The Work Basket

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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.
"DOUBLE NINE-PATCH" KNITTED RUG

Shown on front cover

This rug is knitted of rags sewed hit-or-miss, the arrangement of the blocks giving the nine-patch effect. Cut wool, cotton, or rayon materials into strips about 1/2 to 1 inch wide depending on the weight of the material. Overlap ends of strips, fold edges together, and sew ends of strips together. Sew hit-or-miss fashion, alternating dark with light strips, and bright with dull colors. Wind into balls. Choose two colors of which you have large amounts for the border and sew these into separate balls, having about 1 pound of each. Distribute the remainder of these colors throughout the sewing.

Use a pair of No. 8 plastic needles and knit closely. Decide upon the width you wish to make the rug. Allow about 8 inches for border (4 inches on each side). Divide the remainder of the width by 3 (3 blocks wide) to determine the size of the blocks, which are squares. The rug will be 5 blocks long plus the 8-inch allowance for border.

Cast on a number of sts to equal the measurement desired for block. Work back and forth in garter st (knit every row slipping the first st of each row) until block is a perfect square; bind off. Make 15 such blocks. Arrange blocks as shown in illustration. In the first row have the knit rows running from side to side in the blocks at corners. Place the center block of this row with the knit rows running up and down. In the next row have the knit rows running up and down in the blocks at the edge and crosswise in the center block. Arrange the 3rd row like the first row, 4th row like the 2nd row, and 5th row like the first row. Pin blocks together to form lengthwise strips. Using 2 strands of heavy thread, sew the blocks together with over and over stitches; sew strips together.

Border: use a wooden or steel crochet hook large enough to carry the material. Attach lighter border color at one corner of rug, ch 1, work 2 sc in corner; work a row of sc around entire rug working 3 sc in corners. Keep the blocks even by working the same number of sc along each block; sc in corner at beginning of rnd with first 2 sc, sl st in first sc of rnd. Rnd 2: ch 1, 2 sc in same sc with sl st, 1 sc in each sc of previous rnd, working 3 sc in middle sc of 3-sc at corners; work last sc in same place with first 2 sc of rnd, sl st in first sc of rnd. Work 1 more rnd like Rnd 2; fasten off. Attach darker color in st with last sl st, work 4 rnds with dark color like Rnd 2; fasten off after sl st. Press rug on wrong side with a damp cloth.

"BRICKWORK" AFGHAN

For a practical, inexpensive, and pretty afghan we recommend this patchwork afghan in a brickwork pattern. It is an excellent way of preserving the material of treasured dresses, suits, coats, and ties. The afghan may be made from silk and rayon pieces, or, for greater warmth, make it of wool pieces and line with outing flannel in a medium or dark shade.

If the afghan is made according to the directions given it will measure about 56 by 76 inches. The chart shows a suggested color scheme in which rose, blue, green, yellow, and violet silks were used. All blocks in a given color need not be from the same material; that is, in the afghan shown, part of the rose blocks were cut from a rose satin sash, part from a rose and white print, and still others from a rose crepe dress, but the general effect was the same. In woolens, grays, blacks, browns, tans, wines, blues, and greens, with a few gay colors will make a pretty afghan.

To cut the blocks make patterns from stiff paper or cardboard. The brick block is a rectangle 4 1/2 by 8 1/2 inches. This allows for 1/4-inch seams. For heavy woolens make the block
about 5 by 9 inches, thus allowing for ½-inch seams. Cut a 4½-inch square for the half-blocks (a 5-inch square for half-block if using woolens). Using these for patterns, cut blocks from your materials, cutting blocks on the straight thread of the goods. No set color scheme need be followed so we are not suggesting the number of blocks to be cut from each color. You may have each row a different color if you choose, or you may repeat the same color in several rows. It will be most economical to make the longest rows, or the rows you repeat most often, of the color of which you have the most blocks.

To assemble the pieced center lay pieces as shown on the chart, beginning at upper right-hand corner with the block marked R1. Continue to lay 10 more blocks of this same color across diagonally to lower left edge, following the arrangement in the row marked R1. As explained before, these blocks need not be rose but may be any other color you choose, though they should all be of the same general color.

