



CRAFTS

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# Crafts

Crafts make good gifts. Crafts are items we can make from materials around the home, office, or purchase a few inexpensive materials to make quality gifts. Crafts made from hand rather than purchase sends a deep message from the heart. In view of the fact, we can consider quilts, scrapbooks, cross-stitching, dressmaking, crocheting, and more. To get started let's go over a few details on how to make quick, easy scrapbooks. We can begin with designing heirlooms, buying quality material, affordable material, borders, pressing illustrations, flowers, and more.

Scrapbooks are a clippings, photos, and mementos that help families to grow closer by pulling up old memories. Scrapbooks help us to preserve the past and send words of past people in the future. Pictures can say a thousand words and help new coming relatives see what type of person we are.

## How to Safe Keep Scrapbooks and Crafts

Scrap booking is designed to keep families connected, recall past events, and to clear up clutter. Since 1998, millions of dollars were spent on materials to make scrapbooks. Since scrapbooks are popular, stores across the world are opening up shops. At the shops, you will find materials to make crafts, including scrapbooks. In addition, you can purchase affordable materials at Dollar Stores.

### How to gather materials:

You will need scotch tape, flour paste, rubber cement/, rubber stamps, and more to start creating your scrapbooks. For now, we can cover the basics and move onto deeper content to create your mementos. The information is basics, which you can consider when you start your craft project, i.e. scrapbook. Before you move into the project however, you will need safe keep tips to protect your papers and photos.

### How to gather vitals:

Genealogy is part of the process of making scrapbooks. You will find genealogy sites online, or write to the "Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing" Offices in Washington D.C. Federal records are available as well, which you can write to the US Department of Commerce and the Bureau of Census to obtain copies.

### Making the origins for scrapbook:

Victorian scrapbooks are common, since the original copies were likely started in this era. At this time people would decoupage, i.e., the people would use artistic skills to decorate shells by dressing patterns, or cutouts and then placing covers over them, using glaze. The ancient methods are used today.

TIP: Laminators are machines that glaze scrapbooks made today, which you can likely get good results using the equipment. You can purchase affordable laminators in various stores, or online.

## How to Safe Keep Scrapbooks and Materials

Today craft companies are making safer tools to invent scrapbooks. Today you can purchase rubber stamps and paper crafting materials, rather than products made of lignin. Lignin is best used when creating archives. Otherwise, the material breaks down into an acidic compound as the years pass. If you want shapes, you can also purchase oval croppers. The croppers will assist you in cutting out oval shaped photos and paper.

To get started with a scrapbook you will need materials that protect your photos and/or papers. Remember the lignin is not suited for scrapbook making. Scrapbooks need a stamp of endorsement.

### How stamp your scrapbook:

Remember you want to avoid acid-based materials to make up your scrapbook, since acid will damage your photos, papers, etc. When searching for rubber stamps look for the products that has on its label, "OK," or "CK." Craft companies and manufactures promote these products since they are safe to use in scrap booking.

### How to store your scrapbooks:

Once you create your scrapbook you will need to keep it safe. You want to keep your scrapbook away from moist areas. Dampness will cause distortion. Anyway, including your self-viewing your scrapbooks should wash their hands first.

If you intend to insert newspaper clippings in your scrapbook be advised that the materials are commonly made up of acid-based compounds. If you kids are viewing your pages, and leave fingerprints, use mist, window cleaners, and a paper towel to wipe down your book. Scrapbooks experts recommend that you wear "cotton gloves," when viewing your photos.

Only handle the photos at the corners, since skin pigmentations submit oils that can damage photos. Humidity can damage photos also, as well as coldness. Try to keep your room temperature where you store your scrapbook around 75 degrees. In addition, store your scrapbook in dark regions to avoid damage caused from sunbeam exposure.

Protecting your photos and papers before you create a scrapbook is essential. Always store your papers and photos in a storage box.

## Crafting the Essentials in Scrap Booking

### How to learn craft terms for scrap booking

Terms are important in life, including when crafting scrapbooks. When you visit craft stores it is great to know a few terms so that the sale clerks will think you are an expert. In addition, having a basic line of terms will help you find your way, rather than getting lost when you hear the clerks talk foreign craft lingo. To get started we can consider acid.

How to understand craft and scrapbook terms:

Acid-free products are the key to creating and preserving your scrapbook. You want to request materials that do not have acid-based chemical reactive content. The Ph level should be around seven or even higher, to produce a safe keep scrapbook. The products should not have polyvinyl chlorides; therefore look for PVC-Free materials. Instead, look for materials made of polyester, polyethylene, or polypropylene. Lignin-Free materials will prevent your newspapers, or clippings from yellowing. Lignin is acid based. In addition, you want to learn steps to avoid acidic contents touching your scrapbook. You should wash your hands prior to touching your scrapbook, and request that anyone touching your scrapbook wash their hands beforehand.

