Make This Your Merriest Christmas Ever...

with our 35+ pages of fabulous trims and decorations, quick needlepoint delights, beguiling gingham hand-mades, table settings, play dough ornaments for kids, old-time Christmas cookies, super gift wraps for pennies, great dime-store gifts for under $20...

and a special Christmas story by Catherine Marshall

Our beautiful Christmas quilt—yours to make and cherish
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- Guaranteed 2 years.
- 20-pc. service for 4, choice of 4 graceful patterns.
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Do You Know the Secret of Looking Younger?

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Why wait another moment to join the knowledgeable, younger-looking women from many parts of the world who share the secret benefits of Oil of Olay beauty lotion. From Paris to Australia, these women enjoy the rewards of a skin-loving lotion that helps them to look their youngest by soothing away the dryness that makes aging little lines and wrinkles too noticeable. The remarkable fluid is found in drugstores in the United States, where it is known as Oil of Olay beauty lotion.

Beauty connoisseurs discovered Oil of Olay and its myriad benefits. Notice for yourself the way your skin virtually drinks in Oil of Olay as you gently smooth it on. You will be astonished at how quickly and completely Oil of Olay penetrates. And it never leaves a greasy feeling on your skin. Within days there will be a clearly discernible difference in your looks, as your skin begins to grow softer, smoother and more supple.

Devotees of Oil of Olay include the complexion-cherishing fluid as part of their twice-a-day beauty ritual. In the morning, as a marvelous makeup base that lets cosmetics stay fresh for hours. Again just before bedtime, so that the wealth of pure moisture, with tropical oils and other emollients, can provide a moist climate for the skin during quiet nocturnal hours.

Oil of Olay is compatible with the skin. Working along with nature, it helps maintain the delicate oil-moisture balance of your skin, vital if you are to look as young as you possibly can. Oil of Olay also establishes a barrier to help retain your skin’s own moisture, an added beauty benefit as the years flit past.

Your friends and family will never know how you achieved the change in your appearance unless you choose to tell. At first you may want to guard your precious knowledge. But eventually Oil of Olay will probably be a secret you will want to share.

Beauty Secrets

If you wear makeup only when you go out, don’t let your face go untended at home. Let Oil of Olay be a constant part of your morning and bedtime grooming.

Artificial "weather" (like steam heat), can be hard on your skin. Minimize the effects by extra applications of Oil of Olay to your face and throat.
Sears presents the no-snag, no-sag drapery rod. Made beautifully for your beautiful draperies.

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Only at Sears
**In This Issue**

**INTERIOR DESIGN AND DECORATING**

6 Quick Stitchery in Festive Felt

46 Create a Party Setting in the Holiday Spirit

50 Fabulous Originals for Your Christmas Decorating

56 7 Glittering Egg Treasures You Can Make and Give

FOOD

24 Our Food Editor Reports

33 Rediscover the "Joy of Cooking"

61 Cooking Lesson No. 73: Crepes Suzette

CRAFTS

62 Cookies for Christmas

64 Take a Little Citrus

66 The ABC's of Decorating Cookies

HARDWARE STORES

**FEATURES**

12 18 Great Gifts Under $20

16 Westlife

18 What's New

19 From Reader Letters Grand Stories Grow

20 Pets: A Christmas Pup Needs Special Handling

22 Ask Us About Your Antiques

27 Today's Best Buys in Antique Toys

34 15 High-Style Gift Wraps for Pennies

37 Tool Library: Heaven for Do-It-Yourselfers

**HOME PROJECTS**

28 Footstool & Cross-Stitch Motto Kits

82 Wise and Witty Creatures

**SHOP BY MAIL**

83 American Home Market Place

**SPECIAL SECTION**

75 How-to's to Make Your Christmas Merry

**QUIKER** Deluxe 5-pc. Tray Set

Reg. 25.00 value now only 9.99

Handsome Quaker trays are yours for the giving! Gift-giving, party-giving, giving extra table space whenever you need it. And it takes so little to own them now at this low bargain price! Four walnut-grained trays in elegant Spanish tile design, on brass-finished folding frames of sturdy tubular metal. They all stack neatly out of the way on a roll-around storage rack. An outstanding value!

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Plant your Planting Season with Planters® Peanut Snacks!

Plant some Planters in a bowl of raisins.
Combine one 8 oz. jar Planters® Dry Roasted Peanuts with 1 cup dark seedless raisins. Mix well.

Plant some Planters in a cream cheese celery stick.
Blend together one 3 oz. package cream cheese, 1 tablespoon chopped parsley, and 1/2 teaspoon grated onion. Use to fill 5 celery stalks. Sprinkle with chopped Planters Cocktail Peanuts.

Plant some Planters in some Cheddar cheese.
Crumble 4 oz. blue cheese, and mix well with 4 oz. finely grated Cheddar cheese, 3 oz. cream cheese, 2 tablespoons chopped parsley, and 1/2 teaspoon grated onion. Shape into a ball, wrap, and refrigerate until firm. Reshape ball and roll in chopped Planters Dry Roasted Peanuts.

Plant some Planters on your favorite cake.
Right after frosting a cake liberally sprinkle Planters Cocktail Peanuts over the top of the cake.

Anytime and everytime you want a nutritious mouth-watering snack
Plant some Planters.

Another fine product of Standard Brands
Quick stitchery in festive felt

Christmas is only a few weeks away, but you still have plenty of time to sew up these inexpensive felt delights from Simplicity. For just $1 you get easy-to-follow patterns for eight merry ornaments, a demure tree-top angel and lavish tree skirt. The colorful ornaments are perfect for hanging on a tree or a wreath, or for embellishing a gift package. You embroidery angel and ornaments front and back with metallic thread or buttonhole twist, stuff with polyester fill, slip-stitch closed. Look for these patterns at Simplicity counters.

—Eileen Denver

Sew a treetop angel, stars, snowflakes, birds, Santas, pears, balls, bells, stockings.

Circular tree skirt, 43 inches in diameter, uses 1¼ yards of 72-inch felt, is decorated with felt appliqués and metallic trim.

Sound crazy? Maybe it is.

But a short time ago I had an opportunity to get a sneak preview of Britannica's brand-new encyclopaedia and, believe me, it's nothing like the old one that my family cherished for years. In fact, this one is in three parts, and—hold your hat—the part I like most is called the Micropaedia!

Seriously, if you or your children need to have at your fingertips a way to find out about anything at all, this part of THE NEW ENCYCLOPAEDIA BRITANNICA may get to you, too. But, that's just the beginning.

There are two more parts to this new encyclopaedia, and when you put them all together, there's no better family encyclopaedia around.

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The season’s tidings and tips from southern California

By Muriel Davidson

Christmas in the California sun has one distinct advantage: The urge to beat the cold by ducking into the nearest department store is absent. As a result, we do less impulse buying and turn our gift-giving ideas to making thoughtfully creative things.

For example, on a recent trip I was poking in a most unusual shop called Cardiff Sea Shells, located in a tiny coastal community, Cardiff-By-The-Sea, near San Diego. Most people put shells on tables or in baskets and just look at them. I bought some, intending to do the same. Then I decided to put my shells to work. I turned them into Christmas gifts—beautiful wind-chime mobiles—with the aid of driftwood, dental floss, lacquer, small red beads, a tapestry needle, my husband and his power tools.

I used Assinina abalone shells, which sold for 35 cents each and have natural holes in them. They are about 2 inches long and an inch wide, with a lovely tortoise shell-like color. First, I lacquered them. Then I strung floss through the holes with the needle. I knotted the shells about 2 inches apart. Next, Bill drilled tiny holes in the driftwood. As I drew the floss through these holes, I fastened beads to the top ends to hold the strings of shells in place. To hang, I screwed a simple cup hook to the driftwood. Outdoors, my creation is a wind-chime that sounds like distant castanets. Indoors, it’s an elegant, distinctive mobile.

Drapery rings have a holiday purpose. I mean the wooden kind, about 2 inches in diameter, which make thoughtful Christmas gifts. For a sentimental aunt, get out that dust-covered photo album no one looks at anymore. Cut out some of the faces she loves, grab the glue pot, some cardboard and some felt. Start making what is bound to be her everlastingly favorite Yuletide gift. Cut a piece of cardboard the exact outside circumference of the ring, and glue one of the faces to the cardboard. When it’s dry, glue the cardboard to one side of the ring. To finish the back, cut out a circle of felt and glue it on. You can affix six or eight of these framed miniatures to wide velvet ribbon, and they’ll hang like a mini-gallery. Or buy tiny gilt easels for each. For a favorite child, paint the rings a cheery bright enamel. Then cut out and glue on cartoon faces from the Sunday comics. Finish as before. Shellac each “portrait” to protect its surface.

I had some scraps of the wallpaper, so I cut out the leafy patterns I wanted to use and stuck them on a window with transparent tape. Then with masking tape I stuck the canvas to the window, over the wallpaper cutouts, after which I traced the designs with an indelible pencil. The latter is a must, by the way. If you use an ordinary ball-point pen, the steam might make the ink “bleed” onto your yarn when you block your finished work.

Try this technique if you know someone very special to whom you’d like to give an original “instant heirloom.” Of course, you can’t go around tearing away pieces of your friend’s wallpaper. But you can produce a portrait-in-stitchery of, say, their pet dog or cat just by looking through magazines. When you find the right breed, cut it out, do the window routine and start stitching. You can easily color-code your work by marking on the canvas “W” for white, “DB” for dark brown, and so on. If you know you can’t finish your gift by Christmas, just work a border, wrap and deliver it, then take it back to complete—say, by Valentine’s Day. And who knows? You might get away giving the same gift twice—for the price of one.

Candle-torches are a novel and decorative way to use your fireplace at Christmas-time without chopping down a tree or paying outrageous prices for a quarter-cord of wood. A candle-torch has its wick wrapped around the outside of the wax, the full length of the candle. Attached to its base is a long stick that can be pushed into the ground, so that when lit, the candle-torch can illuminate outdoor evening parties (in warm climates). It will burn steadily more than three hours, sending up an 8-inch flame.

As I watched several of these candles burning one evening, I wondered aloud if they could be used indoors. No, I was told; the huge flame would blacken the ceiling. But I figured I could put them in my fireplace, and the draft would cope with the smoke as well as the flame. All I had to do was devise a way to get them to stand up by themselves.

Solution: I got a clay flowerpot. Then, from my gracious cat, I borrowed some of the litter he uses, filled the flowerpot, broke off part of the candle-torch’s stick, stuck the candle in the pot and lit it in the fireplace. When we wassail this Christmas, three of these beauties, at $1.50 each, will enhance our hearth. The only thing I wouldn’t advise is using them to burn discarded Christmas wrap.

I'm just completing a present for me. I'm needlepointing a big cushion cover for the seat of an old bench that now sits bare in our foyer. And I'm using my own foyer wallpaper for my pattern. Here's how: I bought the canvas, which was cut the right size. Then I bought the yarn, an indelible pencil and went into business for myself.
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Whichever magnificent Magnavox stereo you select, it will speak eloquently of your good taste. Even when it's silent. For Magnavox design artistry is always clear and distinct.

For Magnavox design artistry is always clear and distinct.

This richly grained Campaign Chest, with its hand-rubbed finish, is typical. No mistaking its burnished metal accents.

Or its rich, full sound. Authentic Magnavox sound, from a solid-state stereo FM/AM tuner-amplifier, automatic record changer, 4-channel decoder, 8-track player and six speakers in an air-suspension system.

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No wonder a leading consumer testing magazine recently rated a Magnavox stereo console "A, Recommended."

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**What's new**

**Power extenders**
Eveready's "Heavy-Duty" batteries cost 50 percent more than flashlight batteries, yet last up to three times longer—in toys and small appliances. They come in all standard sizes.

**Cordless tool system**
One handle, with built-in, rechargeable-battery power pack, fits any of six different electric tools and supplies power for each in Black & Decker's MOD 4 line of power tools. You can recharge battery pack (about $12) in 16 hours, or keep it fully charged by plugging into electric socket when it is not being used. Available cordless-tool attachments include: grass shear, $10; shrub trimmer, $15; 1/4-inch drill (shown), $15; lantern, $7; quart-size sprayer, $10; gallon-size sprayer, $17

**Kid's car safety vest**
"Little Rider" holds a child securely when attached to existing seat or shoulder belt. It enables the youngster to sit or lie down comfortably and, with special tether strap, can also be used for strolling. In two sizes, from Sears, Roebuck. Price: $10.

**Cozy fireplace cooking**

**Grain grinder**
Designed to fit two currently available KitchenAid food mixers, grain mill attachment lets natural-food buffs grind their own flour from whole-grain rye, wheat, corn or rice. Adjusts from coarse to fine. Price: about $45. —Bernard Gladstone
From reader letters
grand stories grow

In the past few months, your wonderful letters to us have resulted in five major features, with more planned. You've written about building your own homes, adding rooms and working on crafts projects. We enjoy hearing from you, and love turning your letters into exciting stories. Keep it up, won't you?

A letter from Mrs. Carole Luckett, then of Maryville, Tenn., detailed how she and her husband built their own home. With our encouragement, Mrs. Luckett wrote the July story, "My Husband and I Built an 11-Room House in 10 Months," and showed just how much a woman can contribute toward building a home.

The incredible tale of how Scott Briggs, an ex-pilot from Hobble Creek Canyon, Utah, built a magnificent A-frame (center, left) by himself came in a letter from his wife, Betty. Result: November's "How One Man Built this Spectacular Home."

A marvelous craft story, "Painting with Calico" (October) began when Mrs. Norma Gatje Smith of St. Joseph, Mich., sent us photos of her collages (one is above). This month's appealing "Our Gingham Christmas" (page 30) started with a note from Mrs. Nancy Judd, of Rochester, Minn.