Choose another color which looks well beside the color of this row. Beginning just below the block in upper right corner, lay a diagonal row of 11 blocks, following the arrangement of blocks in the row marked B2. Continue to lay diagonal rows as shown on the chart; then fill in the upper left-hand corner as shown by the chart. Fill ends of alternate rows with half-blocks to complete the row. Shift rows if necessary until the color harmony is a pleasing one.

Piecing: work may be done by hand or on the machine. Silks you may wish to join by hand; with woolens the machine is preferable. Beginning at right upper corner with block R1, pin it to block BELOW (B2), and that to the block BELOW, and so on to the lower right corner. There will be 8 whole blocks in the row. Sew blocks together, press seams open, lay strip back in place. Pin and join the next strip. When all 11 strips have been joined and pressed, seam strips together lengthwise; press seams open.

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R  B  Y  G  V  R  B
  B  Y  G  V  R  B  Y
  Y  G  V  R  B  Y  G
  G  V  R  B  Y  G  V
  V  R  B  Y  G  V  R
  R  B  Y  G  V  R  B
  B  Y  G  V  R  B  Y
  Y  G  V  R  B  Y  G
  G  V  R  B  Y  G  V
  V  R  B  Y  G  V  R

R- ROSE, B- BLUE, G- GREEN
Y- YELLOW, V- VIOLET
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Border: for our silk afghan we were fortunate, by piecing the strips, to have enough black satin from a discarded dress and robe to cut the border. For the side borders cut 2 strips 6½ inches wide, and as long as the afghan plus 13 inches. For the end borders cut 2 strips 6½ inches
wide, and as long as the width of the afghan plus 13 inches. Seam strips to center, mitering corners. We like outing flannel for the lining for it is both soft and warm. For the silk afghan put a thin layer of cotton batting over lining (this is optional with the wool afghan), pin afghan top in place. Put in frames and quilt, quilting around each block of center, and quilting border as illustrated or in your favorite pattern. The border is most effective if quilted with lustrous thread (pearl cotton) in a contrasting color. We used rose on the black. Bind edge with satin blanket binding in the same shade.

Once the method of making the center is understood you will find many uses for this brickwork pattern. Using smaller blocks it makes attractive quilt and pillow tops, and is a good way of using scraps of material without following a set color scheme.

CROCHETED TABLE RUNNER

The classic simplicity of this striking table runner is enriched by the relief effect of the popcorn border. For the runner, one-half of which is shown in the photograph, you will need about 6 large balls of J. & P. COATS or CLARK'S O. N. T. BEST SIX CORD MERCERIZED CROCHET No. 20 or 30 in white or ecru, and a No. 10 or 11 steel hook. With No. 20 thread the runner measures about 16½ by 36 inches.

The chart shows one-fourth of the runner; to complete a row, work back to end of row. The block center is made first, working back and forth in rows; then the border is worked around all 4 sides, working always on the right side. WORK IN BACK LOOP ONLY OF EACH STITCH THROUGHOUT.

**CENTER:** Make a ch (chain) 10 inches long (about 15 ch sts [stitches] to 1 inch). Row 1: dc (double crochet) in 9th st from hook, (ch 2, sk [skip] 2 sts of ch, dc in next st of ch) 33 times; cut off excess length of ch. There will be 34 sps (spaces) in the row. Row 2: ch 3, turn, * (2 dc over next 2-ch, dc in next dc) 6 times; ch 2, sk 2-ch, dc in next dc. Repeat from * across (5 groups of 19 dc each, separated by filet sps). Row 3: ch 3, turn, dc in next 18 dc, * ch 2, dc in next 19 dc. Repeat from * across. Rows 4 to 7 inclusive: same as Row 3. Row 8: this is a row of filet sps. Ch 5, turn, sk 2 dc, dc in next dc, (ch 2, sk 2 dc, dc in next dc) 5 times; * ch 2, sk 2-ch, dc in next dc, (ch
2, sk 2 dc, dc in next dc) 6 times. Repeat from * across.

Repeat Rows 2 to 8 inclusive until 17 complete block patterns have been worked as shown on the chart; work a row of filet sps after the last row of 17th block. The center is now 5 blocks wide by 17 blocks long with blocks along sides, and a row of sps on each end.