Archival is a common term in crafts, since many scrapbooks are made up as archivals. Archival is the process of protecting your scrapbook from fading, yellowing, or deteriorating. Buffer paper is recommended for crafting scrapbooks. Buffer paper will protect your book from defused acids, and acid migrating from damaging your papers and photos. To find buffer paper suitable for scrapbook crafting, look for paper with the label "Photo Activity Test," approved or P.A.T., which is approved by ANSI. (American National Standards Institute)

If you plan to glue your photos and news clippings, or other materials in your scrapbook, keep in mind that reversible adhesive is optional. The contents will allow you to remove the photos later and re-locate them in necessary.

"CK OK," is the "Seal of Approval" that provides you a safe keep in scrap booking. If the materials you purchase do not have this seal, leave it alone.

Scrapbook crafting entails cropping, workshop, page exchange, produce swap, scrapbook club, layout, "Pass the chocolate," mounting, double mount, heading, embellishment, them, title page, page, and memorabilia."

How to crop:

Cropping can be done with PhotoShop otherwise, you will need scissors. The process requires that you trim the photos to fit your book. Cropping also entails collecting, allocating ideas, and putting the parts in order so that it tells a story. Workshop is the process of working together with other scrap bookers to come up with ideas. You can use PhotoShop to devise a scheme.

Page exchanging is similar to workshop, only you bring a page with you and work with others to share ideas and to craft a page. Product swapping is the process of getting rid of old craft materials, such as scissors, papers, etc, and swapping with your friends to gain new materials. You can create a scrapbook club from here, which swapping can occur and you and your friends can "pass the chocolate."

How to layout your scrapbook:

In your club, you will hear the term layout. The term is used to define page grouping. Page grouping is the process of collecting your pages and inserting them alongside the joined group, using the same theme. You can devise your own theme, such as "My Scrapbook of Memories."

Once you adhesive your photos on a single sheet of paper you are conducting the process of mounting. Double mount is comparable to Layer Mattes. The process includes adhesive two cuts of paper, sticking them together with the photos resting on top of the papers.

Embellishment is the terms used to define die-cuts, stickers, or related materials that make up a page in your scrapbook. The header is your title page. Title page is the start of making your scrapbook. For instance, "Jane Does Scrapbook." The theme will define your overall ideas behind your scrapbook. Page is the process of making up non-photographic materials, such as journal, embellishments, etc decorated around your photos. Finally, memorabilia is adding souvenirs, official documents, artwork, or related documents to your scrapbook.

## How to Choose Craft Materials for Scrapbooks

### How to choose adhesives

Adhesives are important to keep your scrapbook materials together. Buying the correct adhesives is just as important to keep your photos safe. Scrap bookers want to adhere to the "CK OK" seals when purchasing adhesives. Some people use rubber cement to create scrapbooks, yet recent studies has shown that the material will damage photos. You can choose glues, paste, or tape to create your scrapbook, which is your choice. The best materials however are provided to you in this article.

How to choose adhesives:

Adhesives include P.A.T. (Photo Activity Test) materials. P.A.T. has tested the adhesives to make sure that it will not damage your scrapbook. Adhesives include acrylic based or starched based products, which are safe keeps. Reversible adhesives, white and/or colorless, odor free, chemical additives, migratory, non-toxic, neutralized pH sever or higher, etc are safe keep adhesives to create scrapbooks.

Any glue you purchase should not run, relax, or have any odors once it dries. It should not transfer either. Moreover, the glue should not distort, color, or damage your photos.

TIP: Use heavy paper when crafting your scrapbook.

In craft stores, you will find a selection of glues, including sticks, bottle liquids, glue pens, etc. You can test the products to see which are best suited for your scrapbook process. The glue sticks are ideal if you want to produce a scrapbook with less the muddle. For smaller projects, you may want to use the pens. You will need to apply enough force to stick your smaller objects. Use the bottled liquid glue to stick die cuts, fragments, or scraps.

If you want to embellish, you can use the two-way pens. When the pens are moist it provides are stern adhesive, yet you can remove your scraps, papers, photos, etc, at your convenience.

Scotch tape is great to use as adhesives. Tape is easier to use than glues. When choosing tape however makes sure, you have a tape roller. Tape will provide you a reversal along with quick processing. Reversible tape includes the double tape also. To use tapes merely consign the scotch tape or double tape on your pages. On the opposite side, stick your embellishments, documents, photos, etc.

Glue and tape is cheaper than the Xyron machines. The machines will make up quality scrapbooks. The machines are ideal if you plan to create multi-scrapbook projects. You can use the machine as a laminator. In addition, you can make stickers with the Xyron machines

In addition to the machines, glues, tapes, etc, you may want to invest in photo splits and precut glue, paste, cement, etc.