Coming: a Connecticut couple who built their own barn! If you have a tale to tell, drop us a line.—The Editors

Six big reasons
I'm sold on Westinghouse and Clorox!

Lucille Davidson

The new Westinghouse washer and Clorox® liquid bleach make an unbeatable washday team. The washer's bleach dispenser releases Clorox into the wash at just the right time. And Clorox gets out the stains, dirt and germs your detergent alone can't.

Clorox—it's automatic with Westinghouse.

Westinghouse combines heavy-duty construction with all the latest features: exclusive hand-wash agitator, knit fabrics setting, water-saver control, lint filter, bleach dispenser, extra 18-lb. capacity, five water temperature selections, and complete soak, wash and rinse cycles.

Clorox has agreed to supply Westinghouse with a Stain-Removal Guide, to be packed in each washer; and to feature Westinghouse appliances in Clorox advertising.

© 1974 The Clorox Company
A Christmas pup needs special handling

A puppy makes a perfect Christmas gift. And this year, about 2 million purebred pups—representing better than 30 percent of all 1974 canine sales—will show up, beribboned and bewildered, under our living room Christmas trees.

But things won't be easy: Even if the pup is the right age (eight to 10 weeks), he's only just starting to function on his senses and his still-developing instincts. He's confused by the giants and the strange noises and scents around him.

On any day of the year, acclimatizing himself can be a scary business for a pup; but amidst the hubbub of Christmas, it can really knock him on his ear. During his first few days, the newcomer needs human companionship, but that doesn't mean crowds of visiting friends and relatives. The members of his permanent family are quite enough for him; he needs time to settle in and become familiar with these important giants. The more excitement around the house, the longer it will take the pup to adjust.

Ideally, if the kids (and you) can stand it, that pup under the tree should be a toy one with an attached card explaining that the real McCoy will be along in a few days, after the household has settled down to normal. Your children will understand that the delay is in the pup's best interests. And the breeder shouldn't mind if you ask him to hold your puppy for those extra few days.

Often, of course, there are impelling reasons for wanting the pup him-
It was a simpler, more natural, less complicated time. And perhaps your mother had you brush your teeth with baking soda. Now there's Peak, the baking soda toothpaste. Modern. Pleasant-tasting. Yet 97% natural ingredients. To leave teeth, breath, even mouth tissues and gums feeling naturally cleansed, sweetened, refreshed.

Uncomplicate. Try Peak.

Peak. With the natural goodness of baking soda.
**Warning:** The Surgeon General Has Determined That Cigarette Smoking Is Dangerous to Your Health.

21 mg. "tar", 1.5 mg. nicotine av. per cigarette. FTC Report March '74.

The interlacing and the flowers, as well as the character of the figures, reflect Middle Eastern design. The images relate to Iranian legend, though we're unable to pinpoint exactly which legend or legends. This kind of work was made for export starting in the late 1800s. Your bowl is probably of late 19th- or early 20th-century origin.

This pale green stein has been in our family a long time, but none of us knows anything about it. The decoration shows a king and his courtiers, each with a scroll. Robes are red with white ermine collars.

L.R.—New Bern, N.C.

The object you call a stein looks like a pokal to me. A stein is a handled stoneware mug; a pokal, a covered goblet often made of metal or glass. Your piece is made of glass decorated with enamel, a form associated with fine German glasshouses from the 16th to 20th centuries. Because its border decoration appears plain in contrast to the intricacy of the figures, your pokal appears to have been made in the 19th-century.

The ball that normally rests atop the figurine is said to have been carved from a solid piece of ivory: a ball within a ball. Any information you can give will be most appreciated.

E.S.—Meridian, Miss.

We avoid making appraisals in this column because the matter of value is tricky, especially when items are seen only in photographs. Ivory objects made in the Orient have great appeal. Both old and new are collected zealously. While there is an appealing intricacy in the ivory you own, it is not as delicate as finer early ones. Dating is difficult, other than to say the piece was made within the past 60 years.

A “Made In USA” means the piece was manufactured after 1891, when U.S. Customs began requiring all goods made for export—or import—to show country of origin. Circular marks in plain lettering usually appear on recently made objects. Your goblet is probably 40 years old—which means it results from a stamping process.

**Ask us about your antiques**

Q Is this ivory object rare or of high value? The ball that normally rests atop the figurine is said to have been carved from a solid piece of ivory: a ball within a ball. Any information you can give will be most appreciated.

Q Is this pewter goblet? The mark on the bottom is circular. “Pewter” is lettered; “Made In USA” is below it.

E.W.—Houston, Tex.

Q Can you tell me the origin of this 3 1/2-inch-high brass bowl? The piece is cast, with four different hand-cut panels. Floral patterns separate the panels and appear on bands around the top and bottom. Figures look Syrian or Persian. Rims are bent from use over the years.

E.W.—Houston, Tex.

Q Can you tell me the age of this pewter goblet? The mark on the bottom is circular. “Pewter” is lettered; “Made In USA” is below it.

M.M.—North Hollywood, Calif.

Q Can you tell me the age of this pewter goblet? The mark on the bottom is circular. “Pewter” is lettered; “Made In USA” is below it.

M.M.—North Hollywood, Calif.
Q This Victorian chair was a gift to my late grandmother, but I don't know when. It seems of superior quality. Can you tell me its probable origin and approximate age? The casters are original; the imitation needlepoint upholstery is not.

M.T. — Omaha, Neb.

A Your chair is American, made about 1840. It is in the rococo revival style that was fashionable throughout the country from about 1830 to 1860. This style was derived from the French rococo, or Louis XV, design of the 18th century. Where the originals were elaborately carved with floral and leaf patterns, the 19th-century American manufacturers altered the style by eliminating some of the carving and exaggerating the curves.

Q These glasses are said to be antique Bohemian crystal, but how old are they? The hand-etched pattern is of cornucopias and flowers.

M.H. — Nanuet, N.Y.

A The pattern is neoclassical, a style that first came into fashion in the late 18th century but was also popular in the early 1900s. The design's flatness, plus the extent of the detailing, suggests the later origin. Earlier examples tend to be faceted—cut in a reflective design—and less intricate. Having the glasses in hand, you can tell if the pattern is truly as intricate as it seems in the picture. Also, you can look to see if there is a pontil mark—a cut-off glob of glass on the bottom—which would not be found on a piece made as late as 1900.

Q Can you tell me anything about this tapestry picture, and any suggestions for safe cleaning? It has only black, white and gray thread, and the name “Fred Morgan” is on the bottom, left.

B.C. — Abingdon, Va.

A Yours is one of the many types of pictures made on cloth that were mass-produced in the late 19th century. Some were woven; others, printed. The playful scene you own is probably based on a picture by the English painter Frederick Morgan, active from about 1880 to 1920. If you are absolutely certain no repairs have been made, wash your picture in mild soap and lukewarm water.

To learn the real story behind a family treasure, send letters and clear black-and-white photographs to: Ask Us About Your Antiques, American Home, 641 Lexington Ave., New York, N.Y. 10022. Include complete descriptions, plus any details the pictures don't show. Questions of general interest will be published. We are unable to return photos or send personal replies.

—Marvin D. Schwartz
Announcing a new decorating guide from Thomasville Furniture.

Send us $2 today so you won’t make a $2,000 mistake tomorrow. Maybe it’s your first big stab at decorating. And your head’s filled with ideas. But you need a little help.

Thomasville wrote the “Homemaker’s Guide to Decorating With Fine Furniture” to tell you how to select, care for, and decorate with fine furniture. How to choose the style you want before you set foot in a store. What quality features to look for when you do begin shopping. There’s even a section on room planning and color-coordination.

Start planning the rooms you’ve always wanted with “that Thomasville look.” Send us your $2 today. It may save you from making some costly mistakes tomorrow.

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Please send me your new book, “Homemaker’s Guide” and the names of local Thomasville dealers. I am enclosing $2.00.

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Our food editor reports

EASY-READ LABELS

More and more, we shoppers have to know how to read labels. But that’s good: Labels help us shop wisely, if we can interpret them. Some extra help in that direction comes this month as a new Department of Agriculture ruling goes into effect. It requires processors of meat and poultry products who label with calendar dates instead of coded dates to explain these dates.

Thus you can now expect to see meat and poultry packages labeled “Packed Before December 10” or “Sell Before December 10” or “Use Before December 10.” Labeling is voluntary, but it’s expected that more and more processors will participate.

The new open-dating regulation will help you shop more knowledgeably, and aid your supermarket in keeping its stock up to date. As a consumer, you will be able to determine which products are freshest and which you can store the longest time after purchase. Open dating won’t guarantee quality or wholesomeness—that depends on proper handling and storage from the time the product leaves the processor until it reaches you.

NEW RIGHT NOW

• Thin-Stor from Tupperware is a great way to store fresh vegetables in the refrigerator. The colorful plastic container is long, low and thin. It fits easily into a small refrigerator; in a large one, three or four can stack up to create a “filing system” for cucumbers, celery, peppers, carrots.

• Kraft is introducing two tempters for the young crowd. One is a flavored peanut spread called Koogle that comes in chocolate, vanilla, cinnamon and banana. Not only can it be used as a spread; it also does well as a frosting, a melted ice-cream coating or a flavoring for milk shakes. The second tempter is Maxi-Mallows, jumbo-length marshmallows in chocolate, banana and cherry flavors.

• Gifts from your kitchen—at Christmas or any other time—will be prettier than ever when wrapped in Reynold’s color-printed Fanci-foil. A 20-foot roll sells for 39 cents, and you have a choice of wintergreen, buttercup, strawberry or blueberry floral designs. Look for it in non-food discount and mass merchandise stores.

—Frances M. Crawford
“That's a beautiful picture, Peter.”

When children go to visit grandma's house, they take the things they've made especially for her. A three-legged clay cow, painted red. Or a crayon drawing of a green sky and blue grass.

And they're always full of things to tell her. Things that happened since the last time they were together.

Your children don't have to wait for holidays or summer vacations to have happy talks with grandma. They can, any time, by Long Distance.

Long Distance is the next best thing to being there.
Dime stores are your gift-buying paradise.

Oven cookware. This is the perfect starter-set gift for someone’s kitchen: 12 pieces for just $11.97! Made of white ovenproof glass with fresh flower design in green, the set includes four small casseroles, one large covered casserole, a loaf pan, mixing bowl, cake dish, clear-glass pie plate and measuring cup, and a wire whisk. It all looks good enough to serve from, too!

Hot/cold server. The shapely “Tasty Temp” food server (below) keeps food hot or cold, can go on the most sophisticated buffet table. Insulated server made of smoky plastic has a white plastic liner. There is also a matching ice bucket, with high domed lid. Each piece is $5.47.

Kitchen scale. A nice gift for the gourmet cook, it comes in bright turquoise or red, with a white top plate. The scale stands 7 inches high, registers up to five pounds. Price is $7.77.

Terrariums. You’ll find an incredible assortment of these popular gift items at Woolworth. There are small containers in novelty shapes for $2.99 to $5.99, and hefty, large jugs (15 inches high) from $8.99. Libbey has its “Hanging Crystal Bubbles,” a marvelous idea: Clear glass bubbles with open tops hang one atop another, strung in a long, clear plastic netting. You can get just one, or two or three in a set, in graduated sizes from $4.99 to $9.99. Then there’s the “Florisphere,” a half-bubble in plastic that clamps onto wall or window. The 8-inch size is $6.59; the 12-inch, $10.99.

Wicker hamper. A useful and handsome gift, this hamper is actually made of plastic, but it’s a dead-ringer for wicker. In white, with a padded, white-plastic covered top, it is 26 inches high, costs $13.99.

Kerosene lamp. Give someone this classic, country-style lamp that comes in handy when the electricity gives out and is also a pretty table-topper. It has a wick and is made of clear glass with a folk-art design stamped on the bottom section. Price is $6.79.
Today's best buys in antique toys

Antique toys are double-barreled delights. They arouse pleasant remembrances and reflect good design. If you're Christmas-gift shopping and are willing to spend $10 to $95, the choices are rich. Look for toys made between 1860 and 1920. Earlier ones are too hard to find; later ones, less appealing. The examples we show are from the antique toy department of F.A.O. Schwarz, New York.

The monkey above, a mechanical bank, tips its hat when a coin is dropped into the slot. The bank, made sometime after 1880, is of stamped iron—a budget substitute for heavier cast iron. You should be able to find a bank like this one for about $30.

$10 buys this toy soldier dressed in 18th-century uniform, though he's probably a product of the 19th century, when historical models became very popular. He could as easily be a drummer in the French and Indian Wars as in the American Revolution. Aside from rare earlier examples, toy soldiers are part of a tradition begun in the 1700s. Germany made flat models; France, dimensional ones. Tin and lead alloys were used until recently. The hollow-casting technique, which made metal figures lighter and less costly, was introduced by an English manufacturer about 1890.

$30 is what you'll pay for Autograph Authors, one of innumerable card and board games introduced after 1860. For this price you'll receive an impressive supply of portraits of significant American authors of the 1880s. All are sure to be as enjoyable to look at now as the game was once to play. They are done in a realistic style typical of magazines of the period. An old game may not be practical for playing, but owning it provides an appealing—and amusing—interpretation of the styles of yesterday.

$70 is the price of this set of mini "bentwood" furniture. It was designed for a child to use when playing with dolls and is beautifully inconsistent in detail—a refreshing contrast to the more sophisticated work intended for adult appreciation. Besides using wood, turn-of-the-century toy furniture craftsmen occasionally used paper and metal. This set reflects the charm of life-size designs that were fashionable in rustic country cabins.