**BORDER:** work is now done in rnds (rounds). Starting down long side without breaking thread after last row of filet sps, work as follows: Rnd 1: ch 5, dc in st where last dc was made (corner), * ch 2, dc in end of next row. Repeat from * to next corner, ch 5, dc in same st with last dc, (ch 2, dc in next dc) 4 times. Turn chart upside down and notice the first row of border across end; this will be the 2nd row from the block center. Over the next 5 sps work dc blocks as shown by the squares marked with crosses on the chart, working dc in dc, and 2 dc over each 2-ch. Work 3 sps, 2 pc bls (popcorn blocks) as shown by the 2 black squares. TO MAKE A PC BL: dc in dc, ch 1, 5 dc in first st of next 2-ch, drop loop off hook, insert hook in 1-ch made before 5-dc group, pick up loop and draw through ch and pull tight, dc in next ch and next dc. Work 2 sps, 1 pc bl. This is the center of short side of runner. Reverse work from here to corner. Long side: ch 5, dc in same st with previous ch, * ch 2, dc in end of next row. Repeat from * to corner; work other short side to correspond with that already worked, working last dc of last bl in 3rd st of 5-ch at beginning of rnd.

Rnd 2: working down long side, ch 5, dc in same st with last dc, 5 sps, (5 bls, 3 sps, 2 pc bls, 3 sps, 2 pc bls, 3 sps) twice; 5 bls, 3 sps, 2 pc bls, 3 sps, 2 pc bls, 2 bls.
This is the center of long side. Follow chart from center to next corner. At corner ch 5, dc in same st with last dc, then working along short side, 6 more sps, 3 bls over the center bls of 5-bl group of previous rnd, 4 sps; over next 2 pc bls work a center pc bl. TO WORK A CENTER PC BL: dc in dc, pc, and next dc; ch 1, 5 dc in dc between bls, complete pc as before, dc in next pc, dc in next 2 dc. Work 2 sps; over next 2 pc bls work a center pc bl. This is center of short side. Follow chart from center to next corner; work other 2 sides to correspond with those already worked, last dc in 3rd st of beginning 5-ch.

Continue to work border in rnds following the chart for placement of bls, pc bls, and center pc bls until 11 rows have been worked in border. There will be 11 rows beyond bls along long sides, and 12 rows beyond bls on short sides since there was 1 row of bls on each end of center portion. Fasten off at end of 11th rnd of border. With right side up work a row of sps across each short end. Do not break thread after row across 2nd end but continue down long side following the chart and working as before in complete rnds around all 4 sides. Corners are turned with ch 5 as before. The notched scallops of the final rnd are made as follows: ch 3 in place of last dc before notch, sl st in st in which this dc would have been worked, sl st in each of next 3 dc, sl st in each of next 2-ch, sl st in each of next 3 dc, ch 3 for first dc of next scallop; continue to work dc for scallop. Turn corners with ch 5.

When runner is finished, place it face down on a very heavily padded surface, pin out corners of notched border, press through a damp cloth, iron dry.

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**KNITTED BABY SOCKS**

For one pair you will need about 2 ounces of 2-ply baby yarn (very fine), and a set of 4 double-point steel knitting needles, size 16 (American).

Beginning at the top of sock, cast on 60 sts (stitches) on 3 needles (20, 20, 20) and join for round knitting being careful not to twist the sts. The tag end of yarn which is left from casting on will serve to mark the first needle, which is beginning of rnd (round). The pattern for top consists of 2 rnds. Rnd 1: * k (knit) 1, O (yarn over, that is, bring yarn to front and over the needle to the back), k 3, k 3 sts together (to do this, thrust the needle through 3 sts at once and knit as though they were 1 st), k 3, O. Repeat from * around, being sure to make an OVER following the last knit st. There will be 60 sts now on needles, counting the overs as sts.

Rnd 2: k around plain, knitting every st and knitting all overs as sts (60 sts in rnd). Repeat these 2 rnds until work measures 2½ inches from the point of scallops.

