

For the INDUSTRIOUS NEEDLEWOMAN

By ADELAIDE BYRD

FOR THE SERVING PLATTER

Designed by ANN J. LOOS

IF YOU could only see this design in its entirety, you would find it as attractive as it is effective. It is decidedly convincing. I showed it to one of my friends yesterday, and she resolved to join the ranks of the embroiderers. You see what a pretty design it is.

It is a large oval centerpiece, to be placed upon the serving platter on the dining table. If worked in color on tan or gray linen, it will decorate the oval library table or the long hall table.

There are so many ways of working this that I know you are eager to begin.

Soft mercerized cotton or silk may be used with success. The lovely design can be worked in either solid or eyelets, and if you like a combination, why, you can easily use both.

The basket is worked in outline stitch. Go over the outlining and whip the overlapped threads together. This will give the work a heavy, cord-like appearance that is very good looking.

Now for the flowers. If you are going to work them solid, you will pad the length of the petals with darning cotton. The over-and-over stitch fills the oval spaces very quickly. The solid petals

and eyelet centers make an effective showing.

Outline the stems and work the leaves in either solid or eyelet stitch. Stem stitch should fill in the handle of the basket. Another effective way is to outline each side and fill in with seed stitching, which is nothing but fine back stitches.

When you work the bow, you can use one of the following methods: Solid Kensington stitch, which runs parallel with the edge of the ribbon and fills in the place in smooth beauty, takes some time. It gives a satiny finish, though, that resembles a bow of ribbon. No padding is required.

Another way is to outline the edges, whip them and then fill in the space with seed stitching, running the length of the ribbon. This is very effective.

Some women like the bow worked crosswise after padding. This gives an entirely different effect, and it paid

work to your liking. It is to be recommended.

The wreaths at the sides of the centerpiece give excellent opportunity for eyelet work. Your own preference will determine how you will work it.

Pad the scallops with darning cotton and work with buttonhole stitches, giving a second treatment, so that no fraying will result.

There! You have the design, the main points in working, and I know you have the enthusiasm. Begin on this lovely centerpiece, for I have a store of other beautiful designs coming.

Summer Pajamas for Boys

THE mother of boys will find the problem of expense greatly simplified if she will make their pajamas and shirts at home.

A really well-made set of pajamas, ready made, costs from \$1 to \$1.50, and as it takes but four yards of single-width material to make a set for a 14-year-old boy, counting the cost of material at 25 cents a yard; buttons, 3 cents; a spool of cotton, 5 cents, and tape, 5 cents, you can easily see how by making them yourself your boy can have two sets for the price of one ready made.

If your boy already has pajamas that have been bought ready made, you can take the pattern of them to cut the new ones by; if not, a paper pattern can be bought at any first-class shop.

For summer wear select the softest, coolest material you can find that has body enough to stand the wear and tear of frequent laundering. The very finest material for this purpose is silk gingham, a cotton goods with a silk thread woven through it. The cotton possesses also much of the comfortable garments of this kind. Either of these materials can be bought for 25 cents, or less, per yard.

The best way to cut the material for sewing is to lay it doubled on a table, and then lay the pattern on with the leg, front of coat, sleeve portion, collar and pocket on the straight of the material and the back of the coat having its center on a lengthwise fold. Close up the side and shoulder seams of the coat first with a French or lapped seam; join the sleeves with a plain seam, and whip the raw edges. The sleeves are sewed into the coat with lapped seams; the coat's front is hemmed; buttonholes are worked on the right-hand side and buttons sewed on the left side; the collar is then attached to the coat with a felled seam. The bottom of the coat and sleeves are finished with a plain hem. You may add a patch pocket to the upper left-hand side of the coat if you wish.

Remember that the trousers legs must not be in the least tight, and if the boy is stout, it is best to allow extra width to the top when you are cutting them out. Use a French or lapped seam when making the trousers and leave an opening about four inches long at the front. Face this on one side, and on the other (that laps under) stitch a two-inch wide piece. The top is finished with a two-inch facing, through which runs a piece of cord, which ties around the waist. Each leg is finished with a hem around the bottom.

Pajamas are really very easy to make, once you get started. Those of silk or pongee are a delight to any boy or man, and if made at home, will cost little compared with the price of those ready made.

How to Transfer

HERE are suggestions for transferring the pattern, before you go to any material before working. Perhaps the easiest way is the "wax-paper" method. This is successful when the material is thin, like linen, batiste, etc. Pin the sheet of paper and the material together and hold them up against the glass of a window. With a sharp pencil draw on the material the design, which can be easily seen through the glass. If one-half of the design only is given, unpin the paper and turn the other side to the paper and trace the design on the material. The strong light behind will make it plain.