$70 is not unreasonable for a realistic ceramic baby doll from the period just after World War I. The idea of making children's dolls dates from about 1850, but first efforts were simply small-scale versions of adult figures, extremely well-dressed. About 50 years ago, a number of sculptors took pains to determine what was characteristic of babies physically, and dolls like this one were the result. Early examples of doll figures are rarer and more costly.

$75 would be a good buy for this barnyard scene in miniature, because it shows off the wood-carver's skills so beautifully. We picture only a portion of the set, which includes other trees and people and many more pairs of farm animals, all of which have the charm of folk art. These wood figures were a specialty of German carvers of the late 19th century, but American and Scandinavian craftsmen did similar work on occasion.

$90 is a fair price for a set of picture blocks that children played with as puzzles and also as building blocks in the 1880s. Each wood square is covered with six different picture pieces, which when put together create six city scenes. New York, Venice, London and Paris are readily identifiable, but others from the Near and Far East are not easy to recognize—or put together. The scenes—lithographs done in the spirit of such printmakers as Currier and Ives—appealed to the public's expanding interest in color.

$95 will purchase this particularly attractive mini tea set from the mid-19th century. It duplicates both a shape and a pattern that were popular in the 1790s. The wide interest in doll houses, beginning in the late 18th century, inspired potters everywhere to produce small-scale wares. If there is a collector on your Christmas list and you have time to shop widely, you will find antique miniatures of just about every type of pottery made. —Marvin D. Schwartz

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CAPTURE OLD-FASHIONED COMFORT AND SENTIMENT WITH THESE

Footstool & Cross-Stitch Motto Kits
By Ann B. Bradley

The Victorian love of comfort and sentimental statements is reflected in these complete, quick-working kits. For a note of ease and charm, needlepoint our authentic Victorian rose on a rich black background as the top for a graceful footstool. Assembled, stained and covered in muslin, it's all ready for its needlepoint topping. Simple-to-mount needlepoint cover is complete in kit with canvas, yarn, needle and full instructions. Footstool measures 14½” x 9½” and is 8½” high.

Our cross-stitch samplers complete the message of love and wisdom from great-grandma's day. "To Love and Be Loved" is 16” x 20”. "Homes Are Made of Love" measures 11” x 14”. Both are complete in every way, with stamped cotton fabric, floss, needle and color-keyed instructions. Frames, as shown, are easily assembled. You'll enjoy working up any one or all of these charming patterns in needlepoint or cross-stitch, and you'll be creating heirlooms to treasure for years to come.

Check items desired:

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- #6023 Stretcher for Love sampler: $1.98 ea. plus .35 post. & hdlg.
- #60758 Homes sampler: $3.98 ea. plus .45 post. & hdlg.
- #6112 Frame for Homes sampler: $2.98 ea. plus .50 post. & hdlg.
- #61124 Colorful catalog of other kits: $0.

Please add sales tax (N.Y. & Fla.) Total enclosed: $.

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□ Master Charge
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Needlepoint an heirloom rose to top this footstool. Kit is complete with easy instructions.

28
THINK THINS

LESS "TAR" THAN MOST 100'S.*

MENTHOL TOO.


*According to the latest U.S. Government figures.
"Our Gingham Christmas"

By Nancy Judd

In our home in Rochester, Minn., Christmas decorations mean gingham. I use it to make tree ornaments and throw pillows (above), dresses for our four daughters (Karen and Elaine are at right), vests for my husband and young son.

Our breakfast table (right) is a cheerful picture in red and white. A grater-and-greenery centerpiece holds red spoons.

A Christmas "tree" we built of dowels is decorated with bows, apples, gingerbread cookies.

For our holiday buffet, I made napkins and the tablecloth swag and trim out of gingham.

We hang ropes of holly accentuated with crisp gingham bows above a copy of our favorite old painting—American Gothic by Grant Wood.
YES, please send me REDBOOK Serving Pieces; Sugar & Creamer @ $5.95 (plus $1.00 per set for postage & handling).

_____Mustard & Ketchup @ $4.95 (plus $1.00 per set for postage & handling).

Lazy Susan @ $7.95 (plus $1.00 for postage & handling).

Oil & Vinegar @ $3.95 (plus $1.00 for postage & handling).

Salt & Pepper @ $2.95 (plus $1.00 for postage & handling).

Aliove items will be shipped separately.

SAVE MONEY; ORDER COMPLETE SET (S&C/M&K/Lazy Susan) FOR ONLY $16.95 (plus $2.75 for postage & handling).

I enclose (total amount) $.

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STREET
CITY
STATE
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REDBOOK SERVING OFFER
PO. BOX 241, DEPT. ST
FARMINGDALE, NEW YORK 11735

YES, please send me REDBOOK Serving Pieces:
Sugar & Creamer @ $5.95 (plus $1.00 per set for postage & handling).
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I enclose (total amount) $.

NAME
STREET
CITY
STATE
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REDBOOK’s Hostess Serving Pieces...you’ll delight in using them for years and years...Order TODAY!

REDBOOK’s Hostess Serving Pieces...just right when company drops in...makes your entertaining easy and enjoyable.

REDBOOK offers you these beautiful and practical serving pieces...at money-saving prices! Each distinctive piece is of pristine white glass with rustproof tops. All pieces are Dishwasher Safe.

SUGAR & CREAMER Sugar Bowl holds one pound. Creamer holds 12 ounces. Only $5.95 set.

MUSTARD & KETCHUP Each Mustard/Ketchup dispenser holds 12 ounces. Only $4.95 set.

LAZY SUSAN Has 3 decorated bowls with 3 crystal-clear “keep fresh” covers. Stackable for easy storage. Ideal for dips; dressings; jams; nuts; candies; etc. Only $7.95.

ALSO AVAILABLE Oil & Vinegar Cruet Set (matches above designs) $3.95 set. Salt & Pepper Set (matches above designs) $2.95 set.
My family and I cherish our homemade gingham Christmas.

Our special Christmas tradition began from one small idea. In the fall of 1973, while shopping in a local department store, I spotted a red-and-white gingham Christmas ornament. "Nice." I thought. "But I can make nicer—and cheaper, too." I began to think about all the holiday delights that could be made with gingham. My mind went wild with the possibilities, and I bought up just about every yard of red-and-white gingham in town.

Soon, with the encouragement of my husband, Val, and cheered on by our children—McKay, 10, Heidi, 8, Karen, 5, Elaine, 3, and Kristi, 1—I plunged in, literally wrapping our household in gingham to give us a homemade Christmas to remember.

First came the tree ornaments—little hearts, candy canes, trees, snow people, rag dolls, red velvet balls. The happiest ornament of all was the turtle (you can see it at the bottom of the large photo on page 30), which was dreamed up, drawn and cut out by McKay. I sewed the turtle's seams, then McKay stuffed it, hand-sewed it closed and put on the "googlie eyes." I think the older girls are planning to do their own gingham-ornament creations this Christmas.

With the children as stuffers, I made a bunch of wonderful throw pillows—candy canes, hearts, Christmas trees (some are pictured along with the little turtle)—to brighten up our sofa, chairs and wooden rocker. Yards upon yards of red-and-white checks were turned into tablecloths, napkins, place mats, swags and plump bows topping off the greenery we'd looped everywhere—down the stair banister, along the walls, above a picture. And of course, I made us all gingham holiday outfits. The total effect was heart-warming, and we all loved our colorful fantasy. Our Yuletide guests did, too! Some of them told us we should take pictures of our Christmas and send them in to a magazine—which is just what I did, and that's why we're here.

The most important thing about our gingham extravaganza was that we put it all together as a family. My husband and I believe in being active in the community (Val, a systems analyst, and I are both involved in church and community affairs, and for quite a while I was also busy with my own local TV program and weekly newspaper column on homemaking), but home and family come first, for both of us.

Things we make at home seem to mean so much. I grind most of my own whole-wheat flour and make a lot of my own bread. Down in our basement are rows upon rows of foods I've canned myself, and jars of the applesauce my husband has made.

For Christmas, with the children's help, I put together gingham-wrapped packages for family and friends, containing home-ground flour and cereal, homemade cheese and rhubarb jam, home-dried apples and a number of my favorite recipes. We've also devised another homemade gift: It's a gingerbread house kit of our own design, and it contains gingerbread mix, decorative candies and complete instructions for putting the whole thing together. We're giving it because we think other families, too, should have the joy of working together on something special for the holidays.

A dear friend who visited us last Christmas remarked to Val and me: "Your children will never forget all of this; it will give them a memory of home and family that they'll always treasure." Our friend said it all—that's exactly why we love our gingham Christmas.

Hows-tos for Mrs. Judd's gingham crafts are on page 75.
Baked or Cup Custard

5 servings

Preheat oven to 300° to 325°.

Delicious as is, but better served over unsweetened dry cereal with fresh berries, or molded over cored pear halves, fresh or stewed, sprinkled with rum, the centers filled with a stewed pitted prune dusted in cinnamon. If you want to unmold the custard, use the larger quantity of egg. Blend together:

2 cups pasteurized milk
\( \frac{3}{4} \) to \( \frac{1}{2} \) cup sugar or \( \frac{1}{2} \) cup honey
\( \frac{1}{4} \) teaspoon salt

Add and beat well:
2 to 3 beaten whole eggs or 4 egg yolks

The greater the proportion of yolk, the tenderer the custard will be. You may even use 2 egg whites to 1 yolk for a quite stiff custard. Add:

1 teaspoon vanilla, rum or dry sherry, or a little grated lemon rind

When all is well beaten, pour it into a baker or into individual custard cups. Place the molds in a pan of water in the oven for an hour or more.

About 2½ cups

This confection must not be permitted to boil at any time. Very slow cooking will help deter curdling: Beat slightly:

3 or 4 egg yolks

Add:
\( \frac{3}{4} \) cup sugar
\( \frac{1}{4} \) teaspoon salt

Scald and stir in slowly in a double boiler:
2 cups milk

Place the custard over—not in—hot water. Stir it constantly until it begins to thicken. Cool. Add:

1 teaspoon vanilla, rum or dry sherry, or a little grated lemon rind

Chill thoroughly. This is not as firm as baked custard, because stirring disturbs the thickening. It is really more like a custard sauce.
15 high-style gift wraps for pennies

A pretty wrapping makes a gift special. But when you suddenly realize that some of your Christmas presents are costing almost as much to wrap as they did to buy, then it's high time for ingenuity and originality.

Utilize cleverness for big packages, instead of sheets and sheets of gift wrap and yards of ribbon. Usually the fancy papers are your greatest cash outlay, so choose a less lavish wrapping and make it look festive.

Newspaper can make a very impressive Christmas wrapping, with a little effort on your part: First, neatness counts; the corners must be crisp. The ribbon—or at least the bow—must be a little more extravagant, and the paper should be more than just a regular inside page of the local daily. Perhaps a foreign-language newspaper? For children's presents, use colored Sunday comics.

That sturdy green paper your florist uses is an utterly traditional Christmas color, especially when tied up with red ribbon. Maybe you can buy a few yards from him, or ask him to throw some extra paper in with your order of mistletoe and holly.

The color of grocery-store paper bags is immensely chic this year. Split the bags on the fold, iron them carefully and you're ready to wrap. This "plain brown wrapper" is particularly effective paired with an orange or brown tie-up.

Discontinued wallpaper sample books from the paint store provide a wealth of stunning wrapping papers for small or medium-size presents. The wallpaper is a little stiff to work with, so crease it firmly with a ruler as you fold it around a box.

When you've got a really big box to wrap, paint it instead! Using poster paints in bright colors, slap on a giant, festive design, making sure your paint covers any printed advertising if you're using the manufacturer's box.

Black or green plastic trash bags can make the slickest-looking wrap, and the price can't be beat. Cut the bags to size, wrap them tautly—transparent tape holds the corners tight—and tie with silvery string.

How about that raft of fabric remnants you've put away over the years? Use them to wrap special presents. (If the gift recipient is a member of the family, you'll get the remnant back anyway.) To wrap, fold material to size; baste corners. Tie on a pretty bow.
Spend a milder moment with Raleigh.
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Pocket this Hawkeye Instamatic Camera by Kodak and you're ready for great pictures anytime. Color or black and white. Drop-in cartridge loading. Yours for free B&W coupons, the valuable extra on every pack of Raleigh.

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Extra Milds, 13 mg. "tar," 0.9 mg. nicotine; Filter Kings, 16 mg. "tar," 1.1 mg. nicotine; Longs, 17 mg. "tar," 1.1 mg. nicotine, av. per cigarette, FTC Report Mar. '74.
Aluminum foil goes a long way toward turning small presents into silvery baubles. Gold cord makes an elegant tie, or skip the ribbon and tuck the name tag under a glued-on gold-wrapped chocolate coin.

Most important, don’t forget tissue paper. Though cheap to buy, it comes in marvelous colors, and you can use layers and layers of it to make a package look rich. Be lavish with it as an inner lining.

Your next most costly item in wrapping presents is ribbon. It’s hard enough to find good, pretty ribbon, let alone good, pretty, cheap ribbon. But there are some corners to be cut.

**First, try to buy your ribbon in bulk.** This means you have to decide on one ribbon color for your presents, but then you can vary their look by using different gift wrappings. A prime cheap ribbon source is a wholesale florist supply house. Their colors tend toward the pastel, except for red and green. But pastel pink paired with paper-bag brown or trash-bag black can be really striking. Ask your florist if he can order an extra roll of the stuff for you.