How to use splitters:

To use photo splits you can drag out your tabs. Once you tug out your tab(s) submit them to your scrapbook page. You will need to skin, or unpeel the layers at the top.

Once you decide which adhesives you want to use you will need to consider ink. In the meantime, the glues should not have acids incorporated into its substance. In addition, the adhesives should be lignin-free.

Scrapbooks are a way to bring your family together. Down through the years you can review your scrapbooks to recall lost memories, or to spark fragmented memories, bringing them to a full picture. To craft your scrapbook however, you want to "Keep Safe" in mind. Keep Safe means to purchase materials that protect your certificates, photos, letters, news clippings, and related embellishments.

As I said, once you purchase your glues you want to consider ink. Ink is your writing tool that helps you to add journals, storybooks, records, names, dates, etc.

## How to Choose Craft Ink for Scrapbooks

### How to choose pens and protectors

Once you gather your glue, paper, photos, embellishments, etc, you will need to consider ink to mark your scrapbook. Ink is important to label photos and embellishments, including adding dates, names, locations, etc. While the marketplace sells a variety of pens, it is important to know the craft types that will give you a lasting memo.

#### How to choose ink:

Black felt-tip pens are sufficed to handle craft scrapbook projects. Use the pen to label, mark, or write journals. If you intend to mark the back of your photos, use the grease and/or waxy pens. One of the best pens to use is the Photo Marker. The pen is has a fine tip and is a black permanent marker. The pen however allows you to use cloth to remove any writing from the back of your photos. You may want to learn about the guidelines for "CK OK pens." The pens are tested and approved by Craft experts.

Pens include the light fast and the fade resistance pens. Waterproof, odorless, non-toxic, etc, are ideal pens for scrapbook projects. The pens should not present any odor once the ink has dried. In addition, the pen should be highly resistant to changes, i.e. it should be a permanent swift drying pen. You want to look for the pens that do not bleed, as well as for the pens that do not migrate. In short, look for craft pens with the seal "P.A.T." (Photo Activity Test)

Once you choose your pens, you will need protectors. Protectors should be PVC integrated. In short, you will need odorless protectors. Protectors will shield your scrapbook once it is complete from acids, or other damaging elements.

#### How to choose protectors:

Protectors include the complete page covers. The protectors will help you to organize your photos while protecting them from slips. You can add memos while using protectors. Page protectors are another type of covering for your scrapbook. In short, page protectors are sheets of plastic. You can purchase the top-loaders, or side-loaders. You can use the sheets, since it has holes to make up binders as well. The economical page protectors include the lightweight. The lightweight protectors are thinner than the medium and heavy protectors are.

#### How to choose plastics:

To choose plastics consider enclosures, sheets, and encapsulation. The plastic should be made up of polyethylene, polypropylene, and/or polyester. Vinyl should not be used to protect your photos. You will need colorless, clear plastic protectors combined with a P.A.T., seal. The plastic should be odorless and untreated. You want quality plastic that does not include plasticizers. The surface should have coating, yet the sides should not. If you want to protect your scrapbooks, i.e. photos, embellishments use the UV inhibitors. Ultimately, you can use the sheets, which absorbs.

The non-glare or clear plastics should be considered when purchasing protectors. Non-glare will reduce glares shining on your pages with its matte alike elements. The clear is ok, yet unlike the non-glare, you do not get the luxury of reducing smudging, or fingerprints. To learn more about the latest pens and protectors go online where you will find a variety of products available to you. Do not forget to search for the seals.

Another type of protector is the panoramic pages. Page is great if you want to view four-sides of your spreads. The protector is great for creating vacation scrapbooks. Once you gather your pens and protectors, you want to move onto paper. The cardstocks is ideal for designing quality scrapbooks that will last a long time.

## How to choose Craft Paper for Scrapbooks

Now that you have your pen, glue, protectors, etc, you will need to choose paper for your scrapbook. Craft paper with seals of approval is ideal when creating scrapbooks. Craft paper includes the CK OK products. Paper designed for photocopying, journals, or albums are the choice papers. The paper that most crafters use is the pH that does not go over 8.0. The ideal level is 6.5 and/or 7.5. Un-buffered paper is the choice for many crafters, yet some recommend buffer paper with alkaline base. Paper should have an acid-base; therefore look for the lignin-free products. Paper without dyes, and are colorfast are choice products also. P.A.T. approved paper is the Photo Activity Test products, which is ideal for scrapbooks.

The paper outlined is ideal for photos. If you intend to add extras, consider pH levels no higher than 7.5 also. Buffer paper should have a very low content of zinc, magnesium, and calcium carbonates. Use the lignin-free and colorfast papers that do not dye as well.

Paper includes the basic of decorative designs. Pattern is a type of paper that has designs that replicate throughout the page. You can find conservative bold, tasteful designs, funky stuff, and so on. You can also purchase matching stickers to setoff your scrapbook.