If you have carbon paper, you should place the sheet between your fabric and the newspaper. This layer is on top. With a sharp pencil go over the outline of the design. The ink will be left in fine lines and will last until washed. This method is successful on heavy material.

The last way is also easy. On wax paper or ordinary tissue paper trace and outline the pattern with a heavy lead pencil. Turn over the paper and press down on the fabric and redraw the outline, pressing hard with the pencil. The pattern will be transferred without difficulty.

Barely the way is easy.

A Bead Necklace

MOST girls love to wear a pretty string of beads, especially with their frocks and blouses just after they get out of school. But every girl cannot afford to buy the beautiful and curious bead necklaces that are now so fashionable.

Sometimes these cost many dollars and are considered to be very valuable possessions; and, indeed, the curiously wrought oriental-looking beads make a charming finish to the neck of any gown.

Do not despair if you cannot afford to buy; make a bead chain for yourself, and be happy.

Very lovely are those made of large round or elongated Venetian beads alternating with strings of fine gold beads.

At the antique shops you can purchase the Venetian beads (get eighteen or them for a fifteen-inch necklace), and a bunch of the small gold beads that can be purchased at any art needlework department at the large stores, and a little gold-filled clasp for the neck.

String twelve beads and then a Venetian bead, and repeat this until you have used up all of the eighteen large beads. Use strong linen thread that has been waxed for the work; thread this as fine a needle as it will take, or if the needle is too coarse, wax the end of the thread until it is stiff. Then push this through the hole in the beads.

Attach the clasp by string the thread in a small tight knot at the end and covering it with a small bead. Oriental beads of porcelain or glass are beautiful when combined with the small gold or silver beads. Beads of opalescent crystal are also very beautiful, and can be worn with any colored dress.

If you want a long chain of beads, make the thread when finished fifty-four inches long. This will do either to wind several times around the neck or to fasten to a watch to wear tucked into the belt of your blouse. Since these bead chains are so generally favored, why not make yourself one or two to add charm to your summer frocks?

Filling for Summer Cushions

ANY woman can make herself a number of inexpensive cushions for the summer bungalow or the porch of the little house in the country by cutting a roll of cotton batting into small squares and heating it in a baking pan in the oven for half an hour. Each little square of cotton will fluff up to twice its natural size, and will be as light as a feather; but you must take care not to have the oven too hot or it will scorch.

Use half a roll of cotton for each pillow, filling a multi slip eighteen inches square. Cover this with a dainty slip of some material that will wash well—chiffon, flannel, or crepe—and cover with a gay, stamped cover that can be bought for the purpose—and your summer cushions will be a joy for the entire season.

For Home Dressmakers

WHEN a seam becomes wrinkled in sewing on the machine, dampen it slightly and press it on the right side with a warm iron, laying a piece of the same material over it and pulling the seam gently, as you run the iron over it. This will shrink the material and the seam will become quite smooth.

When putting a hem in a skirt, loosen the stitch on the machine and stitch the edge of the material. This will draw in any fullness and it will be unnecessary to lay darts or pleats in the goods when the hem is sewed in.

Helpful Hints

IN ORDER to keep the correct width in drawn work it is best to always draw the threads by measurement rather than by counting them, as the threads in even the best linen are sometimes of uneven thickness.

One of the most useful things to keep in the sewing basket is a small pair of tweezers to pull out stubborn threads left in the basting, especially those that the sewing machine stitching has gone over.

A labor saver when basting straight seams is to use the little wire paper clips to hold the material together, instead of sewing the seam the full length. They will hold it perfectly even and will not fall out, as is the danger with pins.

A satisfactory way to prevent hand-burnished scallops from fraying is carefully to cut away the material from the edge of the finished scallop and overcast, bringing the needle up inside the purged edge, making very small stitches.

When Yokes Shrink

FEW of us have escaped the horror of finding, after our summer frocks or gowns have been returned from the laundry for the first time, that the yoke has shrunk and the collar is entirely too tight for comfort. It is the experience of almost every woman before the season of thin, cool frocks is over, and one that few know how to remedy.

Should the yoke of your frock require to be enlarged, add the width at the center of the back and the shape of the yoke will not be spoiled.

This can be done either by letting out the hem in the back and facing the raw edges or by inserting a narrow lace insertion on the inside of the hem, each side of the opening.

The fact that almost every lace or embroidery yoke opens in the back makes this a simple task, and as a yoke rarely requires more than an inch of additional width, simplifies the matter greatly. Don't despair if you are confronted with a too tight yoke; make it comfortably large in this manner.

USES FOR OLD KID GLOVES

THERE are many uses for the tops of your old kid gloves. Do not consign them to the scrapbasket before you have tried at least some of the useful and dainty ways to utilize them.