**How about yarn?** Fat yarn in brilliant colors has been popular as a gift tie for a number of years, but did you know that you can buy a whole skein of bright stuff in the yarn hobby department for the same amount you spend on a couple of those bitty 59-cent cards at the gift-wrap counter? Or, if you’re a knitter, use leftover yarns. For a rich effect, braid them into thick strands.

Don’t turn up your nose at colored string. It comes in heavenly hues and is quite inexpensive when you buy enough of it. A package can be tied up with, say, green string and topped with a bow or ribbon, if using all string seems too skimpy to you. But for packages plastered with stickers, string is often a welcome respite.

Silver or gold fine metallic cord is an old Christmastime favorite because it goes so far. Used with solid-colored paper and tied into a small bow, it’s marvelously effective.

You can perk up a plainly wrapped package by adding a sprig of holly, a spray of fir, a pinecone, dried flowers, small toys, even unshelled walnuts.

If you start collecting and planning now, you’ll not only produce prettier presents, but almost all the cost will be where it belongs—in the gift.

—Diana Walton

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Magnificently detailed Sailing Ships — some up to three feet long and some that can be built in a weekend — and beautiful, antiqued wall plaques featuring ship models mounted on ancient map reproductions. Great decorator pieces for your home. They are also great gifts for your husband or son. Revell’s model kits will provide hours of pleasure and pride of accomplishment. And when complete, what a magnificent display piece!

Go ahead be a little selfish. Give the gift you get to keep!
Tool library: heaven for do-it-yourselfers

It's no doubt happened to you—at least once. You decide to tackle a project, figure out the cost of materials and calculate how much money you will save by doing it yourself—only to discover that you need a special tool to get the job done. And the tool could cost so much that you either abandon the project or get it done professionally.

Do-it-yourselfers in Cohoes, N.Y., a small town, 18,000 strong, several miles north of Albany, are never daunted by this problem. They have an alternative: the Cohoes Tool Library, where any resident over 21 may borrow from the 250 tools on hand—free.

"The idea was to instill pride in home ownership by providing tools to help our citizens maintain and improve their houses," explains Robert J. Pawley, an official of the city's Office of Planning and Development. "The results have all been positive. I think any community could benefit from a program like this." The Cohoes library was begun in 1970. Since then, as demand has increased, the collection of tools has grown. "We don't have any trouble with tools being stolen," reports Kenneth Green, a retired postal worker who serves as "librarian" of this unique lending institution. "In a town of this size, everybody knows everybody." And everybody knows about the tool library.

"It's the first place I check when I need an item I don't have," says homemaker Joanne Staples. "It's great to be able to find what I need at the library instead of buying expensive equipment I'd use only once or twice a year."

The library has an impressive collection of tools to choose from: hammers, pliers, carpenter's squares, sawhorses, plumb lines, levels, power saws, drills, wicker steamers, power sanders, carpet shampooers, gardening tools, lawn tools—even a cement mixer for the truly ambitious homeowner.

Any tool may be checked out for up to five days, with a $1-a-day fine charged for late returns to keep tools in circulation and prevent long waiting lists. Before a tool is taken out, librarian Green makes sure the borrower knows how to use the tool properly—and, if not, offers on-the-spot instruction.

"Sometimes they just come in with a problem, something that they want to do but don't know how," Green relates. "I tell them what tools they need, give any advice I can—and sometimes I go out to the house to have a look." Besides a handyman-in-residence in the person of Kenneth Green, the library also has a big collection of instructional books—on basic carpentry, electricity and plumbing, for example—for first-time do-it-yourselfers who need to bone up on technique.

When Cohoes was designated a Model City in 1970, the tool library was one of the ways the Office of Planning and Development decided to use the funds provided by the federal program. About $7,000 has been invested in the tool collection—not a great deal of money considering all the use that is made of the tools. The Model Cities Program no longer funds the project, but another federal program, Operation Mainstream, has taken over the salaries of librarian Green and his part-time assistant.

"Any community our size could operate something like this," says town planner Pawley. "The idea is workable and also a direct service a town can provide to its residents. I don't know why other communities haven't done it—unless they've never thought of it." Imitation being the sincerest form of flattery, Cohoes hopes they will.

—Robin Snelson
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Here's a merry mix of joys to make

Lots of love, but little time or money, is what it takes to create these easy holiday whimsies. Put your fingers to work right now on our enchanting needlepoint, all made with the basic continental stitch. Then involve your whole family in whipping up tree brighteners from play dough. How-to section begins on page 75.—Ann B. Bradley
She covers the fastest men on wheels, tours the world throughout the year. She’s not about to smoke a boring cigarette.


Viceroy Longs has full-bodied flavor that doesn’t flatten out. Always rich...always smooth...always exciting. Get a taste of Viceroy Longs. Get a taste of excitement.

Viceroy Longs. Where excitement is now a taste.
Revive the magic of Christmas

By Catherine Marshall

It was our concern about the Stowes (not their real name) that inspired our family to a new kind of Christmas, some years ago. Not that the Stowes were poverty-stricken. Mr. Stowe was a schoolteacher who gave himself to his profession. As such he symbolized to us those respected citizens who serve selflessly and often with little pay. The Stowes had five children and lived in a house that was too small. We knew they never had any of those extras most of us take for granted.

One evening, shortly before Thanksgiving, the idea came to us: This year, why not take Christmas to the Stowes as a family project? There was instant excitement at the idea. "Could we take a present to each one?" 13-year-old Chester asked. "Oh, at least," Linda, our 16-year-old, enthused. "And lots of toys and good food," Jeffrey, our youngest, added, his eyes sparkling.

But it was my husband, Len, who made the best suggestion of all: "Wouldn't it be fun to keep the Stowes in the dark about who gave them a surprise Christmas?" All of us were enthusiastic; the secrecy added a spicy dimension. That first day, we gave ourselves research assignments. Detective work would be required on clothing sizes, special needs and tastes. Other ground rules were laid down: We were to make as many of the gifts as possible.

And our children were to save or earn the money for at least one gift from each of them.

We set up a large carton in the family room, and gradually, as Christmas neared, the box began to fill with gifts. Linda and I went through my recipe cards and dug out some favorites. After evenings of baking fun, the goodies were stored in airtight tins before being deposited in the big carton. There was another evening of making ornaments for the Stowes' Christmas tree. Later, we made a Della Robbia wreath for their front door. Wired into the greens was real fruit.

For Mrs. Stowe I bought a silk slip lavish with lace, the kind of lingerie I imagined she would never treat herself to. Len had a similar idea for Mr. Stowe—a handsome sports shirt. Chester and Jeffrey each decided to give one of their cherished possessions: baseballs autographed by their particular major-league idols.

So it went: clothes and games, some special books and records, toys and eats, personal treasures right up to the top of the carton. Last of all came one of the few anonymous letters I have ever written. In it I explained to the Stowes that these gifts were to try to say to them how much their continual unselfish giving had meant to our family and others in the community.

Then, early on Christmas Eve, came the time we had anticipated so long. Our whole family climbed into the station wagon and drove to within a block of the Stowes’. Len sent the two boys ahead to see whether the family was at home. "No, nobody there," they reported a few minutes later. So we drove on to the house, then frantically left the box just outside the Stowes’ door and cut out—fast—for home.

During the next weeks, Chester and Jeffrey kept bringing home scraps of conversation they had overheard at school about the Stowes’ excitement over their mysterious Christmas box. But whatever delight the Stowes received was as nothing compared to our joy and satisfaction. The children still glow whenever they speak of that Christmas.

Here is an answer for anyone wondering how to end the commercialization of the Great Exchange. Try this kind of giving and rediscover the magic of Christmas.
Create a party setting in the holiday spirit

By Helene Brown

“Our holiday season means all-out entertaining,” says Carla Rasten, a young Californian shown here with her husband, Kjell, and two children. “To welcome family and friends, every room extends Christmas greetings.”

Beribboned tree and greenery highlight festive mood in living room (above). Centerpiece in dining room (opposite) blends greenery, wheat, breads, flowers. Los Angeles designers Bartoli/Berry decked the Rastens' holiday home.
Christmas Day begins with a traditional family breakfast for the Hastedns. Their patchwork-draped table is graced with a mini topiary tree of walnuts, lemons and wheat—all repeated in baskets on wrought-iron baker's rack. Garlands swag white-shuttered windows and entwine around painted chandelier. Red-and-green tartan ribbon adds a seasonal touch to sunny room decor.

Magnificent wood-paneled dining room (above) is set for a lavish Christmas party. Pewter, silver and red-and-white floral napkins repeat holiday theme. Rich dessert buffet (left), the evening's climax, includes cherry-studded gingerbread, cookies and sugar-sprinkled brownies, spiced pears, mince pie, trifle and croquembouche, that towering delicacy of cream puffs and frosting.
The Rastens' entertaining varies from an informal weekend open house that starts off with mugs of hot mulled cider and delicious homemade cookies to an elaborate sit-down dinner that ends with a towering dessert spectacular. But the gathering the Rastens enjoy most is one that is just for them: On Christmas morning they share a family breakfast in a beautiful intimate setting. To make your own versions of holiday decorations that fill this splendid house, turn to our how-to section beginning on page 75.
Fabulous originals for your Christmas decorating

In southern California, where you’re more likely to spend the holidays lolling beside a backyard pool than dashing through the snow, there’s still bountiful evidence of traditional American spirit. The festive potpourri shown here and following is the work of leading designers who have embellished simple, basic materials in original ways. Their emphasis is on decorations you can adapt prettily from finds at the local boutique, bakery or supermarket or in your own backyard.
Decorations you can make as lovely gifts

Tabletop trims, centerpieces, wreaths, gift boxes for display—all add flavor and flair to your holiday home. And when made as gifts, you know they'll be received with joy because they bear the stamp of your handiwork. You can turn bags of gumdrops into a fairy-tale wishing well to delight a child, sculpt cookie dough into an enchanted cottage to place under a tree. Or make a fragrant culinary wreath to enliven a kitchen; the elements can be used in post-holiday soups and stews. Their fresh look and natural fragrance give your decorations and gifts seasonal appeal.

—Helene Brown
23 Dough-sculpted hen and chicks in basket

24 Oranges-and-pine spray

25 Azaleas and cones in basket

26 Strawberry wreath entirely of ribbon

27 Flowers on twig wreath

28 Culinary wreath

29 Ivy topiary tree
Natural materials at their holiday best

The best of Christmas decorating is what you make yourself—from materials you find at hand. Take a cue from our design wizards, who have done wonders with naturals: holly leaves and pinecones, sprinklings of flowers—both fresh and dried—fruits, vegetables, nuts and berries, spices, breads and twigs. They have added ribbons and bows—and worked sweet miracles with candy.
14 Twig basket and hearth broom

15 Succulents and cedar

16 Mini gumdrop tree

17 Frosting-and-cookie cottage

18 Crèche with delicate plantings on bark-covered base
7 glittering egg treasures you can make and give

By Ann B. Bradley

To achieve the lacy intricacy of this poinsettia egg (right), you'll need a lightweight hobby-size power tool. It's also essential for cutting out a great many sophisticated shapes, including binged doors.

Cutouts from a Christmas card form background for a sparkly tree and wee mouse (below), in an egg fantasy we tell you how to make.

In double-door winter scene (above), tiny tree and figure are hand-sculpted of bakers' dough and then painted. Ready-mix spackle that does not crack provides snow effect, inside and out.

In this easy-to-make charmer (left), the tree is a craft-shop find, as is the low base. (So are all the stands shown.) But you can make your own base from beads and metal filigree bits—even bottle tops.
The egg inspires creativity. Its smooth surface can be decorated to perfection; its oval interior is ideal for a world of tiny happenings. Here are seven Christmas beauties to spur egg-craft enthusiasts — beginners as well as experts — to great new heights of expression. The large eggs are real goose eggs; the small ones, embellished by Irene Kuebler of Walco Co., nationwide suppliers of egg-decorating materials. Egg small creations are in special basics and how-tos for the two section beginning on page 75.

Behind hinged door with its dramatic tear-drop shape (left), tiny deer frolic across a winter landscape. Trees and figures are sold in craft shops; snow is ready-mix spackle. Flat toothpicks are used to make fence on door.

Miracle of the Nativity glows from within one-door egg (left). Window effect is achieved by cutting into back, inserting "stained glass." All "gilded" figures and trimmings come from craft shops.

Mellow finish on pear-tree egg (left) is done with antiquing liquid from a craft shop. Partridge and fruit are shaped from bakers' dough; dried flower fragments form the tree.
Step into the warmth of Christmas

By Dorothy Lambert Brightbill

For Debbie and Nick Roth, Christmas is as traditional as their handsome Maine garrison house. Color, charm and fragrant home-grown greenery make it a real New England holiday, in which everyone joins. Nick’s contributions are shown, as is Debbie’s flair for gift- and ornament-making. Mark, 13, is adept at string art. Tammy, 10, coats shingle scraps with painted cheer. Try your hand at some of these Christmas notions; see how-tos beginning on page 75.
Debbie's tips: Turn potato-chip drum into sewing box by covering with pocketed gingham; put pet's gift in sack (top is slit for ribbon), tuck greens under bow.

Wrap a cookbook in linen kitchen towel; top with wood utensils, ribbon.

Front door gets inviting touch with fragrant evergreen wreath that is trimmed with tiny apples (left). Even a cutting board (right) gets into shape for Christmas.

Mark's string-art sailboat is a gift he made for his boatbuilder father.

