paper may be laid over the pattern to protect the cloth in case your iron is larger than the design to be transferred. After having transferred the NUMO pattern a number of times, you may find this unnecessary.

The design is stamped slowly and each succeeding time, it will take a little longer, but the IRON MUST BE HOT. For very best results, the stampings should be in fairly rapid succession, one after another from the same design. Good results have been obtained, however, when the pattern has been laid away for some time.

Crochet Flowers

NARCISSUS centers around a yellow cup edged with burnt orange. To make the “cup”, with a number 4 crochet hook and yellow Frost-Tone or other heavy thread, ch 3. Working into first ch, take s c stitches around it—4 the first time, then increase in every other st until you have worked about 5 rounds and there are about 12 sts. Change to burnt orange and work one round with it. Arrange around this 6 petals (directions below.)

To make petals, with yellow or white, ch 3, s c into first ch, ch 1 to turn, follow with 2 s c, ch 1, turn and each row, add 2 s c to the previous row until there are 7. Next row, begin decreasing 1 st
each row at opposite ends until a single st remains. Make 6 such petals.

To make leaves, use a 12-inch strand of light weight wire, double it by bending in the middle, and crochet over it. Begin at ends and s c over both wires twice; then work only over one wire, gradually changing to d c. A few sts from loop, change to s c again, counting 3 s c to round the loop end. Then work down other side as you came up, catching thread over both wires and working between sts on other side. The leaf will be about a half inch wide and may be 6 inches long. Attach it to a stem of flowers equally long.

If you use Frost-Tone or a perle cotton you will need about 65 yards yellow or white, 3 yards orange, 10 yards yellow for the cup and 18 yards green to make 5 flowers and 3 leaves.

Draw the thread left at the top of petal through some of the meshes to fasten it, and arrange the petals around the center, forming a calyx of the ends and a piece of light wire, which is to become the stem, and may be wound with green.

For the GRAPE HYACINTH use a deep bright blue. To make the buds, ch 1, sc in ch until you have 6, going around and around—draw thread end through to beginning of work. Flowers: ch 1, make 4 s c in it, make 8 s c in these 4 and continue in a spiral until you have taken 20 s c sts in all. Draw thread end through and with the blunt end of crochet hook, round out the opening.

Wrap buds and flowers around stem of light weight wire; about 9 buds may be used. Run the double blue thread along the wire and cover with green thread, holding buds and flowers (about 8-10) close to wire. The cluster may be about 2 inches long and the buds and flowers should have a distinct “nod.”

The leaves are made on a ch 3-3½ inches long into which s c sts are taken from tip to base. It will be necessary to work over thin wire or to run the wire through the leaf.

To make 5 sprays of flowers and 3 leaves, you will need about 50 yards of blue and 20 yards of green.

BLACK-EYED SUSAN. With brown ch 4, join, make 6 d c in ch, join, ch 1, 1 d c in each st for 3rd and 4th rows. Break off. Join yellow and make 10 ch, make 6 or 7 d c, 2 s c and make s c in next brown st of center. Make 9 or 10 petals in this way. Make 5 flowers. Leaves: Ch 15, make 4 s c, 6 d c, 10 tr c, 6 d c, 4 s c, break off. Sew wire to back of leaves. Make 6 leaves. Fasten leaves and flowers to wire about 10-11 inches long.

To make a spray of 5 flowers, you will need about 45 yards yellow, 18 yards brown and 12 yards medium green. Use a hook number 3 or 4 for all work. The centers may be slightly stuffed with cotton.

TULIP. Using Frost-Tone or other fairly heavy thread in yellow, rose, red, lavender or other preferred color, and a number 4 hook, make two sets of petals. The inner one is somewhat smaller; begin with ch 1 and into this chain take 3 s c, ch 1 to turn always and work back with 3 s c. Next 2 rows increase to 6 s c, working over the loose end of thread. Increase 3 times in each of next 2 rows until you have 12 rows and then make quick decreases to cup the petal, dropping in 3 rows to about 3 stitches. Fasten thread.

Make the 3 outer petals in the same manner, but two stitches wider at the widest point and not more than 2 rows longer. Now arrange the 3 smaller petals close together and let them overlap slightly; catch together at rounded end with several strands of wire, which will become the stem; add outer petals and fasten by wires or thread ends to “cup” already formed.

Leaves may be made like those above, longer and wider, however, and reinforced with wire. These should be attached 6 or more
inches below the flower and not more than one to each stem.

Two sprays of tulips, a leaf on each, will require 60 yards of color and 15 yards of green.