A very lovely little handbag is made from the tops of both gloves; if they are sixteen-button length, so much the better; but the bag can be made from twelve-button length gloves.

Cut the glove tops off as close to the wrist opening as possible, then cut the seam off very close. This will give two pieces about six inches wide at the bottom and eight inches wide at the top. Lay them together and cut them eight inches long, or, if that is not possible, as near to that length as you can.

Keeping the widest part for the top, lay the pieces with the right sides together and stitch them on the sewing machine, rounding off the corners at the bottom. One inch and a half from the top cut six one-half inch long as you would for a buttonhole, placing them one inch apart. These you may outline with the outline stitch if you wish, although they do just as well if left with a raw edge, and through them run half-inch-wide ribbon matching the color of the kid, or a silken cord of the same color, to draw the mouth of the bag together.

Have your monogram stamped on one side of the bag, or, if you are clever with a pencil, you may mark it yourself. This is to be embroidered with silk floss or outlined with small crystal beads and filled in with gold or silver beads.

The decoration can be in a conventional design and carried out in any way you like best; but the beaded designs are most effective.

These little bags can be lined with silk or satin, as you wish, or can be left unlined if the kid is of a good, thick quality.

Unusual and very attractive are novelties for the hat that are made from the tops of suede gloves. The tops of a pair of white or colored gloves (not black), a spool of fine milliner's wire, a steel knitting needle and an awl or very large needle for punching holes and you are ready for work.

In a wreath enclosing a natural-colored straw hat, white kid was used for the flowers and golden brown for the leaves and calyx. A paper pattern having five flower-shaped petals and a simple leaf design having five sections, also a five-pointed star a little smaller than the flower pattern, were cut out. The flowers were 2 1/2 inches in diameter and the other portions cut accordingly; but you may suit yourself in size.

Lay the pattern on the kid and mark the outline with the knitting needle; do not use a pencil or the marks will show; then cut out very carefully and press them into a basin of cold water.

When they have become thoroughly wet through, take out and absorb the superfluous water with a towel or by laying them between blotting paper. While they dry out a little cut thin strips of the kid four inches long and wind around the wire for the stems, securing each end with a drop of glue. Make stems of a strip of kid one-half inch wide and 1 1/2 inches long, cut in quarter-inch slots on one side. Roll this around the end of the stem wire and, punching a hole through the center of the flower portion and the calyx, run the stem first through the former, then through the latter and put a drop of glue in the hole to secure them to the stem.

Veins on the flower cup are marked with the point of the knitting needle, and then the petals are rolled up at the edges over the needle and the round head of the awl is pressed into each petal to give it the cusped appearance. Lay them aside to dry and the flower is ready to use. A piece of wire is glued to the center of each leaf on the under side so that it can be bent in shape and the leaf veins are marked with the knitting needle.

If you like, after the flowers are dry, they can be tinted with watercolor paint, and if you make the leaves of white kid they also can be tinted green, and you can make a variety of flowers by using different colored kid or tinting white in any shade you like best. The work is not difficult, but forms a delightful amusement for the woman who loves to make dainty things with her fingers.

Fastening Skirts and Yokes

SKIRTS and dresses have an unpleasant way of splitting down below the limit allowed for the placket hole, no matter how firmly they are stitched, and some thin fabrics require very careful handling, or the stitches show and look unsightly on the right side.

An excellent plan, and one by which all such troubles are avoided, is to sew a hook and eye at the extreme end of the placket, hook it together and pinch the hook tight so it cannot come undone. This will keep neat and prevent the opening from tearing down when the dress is slipped off and on.

When making a bodice with a lace yoke, a good plan instead of sewing it in is to sew snap fasteners on; then it can be removed and washed when it becomes soiled, without the trouble of ripping out stitches and sewing the yoke in again.

To keep the blouse in position around the waist line, get two parent fasteners and sew the pointed part to the waist line of the blouse and the eyelets to a piece of wide elastic, making them correspond in position to those on the blouse. Fasten the elastic with a hook and eye at the ends.

This is an excellent plan for a blouse that is not lined, as it allows it to rise and slip down again in position when the arms are raised or lowered.

One-half of design

Summer Hatpins

SMALL handmade lace medallions of Irish crochet are delightful little covers for pins worn in the summer hat.

Select smooth-topped hatpins, any size you like best, although it is best not to have them over one inch and a half in diameter, and cover their tops with pieces of dark-colored silk or satin. Have white satin for the all-white hat, and crochet dainty lace covers, placing a little lace flower in the center of each. The pin is covered with silk first and then the lace cover is sewed on underneath the pin's head. These can be easily taken off and washed if they become soiled.