"Kissing Ball" (above) is mistletoe, holly leaves and berries tied up with bells and ribbon. Stockings are hunting socks trimmed with doll (center) and boat (right). Straw star set in an evergreen garland gives stair post a seasonal touch.
Sift flour, salt and 2 tablespoons granulated sugar into bowl. Stir in eggs and milk. Beat until smooth. Stir in melted butter or margarine. For each crepe, put 2 tablespoons batter into a warm, lightly greased 6- to 7-inch aluminum skillet, tilting pan to spread batter evenly and make a very thin crepe.

When crepe is delicately brown on underside, turn and brown other side. Set crepe on cookie sheet to cool. Repeat with remaining batter. For Crepes Suzette we recommend making crepes a few hours before serving and keeping them, wrapped, at room temperature. For other desserts, crepes may be made ahead, stacked and wrapped in transparent plastic wrap or aluminum foil and kept several days in the refrigerator.

At dessert time, combine ½ cup butter or margarine, ¼ cup granulated sugar and orange peel and juice in a chafing dish or skillet. Heat, stirring constantly, until sugar dissolves. Add liqueur. Mix by rotating pan gently over the heat.

Dip a crepe into sauce. Fold crepe in four with a fork or spoon to form a wedge. Place it at side of pan. Repeat with rest of crepes. Pour the warm brandy over crepes. Sprinkle with superfine sugar. Ignite brandy. Baste with flaming brandy until flames die down. Serve at once. Makes 6 servings.
Crepes Suzette

Pancakes, tissue-thin and delicate, are called crepes in France. Laced with a butter-rich, orange-flavored sauce and given a final flourish of flaming brandy, they become famous Crepes Suzette, a dessert with drama.

Crepes Suzette

1 cup all-purpose flour
1/4 teaspoon salt
2 tablespoons granulated sugar
3 eggs, beaten
1 1/4 cups milk
2 tablespoons melted butter or margarine
1/2 cup butter or margarine
1/4 cup granulated sugar
1 teaspoon grated orange peel
1/2 cup orange juice
1/4 cup orange liqueur
1/4 cup warm brandy
1/4 cup superfine sugar
By Lucy Wing

There's no place busier or more festive, in the days before Christmas, than the kitchen. It's a wonderland of stirring and mixing, baking and tasting, where sugar and spice and other things nice are turned into captivating holiday-spirited cookies. We have a dozen delicious ones you can make—for your family to enjoy, to give as gifts or to leave at the fireside for Santa. They represent our special way of continuing the treasured tradition of home-baked cookies for the Yuletide season. Recipes for the easy-to-make cookies pictured here begin on page 68.

Cookies for Christmas
Take a little

Citrus

By Frances M. Crawford

Years ago, finding an orange in your Christmas stocking was a rare treat. Today, oranges are available year-round, and all the jewel-like citrus fruits can sparkle on your holiday table in a variety of tempting creations. Recipes for those pictured, and more, each with the zest of orange, lemon, tangerine, grapefruit or lime, begin on page 72.

Baked Citrus Squash

Grapefruit Salad Orientale

Steamed Orange Pudding

Chicken Piccata

California Wine Jelly

Lemon Butter
Good-bye junk snacks. Hello Quaker Natural.

Of all the snacks children love, one is now a natural cereal. No artificial colors, flavors, or preservatives. Just a mixture of nine fresh fruits, nuts and grains sweetened with honey and brown sugar and toasted in a warm, Quaker oven. The No. 1 natural cereal.
The Christmas season seems the ideal time for you to perfect the cookie-making art, for now is when giving—and eating—cookies is most enjoyed. Decorating your cookies with frosting makes them festive and special, and there are several ways to do it. You can use any of a number of decorating tips with a commercially made metal tube (or bag of plastic or cloth) available from housewares shops. Or you can buy tubes or pressurized cans of frosting in the supermarket, or even fashion a cone yourself from paper or parchment.

Learning to decorate with frosting takes time and a little patience. Try it first on an inverted cake or pie pan. Don't be discouraged if your initial attempt is not a work of art—subsequent ones will be better.

**The Frosting**

Frosting for the tube, bag or cone should be soft enough so it can be forced or pressed through, yet stiff enough to hold the design. Make it with packaged frosting as in the Golden Spice Cookie Kids recipe on page 70 or, if you prefer, with this simple recipe:

**Decorator frosting:**

Beat 1 egg white slightly. Add 2 to 2½ cups sifted confectioners' sugar gradually. Beat until stiff.

---

**The Decorating Tools**

To use a decorating or pastry bag:

1. Insert metal tip into bag from top and fit it tightly into place with your finger.
2. Fill a bag about half full with frosting. Fold top of bag down, then fold sides in as shown.
3. Hold bag with one hand near the top and the other one lower down to guide the tip. For most decorating, hold the bag at a 45° angle. Press gently but firmly with the upper hand. It will take practice for you to learn just how much pressure to apply.

To make and use a paper cone:

1. Fold a 12-inch square of wax paper on the diagonal to form a triangle, as shown (bottom, left).
2. Hold the triangle in one hand with the long side at the bottom and your thumb at the center. Bring corner A up to point B. Hold points A and B together.
3. Bring corner C around cone until it meets points A and B. Fasten at seam with tape.
5. Fold top down. Snip off tip end in a straight or notched line. Hold top of cone in one hand and put other hand near tip to guide it. Press frosting in design.

To use a decorating tube:

Insert desired tip and secure with its screw ring. Fill tube with frosting and screw on top.

Put your thumb through the ring of the plunger and your index and middle fingers under the curved guard pieces on top of tube. Place other hand on tube to act as a guide for tip. Depress plunger to force frosting through tube and tip.

Decorating a cookie:

Decoration may be put on a plain or frosted cookie. For cookie decorations like those on pages 62-63, use a plain or writing tip, or cut paper cone in straight line. Hold tool at a 45° angle and press the frosting out in straight lines for sleeves, sweaters, collars and other details. Thin curved lines make mouths and eyebrows. Press a little firmer and with a slight twist to make the hair. For the tiny dots you see on some cookies, hold tool straight up and press gently. Add your own touch with colored decors to finish cookies.
The original play dough.

Nothing’s more creative, more rewarding, or more basic than baking. And baking’s both fun and an economical way to feed your family. Fleischmann’s Basic Oatmeal Dough is a whole new way of baking that starts with just one simple, nutritious recipe.

Follow it exactly and you’ve got old-fashioned oatmeal bread. Give the dough a twist and you’ll get rolls. Add walnuts, and pretty soon you’ll be serving your family walnut bread.

It’s that simple. Why not open a package of Fleischmann’s® Yeast and start with the basic recipe. Then, divide it up to make one or more of these tempting ideas. But don’t stop there. Because creativity’s the whole idea behind this basic recipe: Experiment. Design. Let your imagination go wild. And pretty soon you’ll find there’s no more fun than baking, especially if you’re baking with Fleischmann’s Yeast.

In a large bowl thoroughly mix 1 c. flour, 1 1/2 tsp. salt and 1 package undissolved Fleischmann’s Active Dry Yeast. Combine 1 1/2 c. water, 1/4 c. milk, 1/4 c. molasses and 1/4 c. margarine in a saucepan. Heat over low heat until liquids are very warm (120°F.-130°F.). Add to dry ingredients and beat 2 minutes at medium speed of electric mixer, scraping bowl occasionally. Add 1 egg, 1 c. steel cut or old-fashioned oatmeal, and 1/2 c. flour. Beat at high speed 2 minutes, scraping bowl occasionally. Stir in enough flour (3 1/4 c.) to make a stiff dough. Turn out onto lightly floured board; knead until smooth and elastic, about 8 to 10 minutes. Place in greased bowl; cover and let rise until doubled, about 1 hour. Punch dough down. Proceed according to directions below for desired shape or shapes.

Round loaves: Divide dough in half. Shape each half into a smooth round ball. Place on a greased baking sheet. Flatten slightly. Cover; let rise until doubled, about 1 hour. Bake at 400°F. about 30 minutes, or until done. Remove from baking sheet and place on wire racks to cool.

Rolls: Divide dough in half; divide each half into 12 equal pieces. Form each piece into a pencil-shaped 9-inch roll. Hold one end of dough firmly and wind dough loosely around; tuck end underneath. Place on a greased baking sheet. Cover; let rise until doubled, about 1 hour. Bake at 375°F. about 15 minutes, or until done. Remove from baking sheet and cool on wire racks.

Walnut bread: Divide dough in half. Knead 1/2 c. chopped walnuts into each half. Roll each half to a 9 x 12-inch rectangle. Shape into loaves. Place in 2 greased 9 1/2 x 4 1/2 x 2 1/2-inch loaf pans. Cover; let rise until doubled in bulk, about 1 hour 15 minutes. Bake at 400°F. about 30 minutes, or until done. Remove from pans and place on wire racks to cool.

For more tempting baking ideas, send your name and address plus 50¢ (no stamps please) for a copy of Fleischmann’s Bake it Easy Yeast Book to: Fleischmann’s Yeast, Box 1396, Elm City, North Carolina 27898. Allow 6 weeks for delivery. No orders accepted without Zip Code. Offer good only in U.S.A. while supply lasts. Void where prohibited or restricted.

Fleischmann’s Yeast. Bake someone happy.

For TRADITIONAL and NEW RAPIDMIX BAKING!
Strawberry Squares
Makes 70 cookies. Each cookie: 46 cal.; 6 gms. P.; 2.7 gms. F.; 5 gms. C.
1 cup butter
1 package (3 ounces) strawberry-flavored gelatin
1 egg yolk
1 teaspoon almond extract
1/2 teaspoon baking powder
1 1/2 to 2 cups unsifted all-purpose flour
1 egg white
Red sugar crystals
Beat butter or margarine in large bowl until fluffy. Add sugar and gelatin. Add yolk and extract; beat well. Stir in baking powder and 1 1/2 cups flour or enough to make a soft dough. Spread or pat dough evenly in buttered 15 1/2 x 10 1/2-inch jelly-roll pan. Heat oven to 350°. Bake about 15 minutes or until top springs back when lightly touched. Cool completely. Store in airtight container. Garnish with red candies and cherries to cut into the shape of small berries, if desired.

Cereal Macaroons
Makes 3 1/2 dozen. Each cookie: 71 cal.; 1.5 gms. P.; 3 gms. F.; 7.7 gms. C.
1 can (14 ounces) sweetened condensed milk
1 can (3 1/2 ounces) flaked coconut
(1 1/2 cups)
2 cups crisp rice cereal
1 cup finely chopped walnuts
2 teaspoons vanilla
1/8 teaspoon salt
1 package (1 1/2 ounces) candy-coated chocolate candies
Heat oven to 350°. Combine milk, coconut, cereal, walnuts, and salt in bowl until well mixed. Mix cookies with 2 teaspoons: Scoop up mixture with one spoon and press firmly into round mound with bowl of other spoon. Press mound off spoon onto well-greased and floured cookie sheet, placing cookies 2 inches apart. Press a candy in center of each. Bake 15 minutes or until cookies are firm. Transfer immediately to wire racks with broad spatula. Cool.

Swirled Lemon Cookies
Makes 4 1/2 dozen. Each cookie: 72 cal.; 5 gms. P.; 4 gms. F.; 8 gms. C.
1 cup butter or margarine
1 package (3 ounces) cream cheese
1 cup sugar
1 egg, beaten
1 tablespoon finely ground lemon peel
1 tablespoon lemon juice
1 teaspoon baking powder
2 1/2 to 2 3/4 cups unsifted all-purpose flour
About 6 maraschino cherries
Beat butter or margarine and cheese in bowl until fluffy. Add sugar gradually; beat well. Add egg, lemon peel and juice. Tint dough with yellow food coloring, if desired. Mix in baking powder. Stir in enough flour to make a soft dough. Drop cherries dry with paper towels; cut into 1/4-inch pieces.
Heat oven to 375°. Bake about 12 minutes or until golden. Cool on racks. Store in airtight container.

Chocolate-Edged Mint Wafers
1 1/4 cups butter or margarine
1 large egg
1 teaspoon mint extract
1/4 teaspoon green food coloring
1 1/2 to 2 cups unsifted all-purpose flour
1 package (10 ounces) sugar-cookie mix
1 large egg
2 squares (1 ounce each) unsweetened chocolate, melted and cooled
Beat butter or margarine, sugar, 1 egg, extract and food coloring in large bowl until fluffy. Stir in 1 1/2 cups flour or enough to make a soft dough form. Stir in enough remaining flour with spoon until dough is stiff. Press dough into pan on waxed paper. Bake 10 minutes or until top springs back when lightly touched. Cool on racks. Store in airtight container.

Festive Fruitcake Cups
Makes 5 dozen. Each one: 94 cal.; 1 gm. P.; 3.6 gms. F.; 14 gms. C.
1/2 cup diced candied orange peel
1/2 cup candied red cherries
1/2 cup candied green cherries
1 cup golden raisins
1 cup currants
1/2 cup brandy
5 egg yolks
1/2 cup sugar
1 cup butter
or margarine
1/2 cup sugar
1 teaspoon lemon juice
2 cups unsifted all-purpose flour
1 teaspoon ground nutmeg
5 egg whites
Finely chop candied peel and cherries. Put into bowl; add raisins, currants and brandy. Toss. Cover with plastic wrap. Let stand 24 hours in cool place or refrigerator until fruit absorbs all of the liquid.
Beat yolks in small bowl until foamy. Add 1/2 cup sugar gradually. Beat yolks to 35%. Beat sugar and egg whites until stiff but not dry. Fold yolks into batter. Bake on 325°. Spoon batter into paper-lined 1 1/4-inch muffin-pan cups, filling them two-thirds full.
Bake 30 minutes or until top springs back when lightly touched. Transfer to wire racks. Cool completely. Store in single layer in airtight container.