**HEEL:** have last rnd a rnd of plain knitting. At beginning of next rnd, knit first 5 sts off first needle. Take off NEXT 31 sts on a st holder or safety pin for the instep. These sts will be picked up again later, after the heel is made. Put the remaining 29 sts on a single needle and work back and forth on these 29 sts in garter st (knit every row) until work measures 1 inch from first row of heel. Since the heel will get practically all the wear you may wish to work in a re-inforcing thread. To do this, use buttonhole twist, light weight pearl cotton or other crochet thread, and knit this in with the yarn on heel stitches. Decreases for shaping the heel are made on the right side. When working next right side row: k 11, sl (slip) 1, k 1, psso (pass the slipped st over the knitted st), k 3, k 2 tog (together), k 11. Turn, knit across plain. Next right side row: k 10, sl 1, k 1, psso, k 3, k tog, k 10. Turn, k across plain. Next right side row: k 9, sl 1, k 1, psso, k 3, k 2 tog, k 9. Turn, k across plain. Next right side row: k 8, sl 1, k 1, psso, k 3, k 2 tog, k 8. Turn, k across plain. Next right side row: k 10, k 2 tog, k 9.
Divide the 20 sts on heel needle evenly on 2 needles, 10 sts on each needle. With the right side of heel out, fold the heel so the needles are beside each other, with the 10 sts on each needle opposite each other. Weave the sts together in the following manner. Thread the yarn which is attached to the first st on the back needle into a darning needle or blunt-pointed needle.

Step 1: pass the needle through the first st on the front needle KNITWISE (as though to knit), draw the yarn through and SLIP the st from needle.

Step 2: pass the needle through the 2nd st on front needle PURLWISE, draw the yarn through but LEAVE the st on front needle.

Step 3: pass the needle through the first st on back needle PURLWISE, draw the yarn through and SLIP the st from needle.

Step 4: pass the needle through the 2nd st on back needle KNITWISE, draw the yarn through but LEAVE the st on back needle.

Repeat these 4 steps in order until all sts on both needles have been used; fasten yarn securely on inside and weave end in.

FOOT: place the 31 sts taken off for instep on one needle. With right side to you, pick up 14 sts on 2nd needle along first half of edge of heel; on 3rd needle pick up 1 st at heel seam and 14 sts along other half of heel edge (15 sts on this needle). Work is now on 3 needles for round knitting and there are 60 sts in rnd. The 31 sts on instep needle are kept in the pattern st, and the 14 and 15 sts on the 2 sole needles are knitted in garter st.

Right end of instep needle is beginning of rnd. Rnd 1 of foot: beginning on instep needle, k 2 sts tog, k 3, (O, k 1, O, k 3, k 3 sts tog, k 3) twice; O, k 1, O, k 3, sl 1, k 1, psso; purl the 29 sts for the sole which are on the next 2 needles. Rnd 2: k around plain, knitting every st and knitting all overs as sts (60 sts in rnd). Repeat these 2 rnds until foot measures 2 inches from heel edge where sts were picked up, or the desired length for foot less 1½ inches. Have the last rnd of foot a rnd of plain knitting.

TOE: the toe is worked entirely in garter st with decreases for shaping. The sts are already divided correctly on the needles, 31 sts on instep needle, 14, 15 sts on sole needles. Purl 1 rnd; toe decreases begin in the next rnd.

Rnd 1: beginning on the instep needle, k the first st; sl 1, k 1, psso; k to within 3 sts of end of this needle, k next 2 sts tog, k the last st. On the next needle (first needle of sole), k 1; sl 1, k 1, psso; knit the remainder of the sts on this needle and to within 3 sts of the end of next needle (2nd needle of sole), k next 2 sts tog, k last st. Rnd 2: purl around. Repeat Rnds 1 and 2 in order until there are 16 sts in rnd. Slip all sole sts onto 1 needle, slip one st off end of instep needle onto sole needle. Sts should now be divided so there are 8 sts on each of 2 needles. Weave these sts together according to the
directions given for weaving the heel stns.

FINISHING: with right side of sock to you and using a No. 8 steel crochet hook, attach yarn around top in any open space to left of a line of single knit sts. * Working up to point of scallop 3 sc (single crochets) along side of scallop, 2 sc in right side of point, 2 sc in left side of point, 3 sc along other side of scallop, sc in next open space, sc in open space to left of single knit st. Repeat from * around, sl st in first sc of rnd; fasten off.

Make 2nd sock in the same way; press socks through a damp cloth.

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KNITTED LACE EDGING

What could be prettier than a knitted lace edging? Use it on many things—sheets, pillow cases, bath and hand towels. Make this of J. & P. Coats Knit-Cro-Sheen, using number 18 sock needles.


Repeat the last 12 rows (2nd to 13th rows inclusive) for length desired. Pull out scalloped edge; pin to padded surface, face down, with rust proof pins, and press through a damp cloth.

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