HYACINTHS. The choice of color is almost unlimited and these dainty flowers are pretty in any one of them. To make them, Frost-Tone or another fairly heavy thread is best, using a number 4 crochet hook. Begin with 1 ch and into it work 4 sc, continuing the sc without increase until you have taken about 12 sts. Then work into the top row, increasing until there are 6 sts; ch 5, sc into second ch from hook and make 3 more sc until you reach the base. Slip stitch to it and repeat, making 6 petals for each flower. Loop a 2-inch piece of yellow and slip it up through the center after the thread end has been pulled through the cup of blossom. Fasten each blossom to a slender wire, then group the wire into a cluster as shown, Thirty blossoms will make a colorful “plant” and two or three leaves, made as above, for black-eyed Susans will add contrast.

You will need about 60 yards color, 15 yards green and 2 yards yellow.

The SNOWDROPS are white and are begun with 1 ch into which a series of sc is made, increasing each row until a cup shape is made and there are about 12 sts; ch 5, sc into second st from hook, 1 sc, 2 dc in next ch st. Slip stitch each petal to base. Make 5 such petals and draw the thread down through center.

Using yellow thread, make fairly long loops from center, and let them show through between each pair of petals. Fasten to wire, letting flowers nod from stem. Wrap with green as in illustration.

The buds are made like the beginning of the hyacinth and extended two more rows, then fastened to wire and wrapped with green. Make leaves as above, quite narrow.

A cluster of 10 snowdrops and buds will require about 30 yards and the leaves and stems can be made of 30 yards of green. About 8 yards of yellow will be sufficient.

Place in bowls or clay pots in sand.

Protect Your Manicure

When there's dirty work to be done around the house, don't worry about your new manicure. Dig your nails into a cake of soap before attacking the job and when you're ready to resume your social duties, a bit of scrubbing will leave your finger tips clean and as well-groomed as before.

Window Ventilator

A good window ventilator can be easily made by selecting a strip of board about two or three inches wide and cutting it the width of the window sash. This will allow fresh air to enter the room between the two sashes, without a draft. The board can be enameled or painted to match the woodwork.

Effective Embroidery

When using the satin stitch in embroidery work, to keep it from being so flat a twine thread may be placed where the stitch goes over and under. It will hold the stitch up and also looks much prettier.

Are You a String Saver?

You are aware, no doubt, of the recurring popularity of the goat and bear skin type rug of past generations. There are so many deep-textured rugs in plain colors, both light and dark, just now, that one's choice is practically unlimited. But here is an opportunity for you thrifty string savers.

If your collection weighs from 4 to 6 pounds, you could make a rug that would rival those skins of old—it will be about 24x36 inches. Heavy canvas, feed, or gunny sacks
may be used for the foundation. Cut to desired size and turn a single half-inch hem all around. With the rough side of hem up, lay cloth on a table and, using a yardstick or other rule, make dots \( \frac{3}{4} \) inch apart across both short ends, beginning at the edge.

Turn material with a long side toward you and place ends of yardstick on top dots. Make a new row of dots on this line, 1 inch apart. Place rule on the line of next pair of marking dots below. The row to be made here, spaced an inch apart, should be marked just between the dots of previous row—in other words the dots in the successive rows are to be alternated. This spaces the dots \( \frac{3}{4} \) inch apart in one direction and an inch apart the other way and the staggering avoids definite rows.

These dots mark the point at which tufts are to be placed. To make the tufts, use a piece of heavy cardboard cut \( 3 \frac{1}{2} \) inches wide and wind over it 15 threads of string or carpet warp. Snip one end of this tuft or tassel and you are ready to fasten it to the rug. There are two ways of doing this. With a darning needle, threaded with one of the 15 strands, take a stitch through a dot, then lay the tuft over dot and tie securely with the stitch. Continue thus on every dot. The other method is faster and gives as pretty an effect. After snipping the strands, twist sharply through the center, lay on a dot and with the sewing machine, stitch to position, going back and forth several times. Stitch to next dot and repeat. For shorter tufts cut cardboard narrower—such a rug will be less fluffy, but will use less thread.

The rugs may be washed and become fluffier and prettier with wear. They are suitable in the living room, in front of the davenport or chairs; in the bedroom or the bathroom they will show you how much wear they can take—just shake and drop them where you like.
She's positively irresistible—this demurely shy, yet coquettishly sly kitty. There are eight 6-inch hot iron transfer designs for a tea towel of each day and a pan holder. NUMO hot iron transfers, C8646, 10c.

Just below in the illustration is the very sedate pup with the mischievous gleam in his eye. NUMO hot iron transfers of the set, C8647, 10c.

Along with the first robin or so and the Easter bunny, you will certainly wish to make the adorable crib quilt for some precious baby. NUMO hot iron transfers of these animals, C8648, 10c.

The dogwood makes a most gorgeous bedroom ensemble. The set, C8649, for only 10c, brings you NUMO hot iron transfers for pillow slips, scarf ends and vanity pieces. The design is arranged so you may do it in cut work, embroidery, either solid or outline, or in applique.

SPECIAL: We are able to offer these four exceptional designs, when ordered together to be sent to the same address for only 25c—simply ask for number C8649.