Pistachio Almond Logs
Makes 3 dozen. Each one: 87 cal.; 1.8 gms. P.; 5.6 gms. F.; 7.7 gms. C.
1 package (11 ounces) pie-crust mix or pie-crust mix for 2-crust pie
1/2 cup ground almonds
1/2 cup confectioners' sugar
2 egg yolks
1 large egg, slivered almonds extract
2 egg whites
3/4 cup finely chopped shelled pistachio nuts
1/4 cup sugar
Combine pie-crust mix, almonds and confectioners' sugar in bowl. Add egg yolks and extract; toss with fork until well mixed. Gather mixture into ball. If mixture is too dry to cling together, add water, a teaspoon at a time. Knead a few times on lightly floured surface until smooth. Heat oven to 400°. Divide dough into 12 pieces. Shape each piece into a 12-inch-long roll. Coat each roll into thirds crosswise. Beat egg whites until foamy in shallow dish. Combine pistachio nuts and sugar in another shallow dish. Dip logs into white; coat with sugared nuts. Place 1 inch apart on ungreased cookie sheets. Bake 10 minutes. Transfer cookies to wire racks with broad spatula. Cool.
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The Wish-Bone® Just-Moved-In Party. For people who really like salads.
Holiday Cookies

Makes 6 dozen. Each unfrosted cookie (amounts of frosting and decors are variables, thus difficult to calculate): 61 cal.; .8 gm. P.; 2.7 gms. F.; 11 gms. C.

1 cup butter or margarine
2 cups sifted confectioners' sugar
2 large eggs, beaten
2 teaspoons baking powder
1 teaspoon vanilla
½ teaspoon almond extract
3½ to 3¾ cups unsifted all-purpose flour

Pressurized 4½-ounce cans cake and cookie decorator icing or 4½-ounce tubes decorating icing in green, pink, red, yellow or blue

Assorted candy decors
Beat butter or margarine and sugar in large bowl until fluffy. Add eggs, baking powder, vanilla and almond extract, beating well. Stir in 3 cups flour. Stir in enough remaining flour with spoon until dough is stiff and holds its shape. Cover. Chill 2 hours or freeze 20 minutes.

Heat oven to 375°. Divide dough in half. Roll out one half (keep other half chilled) on floured surface to ⅛-inch thickness. Cut into any of the shapes suggested below with floured cutters or by tracing with a sharp knife around a cardboard pattern you’ve made. Place, 1 inch apart, on greased cookie sheets. Bake 7 to 8 minutes or until golden. Transfer to wire racks with broad spatula and cool.

WREATHS: Cut dough with 2½-inch doughnut cutter or round cutter. Using green icing with leaf-shaped tip, pipe icing on cookies in overlapping leaves. Add clusters of berries made of red cinnamon candies.

BELLS: Cut dough with bell-shaped cutter. Using blue icing with plain tip, outline cookies or make curls on cookies. Decorate with silver dragees.


GIFT BOXES: Make a cardboard pattern of a box. Place on dough; cut around pattern with sharp knife. Cover cookie with icing; dip in colored sugar crystals. Pipe a ribbon and bow of icing around box.

ORNAMENTS: Cut dough with round or marquise-shaped cutters. Or cut dough with round, scalloped cutter; cut out center with smaller, fancy-shaped cutters. Using icing with plain tip, outline cookies or spread icing in certain areas and dip in colored sugar crystals. Decorate with silver dragees.

Peppermint-Chocolate Sandwiches


1 cup butter or margarine
⅔ cup sugar
2 squares (1 ounce each) unsweetened chocolate, melted and cooled
3 egg yolks
1½ teaspoons vanilla
2 to 2¼ cups unsifted all-purpose flour
1 can (16.5 ounces) ready-to-spread vanilla frosting
½ cup finely crushed hard red-striped peppermint candies

Beat butter or margarine and sugar in large bowl until fluffy. Add chocolate, egg yolks and vanilla; beat well. Stir in 2 cups flour or enough to make a soft dough. Heat oven to 400°.

Spoon some dough into cookie press fitted with leaf-shaped disc. Press dough, 1 inch apart, onto ungreased cookie sheets. Bake 7 to 10 minutes or until cookies are firm. Transfer to wire rack with broad spatula. Cool.

Measure sugar in cup frosting; place in bowl. Use leftover frosting for cupcakes or other cookies. Add crushed candies to frosting in bowl; stir until well mixed. Spread frosting on half the cookies. Sandwich with remaining cookies.

Orange Bonbon Cookies


1 cup butter or margarine
½ cup confectioners' sugar
⅓ cup confections' sugar
⅛ teaspoon salt
½ teaspoon vanilla
2 to 2¼ cups unsifted all-purpose flour
1 tablespoon grated orange peel
1 package (1 pound) confections' sugar, sifted
½ cup orange juice
1 teaspoon orange extract
2 drops red food coloring
6 drops yellow food coloring

Beat butter or margarine, ½ cup confections' sugar, salt and vanilla in large bowl until light and fluffy. Stir in 2 cups flour and orange peel with spoon. Add enough remaining flour, if necessary, to make dough firm and not sticky to the touch. Shape dough into 6x8-inch rectangle; wrap in wax paper. Chill dough 3 hours or freeze ½ hour. Heat oven to 350°. Divide dough in half. Roll out one half (keep other half chilled until ready to use) on well-floured surface to ½-inch thickness. Cut out with floured, kid-shaped cookie cutter. Transfer with broad spatula to lightly greased cookie sheets, placing cookies about 1 inch apart. Bake 15 minutes or until golden. Transfer to wire racks; cool. Save all dough trimmings; reroll all at one time.

Prepare frosting mix according to package directions. Divide frosting among 5 small bowls. Tint each with red, yellow, green and blue coloring, leaving 1 bowl of frosting white. Make 5 paper decorating cones, 1 for each color. To make a cone, fold a 12-inch square of wax paper on the diagonal to form a cone. Hold in right hand with long side of triangle at bottom and thumb at center. Bring left corner up to center point to shape cone. Hold left corner and center corner together. Bring right corner around cone to meet 2 other corners. Fasten outside seam with tape. If you have small decorating tips, slip off ends of cones and insert here. Fill cone with frosting. Fold top down. Without tips, snip off end in straight or notched line after filling. Decorate cookie kids with frosting and colored candy decors or chocolate sprinkles.

Golden Spice Cookie Kids

Makes 2 dozen. Each unfrosted cookie (amounts of frosting and decors are variables, thus difficult to calculate): 99 cal.; 1.35 gms. P.; 4 gms. F.; 14.2 gms. C.

½ cup butter or margarine
½ cup light brown sugar, firmly packed
⅔ cup sugar
1 large egg, beaten
1¾ to 2 cups unsifted all-purpose flour
⅓ teaspoon baking powder
1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
½ teaspoon ground nutmeg
⅓ teaspoon ground cloves
1 teaspoon vanilla
1 package (15.4 ounces) vanilla frosting

Assorted food coloring
Assorted candy decors
Beat butter or margarine in large bowl until fluffy. Add sugars gradually. Add egg; beat well. Add ¾ cups flour, baking powder, spices and vanilla; beat until blended. Stir in enough remaining flour with spoon until dough is stiff. Wrap in wax paper. Chill at least 3 hours or freeze ½ hour.

Heat oven to 350°. Divide dough in half. Roll out one half (keep other half chilled until ready to use) on well-floured surface to ⅛-inch thickness. Cut out with floured, kid-shaped cookie cutter. Transfer with broad spatula to lightly greased cookie sheets, placing cookies about 1 inch apart. Bake 15 minutes or until golden. Transfer to wire racks; cool. Save all dough trimmings; reroll all at one time.

Prepare frosting mix according to package directions. Divide frosting among 5 small bowls. Tint each with red, yellow, green and blue coloring, leaving 1 bowl of frosting white. Make 5 paper decorating cones, 1 for each color. To make a cone, fold a 12-inch square of wax paper on the diagonal to form a cone. Hold in right hand with long side of triangle at bottom and thumb at center. Bring left corner up to center point to shape cone. Hold left corner and center corner together. Bring right corner around cone to meet 2 other corners. Fasten outside seam with tape. If you have small decorating tips, slip off ends of cones and insert here. Fill cone with frosting. Fold top down. Without tips, snip off end in straight or notched line after filling. Decorate cookie kids with frosting and colored candy decors or chocolate sprinkles.

(continued)
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FOR MORE OF A WOMAN

MORE OF A SALEM

Salem Premium Length. Designed a little longer to refresh a little longer.
Cherry-Apple Bars
1 package (20.5 ounces) honey spice nut cookie mix
1/4 cup melted butter or margarine
2 large eggs, beaten
1 cup wheat germ
1 1/2 pounds green cooking apples, pared, cored and thinly sliced
1 can (4 ounces) shredded coconut
1 jar (8 ounces) red maraschino cherries, well drained and cut into halves
1/4 cup sugar
3 tablespoons cornstarch
Flour
Combine cookie mix, butter or margarine, eggs and wheat germ in bowl until well mixed. Spread half of mixture in well-greased 13x9x2-inch baking pan. Combine apples, coconut, cherries, sugar and cornstarch in another bowl. Press apple mixture over cookie layer in pan. Heat oven to 350°. Sprinkle flour lightly over other half of cookie dough. Roll dough between 2 sheets of wax paper to 1/4-inch thickness. Cut into 1 1/2-inch squares. Remove top sheet of paper, invert dough over apple layer in pan. Seal dough along sides of pan. Remove paper. Bake 40 minutes or until top springs back when lightly touched with fingertip. Set pan on wire rack; cool. Cut cookies into 4 long strips, then crosswise into 9 sections to form bars.

Apricot Cornucopias
2 1/2 cups sifted cake flour
3/4 cup sugar
3/4 cup pure vegetable oil
1 teaspoon baking powder
1/2 teaspoon salt
1 tablespoon grated lemon peel
2 large eggs
3/4 cup apricot preserves
1 egg yolk
2 teaspoons water
Combine flour, sugar, oil, baking powder, salt, peel and eggs in large bowl; mix well. Gather dough into ball; sprinkle with flour. Wrap in wax paper. Chill 1 hour or until dough is firm enough to handle. Heat oven to 350°. Divide dough in half. Roll one half (keep other half chilled) on floured surface to 1/4-inch thickness. Cut into circles over preserves, exposing edge. Bring third of circle over preserves, exposing edge. Bring other third of circle over first fold to form cornucopia. Beat yolk and water in bowl; brush on each cornucopia. Bake 15 minutes or until golden. Transfer to wire rack with broad spatula. Cool. Reroll trimmings and repeat with other half of dough.

Cherry-Apple Bars
2 tablespoons very thin slivered orange peel
1/2 cup orange juice
3/4 cup grapefruit juice
3/4 cup port wine
3 1/2 cups sugar
1/2 of 6-ounce bottle liquid pectin
Paraffin
Combine all ingredients except pectin and paraffin in heavy saucepan; stir over low heat until blended. Bring to boiling over high heat; boil 1 minute, stirring constantly. Remove from heat. Immediately stir in liquid pectin; skim off foam, if necessary. Ladle into five 8-ounce sterilized jelly glasses. (For gift giving, you can use fancy glass containers.) Cover at once with 1/4-inch thickness hot paraffin.

Lemon Butter
(pictured on page 64)
Makes 2 1/2 cups. Each tablespoon: 56 cal.; .5 gm. P.; 1.6 gms. F.; 10.4 gms. C.
3 medium-size lemons
3 eggs
1/4 cup butter or margarine
2 cups sugar
3/4 teaspoon salt
Grate peel of lemons; squeeze to make 1/2 cup juice. Beat eggs in top of double boiler. Add lemon peel and juice, butter or margarine, sugar and salt. Cook over boiling water, stirring constantly, about 15 minutes or until thick and smooth. Keep refrigerated. Spread on hot biscuits, muffins, nut bread or toast.

Holiday Punch Bowl
1 cup sugar
1 cup water
1 teaspoon whole cloves (about 22)
3 pieces stick cinnamon, each about 2 inches long
2 quarts orange juice
1 bottle (1 quart) cranberry juice cocktail
1/4 cup lemon juice
1 to 1 1/2 cups light rum, if desired
Combine sugar, water, cloves and cinnamon sticks in large saucepan. Simmer 15 minutes; remove spices. Add orange, cranberry and lemon juices; heat, but do not boil. Add rum. Pour into heatproof punch bowl. Float thin slices of orange and lemon on top of punch to garnish, if desired. Serve hot.

ALL RECIPES TASTE-TESTED IN AMERICAN HOME KITCHENS

Grapefruit Salad Orientale
(pictured on page 64)
1/2 cup pure vegetable oil
3 tablespoons grapefruit juice
2 tablespoons wine vinegar
1 tablespoon soy sauce
1 1/2 teaspoons salt
1 1/4 teaspoons hot-pepper sauce
1 package (10 ounces) fresh spinach
3 large grapefruit, peeled and sectioned
3 large oranges, peeled and sectioned
1 can (6 ounces) water chestnuts, drained and thinly sliced
1/2 pound fresh mushrooms, sliced
6 slices bacon, cooked, drained and crumbled
Combine oil, grapefruit juice, vinegar, soy sauce, salt and hot-pepper sauce. Chill. Wash spinach thoroughly; dry: break into bite-size pieces. Arrange bed of spinach in large salad bowl; arrange grapefruit and orange or tangerine sections and water chestnuts over spinach. Cover and chill. To serve, add mushrooms and bacon. Pour on chilled dressing. Toss well.

Baked Citrus Squash
(pictured on page 64)
3 acorn squash
6 tablespoons butter or margarine
6 tablespoons brown sugar
1 tablespoon grated orange peel
1/2 teaspoon salt
3 oranges, peeled and sectioned (about 1 1/2 cups)
1 grapefruit, peeled, sectioned and quartered
1/4 cup golden raisins
Heat oven to 350°. Wash squash. Place whole in baking pan; add 1/4-inch depth of water to pan. Bake 40 to 45 minutes or until almost tender. Remove from oven; halve squash; scoop out seeds. Return squash to baking pan, cut sides up. Fill center of each half with 1 tablespoon butter or margarine, 1 tablespoon brown sugar and 1/2 teaspoon orange peel; sprinkle with salt; divide fruits among squash. Bake 15 to 25 minutes or until tender.

Chicken Piccata
(pictured on page 64)
3 whole chicken breasts, skinned and boned
1/4 cup flour
1/2 teaspoons salt
1/4 teaspoon pepper
1/4 cup butter or margarine
1/4 cup lemon juice
1 lemon, thinly sliced
2 tablespoons chopped parsley

[continued from page 64]

[continued from page 64]

[continued from page 64]
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Cut boned chicken breasts in half lengthwise down the center to make 6 pieces. Pound them between pieces of wax paper and flatten to cutlets. Combine flour, salt and pepper. Press chicken cutlets into flour mixture, coating well; chill on flat tray. Heat butter or margarine in large skillet. Sauté cutlets 9 to 10 minutes on each side or until well browned and cooked through. Drain cutlets; keep warm. Stir lemon juice and slices into pan drippings; heat, but do not boil. Spoon juices and lemon slices over chicken. Sprinkle with parsley. Serve with hot, buttered noodles, if desired.

Fruited Lamb Shanks
Makes 6 servings. Each serving: 1,163 cal.; 59.6 gms. P.; 96.5 gms. F.; 11 gms. C. Source of thiamine, riboflavin, niacin and vitamin C.

6 small lamb shanks
2 teaspoons salt
1/2 teaspoon pepper
1 teaspoon curry powder
1/2 teaspoon paprika
2 tablespoons pure vegetable oil
1 clove of garlic, minced
1 onion, thinly sliced
1 tablespoon grated orange peel
1 cup orange juice
1/4 cup lemon juice
3 tablespoons cornstarch
3 tablespoons water

Wipe lamb shanks. Combine salt, pepper, curry powder and paprika; press shanks into mixture, coating evenly. Brown shanks well in hot oil in large Dutch oven. Add garlic and onion; brown lightly. Add orange peel and orange and lemon juices. Simmer, covered, 1/2 to 2 hours or until lamb is tender. Blend cornstarch and water to a smooth paste. Remove lamb shanks to serving dish; keep warm. Blend cornstarch mixture gradually into cooking liquid, stirring constantly. Cook 1 minute, stirring constantly. Pour hot gravy over shanks. Serve with hot fluffy rice and chutney, if desired.

Lime-Stuffed Pork Chops

4 double-rib loin pork chops
1/4 cup chopped fresh or frozen onion
1/4 cup chopped celery
1 tablespoon water
1 teaspoon grated lime peel
1 tablespoon lime juice
1 cup packaged herb-seasoned stuffing mix
Salt
Pepper

Heat oven to 350°. Trim fat from pork chops, if necessary. Cut a pocket in each chop for stuffing. Sauté onion and celery in butter or margarine. Add water, lime peel and juice; mix well. Stir in stuffing mix; toss lightly until stuffing is even moistened. Stuff each chop loosely with stuffing mixture. Fasten pockets with wooden picks to hold stuffing. Sprinkle chops with salt and pepper. Place in shallow baking dish. Cover tightly. Bake 30 minutes. Uncover, bake 30 minutes.

(continued)
Deluxe Lime Pie
Makes 8 servings. Each serving: 308 cal.; 5.5 gms. P.; 16 gms. F.; 36.5 gms. C.
1 envelope unflavored gelatin
3/4 cup sugar
3/4 cup water
1/2 cup lime juice
4 egg yolks
1 tablespoon grated lime peel
Green food coloring
4 egg whites
1/4 teaspoon cream of tartar
1/3 cup sugar gradually: continue beating until meringue is glossy. Fold into gelatin mixture; fold in whipped cream. Pile into baked pie shell. Chill several hours or until set. Garnish with whipped cream and lime slices, if desired.

Steamed Orange Pudding
(pictured on page 64)
Makes 8 servings. Each serving: 541 cal.; 5.6 gms. P.; 17.5 gms. F.; 94 gms. C. Source of thiamine and vitamin C.
2/3 cup shortening
1 cup light brown sugar, firmly packed
2 eggs
2 tablespoons grated orange peel
2/3 cup sifted all-purpose flour
1/2 teaspoon baking powder
1/2 teaspoon baking soda
1/2 teaspoon ground cinnamon
1/2 teaspoon ground ginger
1/2 teaspoon salt
1/3 cup orange juice
1 cup finely cut-up, pitted dates
Orange Sauce (recipe follows)
Grease 6-cup mold well; dust with sugar. Beat shortening, brown sugar, eggs and orange peel in large bowl until fluffy. Sift flour, baking powder, baking soda, spices and salt together. Add alternately with orange juice to shortening-sugar mixture. Fold dates into batter; spoon into prepared mold. Cover with lightly greased aluminum foil, leaving a loose pouch on top to allow pudding to expand. Tie foil around mold. Place on rack in deep kettle half full of boiling water. Steam 2 hours over medium heat (keep just enough heat to allow water to bubble gently) or until done. Remove from kettle; let stand 5 minutes; unmold. Serve warm with Orange Sauce.

Orange Sauce
(recipe follows)
1/4 cup sugar
1/4 teaspoon salt
2 tablespoons cornstarch
1 cup orange juice
3 tablespoons lemon juice
1/3 cup water
2 tablespoons butter or margarine
2 teaspoons grated orange peel
2 large oranges, peeled and sectioned (about 2 cups)
Blend sugar, salt and cornstarch in saucepan. Stir in orange and lemon juices and water. Bring to boiling; boil 1 minute, stirring constantly. Stir in butter or margarine, orange peel and sections. Serve warm over Steamed Orange Pudding.

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(Above photograph is 2 times actual size.)
How-tos to make your Christmas merry

“Gingham Christmas”
[pictured on page 30]

THROW PILLOWS

Materials:
Red-and-white checked gingham
Polyester fiber-fill stuffing
Tree: large red ball fringe, 1/2"-wide red satin ribbon
Cane: 1 1/2"-wide red grosgrain ribbon
Heart: large red rickrack, 1 1/3 yards
1 1/2"-wide white eyelet ruffling, 1 1/2"-wide red satin ribbon

Enlarge squares of diagram (above) to 1"; draw patterns (heart and tree are each half patterns with a center folding line; draw them whole). Use 1/2" seams on all throw pillows.

Cane. Cut two canes; sew together, right sides facing, leaving bottom edge open. Clip seam allowance around inside curve. Turn right side out; stuff. Blindstitch opening closed; tie on ribbon bow.

Tree. Cut two trees. Around sides of one, pin and sew ball fringe. Turn fringe toward center. Place second piece on top, right sides together. Sew, leaving bottom of trunk open. Turn right side out; sew ribbon bows and ball-fringe trim in place. Stuff; blindstitch opening closed.

Heart. Cut two hearts. Around one, pin and sew ball fringe. Turn fringe toward center. Place second piece on top, right sides together. Sew, leaving bottom of trunk open. Turn right side out; sew ribbon bows and ball-fringe trim in place. Stuff; blindstitch opening closed.

Materials:
Red-and-white checked gingham
Polyester fiber-fill stuffing
Small red rickrack
1/2"-wide red satin ribbon
16" of 1 1/2"-wide white eyelet ruffling for heart
White yarn for doll, trees
6 "googlie" eyes for snowpeople, turtle

How-tos to make your Christmas merry

Materials:
Red, black felt-tip markers
9" of 1 1/2"-wide gingham ribbon for snowpeople
White, all-purpose glue
Doll: white cotton fabric remnant, black felt, white felt, 16" of 1/4"-wide white satin ribbon, 6" of 1 1/2"-wide white eyelet ruffling, 3" of 1/8"-wide elastic, 1 1/2"-wide red heart button, rag doll head "pick"; white yarn
Available at craft shops

Materials:
Merry Mix of Joys

NEEDLEPOINT TRAIN

Materials:
1/4 yard needlepoint canvas, 10-mesh-to-an-inch
3-ply Persian needlepoint yarn:
2 1/2 oz. black
1 1/2 oz. yellow
9/4 oz. red
5/8 oz. light blue
2 yds. each, assorted colors for details, people and gumball coal car
Sixteen 1"-diameter shiny flat black buttons
Two 1 1/2"-diameter shiny flat black buttons
Small piece red calico
1 1/2" length of 3/4" dowel
Three covered hooks and eyes
Black carpet thread
Cardboard and foam rubber for stuffing
Tapestry needle, masking tape, board, tacks

Bind edges of canvas with masking tape. Diagram squares (see next page) equal 5 stitches or 5 rows. Using canvas as a guide for size, draw general shape of pattern for each car; cut two patterns of each. Boxing strips for all cars are 1 1/2" across; approximate lengths are 12" for coal car and 16" for others. Space patterns evenly on canvas with about 2" between; mark outlines. Work designs in continued
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NEEDLEPOINT CAT TOY
Materials:

| 3/4 yd. needlepoint canvas, 10-mesh-to-an-inch |
| 3-ply Persian needlepoint yarn: |
| 2% oz. each, rust, peach |
| 3/8 oz. black |
| 3/8 oz. pink |
| small amount of white, purple, yellow |
| Four flat 1/2"-diameter shiny black buttons |
| Cotton, Dacron or foam-rubber stuffing |
| 1/2 yd. lavender gingham ribbon |
| Black carpet thread |
| Tapestry needle, masking tape |

BIND the edges of canvas with masking tape. Diagram squares (below, left) equal 6 stitches or 6 rows. Using canvas as a guide for size; draw general shape patterns for A, B and C, D, E, F and G. Cut two patterns for A, D, E, F, G; four patterns for B and C. Space patterns on canvas evenly with about 2" between pieces, reversing two of B and C and one of the rest for back of toy; mark outlines. Work designs in colors in photo, using continental stitch (top, left) with three strands of yarn. Follow Cat Picture diagram for face. Block canvas by wetting and tacking up to board so it is pulled tight and lines of mesh are straight; let dry thoroughly. Cut pieces 1/2" outside of each; turn wrong side so only one thread of canvas shows. With matching yarn, whip-stitch parts together, adding stuffing in legs before closing completely. Stuff tail and ears through bottom edge. In body, leave opening for tail and stuff through edge to go under head. Close head, leaving holes for ears, except edges which will overlap body. Sew tail in place; sew ears on head; sew head to body. Attach legs with carpet thread through legs and body, with a button on outside of front and back. Tie bow to tail; add four strands of yarn to face for whiskers.

NEEDLEPOINT CAT PICTURE
Materials:

| 17"x18" needlepoint canvas, 10-mesh-to-an-inch |
| 3-ply Persian needlepoint yarn: |
| 1/4 oz. each B, grass green, sky blue, rust |
| 1 oz. peach |
| 1/2 oz. white |
| 3/4 oz. each, black, lavender |
| 3/8 oz. each yellow, pale pink, dark purple, gray, fuchsia |

Tapestry needle, masking tape
Board, tacks, wood staples

BIND the edges of canvas with masking tape to prevent fraying. Use three strands of yarn and work in continental stitch (top, left) throughout. Follow colors in photo; each square on diagram equals 6 rows or 6 stitches. Work a row of gray around front and back legs, under chin. Work lavender and fuchsia stitches on ball and under foot to give effect of wound yarn. Bow is worked in dark purple with 4-stitch squares of lavender; interior of bow loops is medium purple. Eyes have yellow centers, 1 row of medium purple and white at each side. Attach four strands of black for whiskers.

Continental Stitch: See details 1 and 2 for how-to (far left). Start at upper-right-hand corner. Work each color from right to left. To begin, hold 1" of wool at back of canvas, work over this end as you do your needlepoint. All other strands may be started and finished by weaving in and out on wrong side of finished work. Details 1 and 2 show placement and direction of needle. Work back and forth, turning work upside down to return; always work from right to left.

Blocking: Cover an old table or drawing board with brown paper; mark on paper the size of canvas, 17"x18", being sure corners are square. Place needlepoint, right side down over this guide and fasten with thumbtacks placed about 1/2" apart. 1" away from needlepoint. Wet thoroughly with cold water; let dry. If work is badly warped, restretch, wet again, and let dry.

Mounting: Stretch canvas over plywood, keeping lines of needlepoint stitches straight. Fasten temporarily with thumbtacks pushed into edges of plywood. Begin tacking at center of each side and at corners. Continue stretching and tacking along each side. When needlepoint piece is stretched straight, staple canvas to edges of plywood securely and remove tacks. Staple excess canvas on back neatly. Frame sampler as desired.

DOUGH ORNAMENTS
Mix 4 cups presifted all-purpose flour and 1 cup iodized salt; add 1 1/2 cups warm water; knead in bowl about 2 minutes. On lightly floured pastry cloth, knead half of mixture until smooth; repeat for other half; use a quarter of mixture at a time, keeping rest in plastic bag (may be refrigerated for a week, or frozen); return to room temperature and knead before use.

Roll dough on floured pastry cloth to 1/4" thick. For these four easy Janet Nine designs, enlarge squares of diagram (next page) to 1/2"; draw patterns and cut out carefully; place patterns on dough and cut with sharp, pointed knife. Or use floured cookie continued
[continued]
cutters for the Hallmark group. Im-
mmediately insert Christmas tree hook
down into top center of each orna-
ment; press in place so hook is not
seen on either side. Save leftover
dough for trimming. Follow sugges-
tions below for each design, using
small watercolor brush to moisten
back of trim slightly (too much water
will cause swelling); press trim firmly
in place. Caution: any water standing
on ornament must be toweled off and
dried 1 hour before baking.

Trimming: Hair is made with garlic
press, potato ricer or strainer; balls are
rolled gently between hands. Star and
bell: Cut holly leaves and roll berries.
Angel: Cut book and apply; cut
hands and apply; cut sleeves and
wings and glue in place; roll balls at
bottom of gown; add hair. Horse: Cut
saddle and apply; roll balls for saddle
and wheels; roll thin “snake” for reins;
add mane and tail. Paint on other de-
tails after baking. Once you become ex-
pert at this technique, try Mrs. Nine’s
delightful storybook ornaments.

Us Tareyton smokers
would rather fight than
switch!

King Size: 21 mg. “tar”; 1.4 mg. nicotine.
100 mm: 21 mg. “tar”; 1.5 mg. nicotine; av. per cigarette, FTC Report March ‘74.
1. WREATH WITH SILK FLOWERS

Make a hanging loop at top of Styrofoam wreath frame with several strands of flexible wire. Poke wire through frame; wrap around two toothpicks or beheaded matchsticks; put back through frame and wrap around more toothpicks so wire will not pull through foam. Pad front of frame with cotton or kapok to give rounded appearance; cover with sphagnum moss, holding moss in place with fern pins or hairpins. Cover thickly with bleached ferns, gray leaves, silk flowers and dried curly pods by inserting stems into backing. Attach bow of vel­
ers and dried curly pods by inserting

2. STRAWFLOWER WREATH

An inexpensive owl shape of ce­
ramic or wood is needed and a variety of sizes of pinecones and colored seeds. Using linoleum glue, attach separated

3. PINECONE OWL

An inexpensive owl shape of ce­
ramic or wood is needed and a variety of sizes of pinecones and colored seeds. Using linoleum glue, attach separated

4. PINECONE OWL

An inexpensive owl shape of ce­
ramic or wood is needed and a variety of sizes of pinecones and colored seeds. Using linoleum glue, attach separated

5. YULE LOG

Glue or nail Oasis (see #1. above) to top of log. Decorate with cedar

6. GIFT BOXES

Begin with two Styrofoam wreath

7. STRAWFLOWER WREATH

Begin with two Styrofoam wreath

 continued]  

continued]
14. TWIG BASKET, HEARTH BROOM
Fill twig basket with artificial or dried flowers, laquered strawberries, seed pods, velvety ivy. Encase broom handle in velvet tubing. Checked bow holds cluster of waxed red flowers, a white blossom and laquered strawberries around straw.

15. SUCCULENTS AND CEDAR
Fill a white porcelain cachepot with Oasis (see #1). Cut obelisk shape twice as high as side of base from Oasis. Reinforce by wrapping in fine wire florists' screen; fasten to inner base with toothpicks or skewers. Dampen and cover with cedar greens, inserting stems in foam and wiring succulents in position.

16. GUMDROP TREE
Scoop out bottom of 12"-high Styrofoam cone to receive 6" flowerpot; fill pot half full of plaster of paris; put wood skewers with points up in it while damp; let dry. Turn pot upside down on Styrofoam circular base so skewers go into it. Place cone over pot; attach base with toothpicks and skewers. Cut 1/4" dia. of velvety into 6" wide strips; swirl strips around cone, poking the velvet into cone with dull pencil until cone is almost covered. Place gumdrops on toothpicks and insert in cone, overlapping edges of velvety. Add ivy leaves and miniature mushrooms, for spicy aroma and to soften paint color. Cover base with various sizes of gumdrops on toothpicks. Edge roof with large-size gumdrops; then cover top with small gumdrops and cubes of sugar glued on. Form handle and roof from coast hanger; place on well. Add gumdrop knob; decorate supports with velvet leaves; tie small bucket to rod and fill with gumdrops.

17. COOKIE COTTAGE
Using a cardboard box as base (see sketch, above), cut front A and back C of cottage from cardboard; form points at top with 1" fold-back along each sloping edge. Cut door opening in box and place in back C. Save out door. Shape chimney from cardboard scrap. Cut roof to overhang all around; glue in place to A and C. Glue chimney in place. Cover cottage with various sizes and shapes of cookies, holding in place with glue and frosting. Roof shingles are painted with frosting. Place door at opening; cover with cookies.

18. CRECHE WITH PLANTINGS
Base is bark or bark-covered wood. Or glue moss or wood chips to Styrofoam. Using crèche figures you have, select small materials so that figures will seem proportionately, life size. Here, cinnamon bark is used for tree trunks, fences, etc. German statice and miniature ferns are also included.

19. BASKETS WITH FLOWERS, FRUIT
Stuff straw basket with sphagnum moss; terra cotta; glue red pears or apples and holly. Form wire basket over a tin can or pail with rubber mallet; turn ragged edges of wire to inside. Form handle over rod or pipe and wire to basket. Place Spanish moss around rim and stuff into handle. Glue or wire baby's breath, pepper tree berries, dried flowers, small red peppers and twigs in place.

20. Votive CANDLE IN TWIGS
Glue small twigs and glazed strawberries together around candle cup, with hot glue gun or other quick-setting glue. Twigs should branch away from rising heat of candle; use as many as needed for strength and visual appeal.

21. GUMDROP WISHING WELL
Use three 2"-thick Styrofoam discs. Cut out centers of two; place on base, using toothpicks to hold layers together. Two rectangles of Styrofoam joined with toothpicks form roof, which extends past base (see sketch, above); two Styrofoam poles support roof. Using paint recommended for Styrofoam, paint in and outside of all parts. Join parts to form well, using toothpicks; dust with cinnamon for spice and to soften paint color. Cover base with various sizes of gumdrops on toothpicks. Edge roof with large-size gumdrops; then cover top with small gumdrops and cubes of sugar glued on. Form handle and roof from coat hanger; place on well. Add gumdrop knob; decorate supports with velvet leaves; tie small bucket to rod and fill with gumdrops.

22. WREATH THAT GROWS
Make hanging loop on top of wire wreath frame; wrap frame with sphagnum moss, mossing it in place and putting planting mix inside as you go. Dampen; place succulent plants in place; push roots into moss with fingers; hold in place with fern pins or hairpins. Plants such as hens-and-chickens, baby's tears, etc. soon take root and establish in wreath. Start wreath early, then decorate with cones, pods, berries.

23. HEN AND CHICKS IN BASKET
Fill a basket with excelsior, then position hen, chicks or whatever ceramic, porcelain, or dough figures you choose; decorate with large bow.

24. SPRAY
Tie a bundle of pine greens together slightly above center with fine wire, making a hanging loop on back. Put wood skewer through orange; wrap wire around skewer on one side; attach to side; wrap around skewer on other side; tie with wire. Wire around ends of cones, attach to pine to cover skewers that may show. Glue small cones and nuts to satin and velvet bow; attach to spray.

25. BASKET OF AZALEAS, CONES
Line inside of attractive and durable basket with heavy-duty plastic; carefully turn plants out of pots and set in basket in a bed of moist peat or sphagnum moss. Finish with green cedar, pinecones, bright ribbon.

continued
strips of paper. Wrap yds. emerald wreath frame, then wrap outside with ribbon around wreath diagonally. Cut ribbon: same amount and sizes of emerald ribbon, make bow at top with flap to form triangle. Next, tack to wreath. Leaves are

[continued]

26. RIBBON WREATH
Stuff tissue paper inside 12" wire wreath frame, then wrap outside with strips of paper. Wrap 3½ yds. emerald more ribbon around wreath diagonally. From 2 yards 2½" wide plaid taffeta ribbon, make bow at top with two 3" loops and two 2½" loops on each side. Gather at center; wire to wreath. Leaves are 1½ yds. each 1" and 1½" wide apple green picot ribbon; same amount and sizes of emerald green picot ribbon. Cut 1½" ribbon in 3" lengths with 45° angle at each end; fold in half, then open one flap to form triangle. Next, tack together at center, gathering raw edges; pull tightly and secure to form leaf. Make leaves of 1" ribbon in same way, cutting 2½" long instead of 3". Make berries from ½ yd. each of ½", 2" and 3½" wide white ribbon. Cut ribbon to form a square; fold square diagonally to form a triangle; turn bottom corner back; sew two edges together. Turn right side out; stuff with Dacron; gather top opening, pulling tight to form berry. Sew on tiny crystal beads to simulate seeds. Place leaves and berries on wreath, as in photo, pinning in place with straight pins hidden in folds of leaves. Tie ribbon loop at top for hanging.

27. FLOWERS ON TWIG WREATH
Wire 6" long twigs to wire frame by wrapping with flexible spool wire so it is round and full. Make hanging loop atop and spray with glossy wood so it is round and full. Make hanging loop atop and spray with glossy wood tone to even out color of bark and conceal frame; dry. Fill with silk or paper flowers and leaves as in photo.

28. CULINARY WREATH
Wire 6"-long twigs to wire frame with flexible spool wire. Attach clusters of decorative herbs around circle, such as small dried onions, small red peppers, shallots, white blossoms of Oriental garlic, yellow buttons of tansy, bay leaves, golden sage, nutmeg and lemon geranium leaves, winter savory, English thyme and rosemary. Attach hanging loop at top.

29. IVY TOPIARY TREE
Begin with a basket made of twigs glued together; fill with sphagnum moss and a papier-mâché plant liner (available at floral supply shops). Topiary ball, which rests on sturdy twigs, is shaped chicken wire filled with moss. Train English ivy to grow around ball (ivy in photo is two years old). Mount red African daisy and carnation blossoms in individual Aqua-Piks (from floral supply stores) and poke into moss of ball. Mushroom rooms grow along with ivy in basket.

Warmth of Christmas
[pictured on pages 58-59]

Egg Treasures
[pictured on pages 56-57]

Materials:

Eggs
White, all-purpose glue
Water-base acrylic paint
Design elements, trim, stand
Long hatpin, pencil, manicure scissors, cotton swab, toothpicks, piece of Styrofoam, tweezers
Wash and dry room-temperature egg. Pierce shell center top and bottom with long pin. Wringle pin to enlarge holes, making bottom hole larger than top one, but neither larger than ¼". Push pin in and stir to break up yolk. Hold egg bottom over bowl, place mouth over top hole and blow hard to force contents out through bottom hole. An alternative: Pierce side of egg where opening is to be, using manicure scissors. Cut a nicked-sized hole and shake out contents.

Cut opening before inside of egg dries: First, trace opening onto egg surface with light pencil line. If you wish, apply coat of white, all-purpose glue around penciled line; this will dry quickly to support shell as you cut. With point of manicure scissors, pierce shell inside penciled line. Insert scissors blade and cut around line. (For smooth cut, keep points of scissors turned in and cut with blades fully inserted; do not snip with points of scissors, as this tends to crack shell.) Wash inside of egg, removing loose membrane with cotton swab. Let egg dry thoroughly. To make lovely egg treasures like the two small ones in photo, work out your design beforehand. For background, cut out a section from a greeting card or inexpensive print. Tiny trees in foreground are sold in craft shops.

Stuff egg with tissue paper, then paint the outside. To dry it prop egg on toothpicks inserted in Styrofoam. Glue in background print when egg dries, diluting glue with a few drops of water and applying it gently with a toothpick. Glue central figure in place. Trim opening with beads, sequins, gold paper, ribbon or metallic braid, applying glue to shell.

Cut A to fit around box (see sketch, above), plus ½" overlap with height from bottom edge of cover to bottom of box plus ¼". Cut B to 2" shorter in height than A and twice as long (piece, if necessary). Turn narrow hem along top of B; cover with rickrack; stitch. Mark bottom edge of A into 10 or 12 equal parts; do same on B. Place B on A. Side and bottom edges flush and marks matching; stitch at each mark from bottom edge to top of B; stitch ½" from one end only.

Cut pleats above former pockets; press to hold in place. Brush glue lightly half-way around side of box; turn ¾" to wrong side on top edge of A; smooth A in place with fold edge along bottom edge of cover and 1" overlap at bottom. Glue around other half; turn under end of B and glue fold edge along stitching at start. Turn under along bottom; glue in place. Glue red ribbon around box cover; glue pincushion to top.

Tie straw/husk bundles firmly at exact center with double thread; knot three times; trim thread.
WISE AND WITTY CREATURES
IN NEEDLEPOINT PILLOW KITS

By Ann B. Bradley

If you love needlepoint, you’ll enjoy stitching some of these beguiling creatures. Surrounded by a golden bargello-stitch honeycomb (left, below), our bee trio hovers on a leaf-green needlepoint center. The quickly stitched bargello owls (right), symbols of good luck, perch on tree limbs against a brilliant blue-green sky. Both pillows finish at 14 by 14 inches.

Our fabulous feline (below, right) is a huggable pillow in a crazy-quilt needlepoint design. It measures approximately 12 by 12 inches. All kits include canvas, yarn and needle, design, color guide and corduroy backing. (Piping and zipper come with square pillows.) Stuffing and pillow forms are not included.

Diamond-pattern bargello pillow designs (below), each 14 by 14 inches, come in blue or red, with cream-and-brown accents. Kits are complete except for pillow forms.
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- Eggcraft
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- Bright Barrettes
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**STEP INTO THE WARMTH OF CHRISTMAS**

Page 58. Bottom, right: Shaker table, spindle-back bench, Tom Mosher, New Gloucester, Me.

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