When you create pattern scrapbooks keep in mind you are creating a book that brings your past to the future. You are creating a memo that tells a person about your past. In view of the fact, when choosing pattern paper try out the general patterns. If you choose extreme patterns, it will only rob viewers of seeing what you crafted to promote in the first place.

How to choose patterns:

"General pattern paper" has a variety of designs, including floral, stripes, and dots. You can choose the general patterns if you want variety. General papers are ideal for those who are searching for versatile results as well.

If you are designing holiday decors use the general patters with minuscule red dots. The dots will blend well with the holidays design, such as those during Christmas.

Once you choose your paper, you can craft some ideas, such as using your patterns to fit in with small and large photos or embellishments. Paper mounts may include single mounts. You can use die cut layers to shape.

How to choose die cuts-

Die cuts for shaping may include small and large-scale patterns. You can also use scraps, punch holes in the patterns to create borders. Patchwork is also made up of scrap patterns.

How to pierce:

Paper piercing is an adventure. To finish the process you merely create layers, such as the matching templates, trace, cut, and join the layers together. Use solid patterns along with general scraps to finish the process.

You can also use scraps from your patterns to create letters. Of course, you can mark your pages, including dates, names, locations, etc, with craft pens, yet the letters you create with patterns will enhance your scrapbook. Try using the patterns to create a title page.

Use patterns also to create letter headings for journals, captions, title page, and so on. If you want to produce a basic layout, use two different patterns. The first pattern should mount your photos while the other is used as a background setting. You can add matching stickers to enhance your new decorative scrapbook pages.

As I said, once you choose your paper search for the designs that match your scrapbook layout. Patterns include the framed designs. In fact, the framed designs can off set your photos dramatically, especially if you choose frames that set off your photos.

For instance, if you have a photo of your child playing soccer, why not choose the framed patterns with soccer as the title in the lower box, and soccer balls around the frame. Next, consider stationary paper, considering how it can off set your scrapbook.

## How to Choose Craft Stationary Paper

Stationary paper makes a great design for any scrapbook. Stationary paper helps you to craft fun pages, basic layouts, extraordinary captions and more. Crafters can purchase stationary paper at any craft shop, stationary store, or scrapbook department. The paper is available in a variety of size, colors, designs, etc.

### How to choose stationary paper:

You want paper that matches your scrapbook theme. The paper should harmonize with the colors in your photo, as well as the subject.

### How to create dividers:

Dividers are crafted to add little amazing features to your scrapbook. Dividers are designed to allow you to separate seasons, events, travel, etc. In short, you can use dividers to create a storybook. Use your pictures and make them come together while crafting your dividers to separate the photos. Again, you want to choose coordinated stationary that matches the theme of your storybook. For instance, if you're creating a Christmas theme, choose snowmen, pine trees, lights, Santa Clause, or related patterns. On the other hand if you are creating a fall theme, then choose orange, yellow, green, and brown patterns, such as those with leaves fallen from trees.

**Tip:** When you prepare to mount photos on stationary paper, you can cut out the interior region, which will not be apparent when showing your photos, to use as extra paper for the next pages.

When you use stationary to craft your scrapbook, try learning steps in die cutting, punching, or use stickers to create additional patterns to set off your photos. For instance, if you are creating a theme, and your pictures have off casts, such as sun, sky, trees, etc, buy stickers, or cut to die cuts or punches to set off your theme.

**Tip:** If you are announcing the birth of a child, try using rubber stamps and print your baby's fingerprints, handprints, or footprints on your stationary. Add your baby's date of birth, name, and so on to set off your card.

Creating scrapbooks is a fun adventure. You can use your creative mind without worrying about being a pro artist to create anything you choose. When you choose patterns and stationary however, always try to make sure that the designs coordinate with your theme to invent a lasting memo.

You will find colors and patterns at craft shops, stationary stores, and so which will match your theme. The paper includes decorative patterns. The patterns include the holiday paper, travel, birth, and more. You will find checkers, stripes, dots, plaids, floral, sports, and other designs online as well. Specialty patterns are designs that offset cardstocks or scrapbooks as well. You will find corrugated or ridged cardstock, handmade paper, vellum, and fabric resembling velvet (Velveteen) at craft stores.

If you are crafty, you may want to make up your own patterns, designs, stationary, etc. You can purchase do-it-yourself kits online or at craft stores. The kits will provide you instructions, guides, etc, that help you to create your own patterns. Keep in mind however, if you are creating your own paper, use the paper approved by P.A.T. or CK OK. Acidy-based paper will cause ruin to your photos, embellishments, etc.

The scrap you have left from your patterns, stationary, etc, you can use to create letterheads for your title page, header, and so on. Otherwise, you can use the scraps to start your next pattern on the following page.

Crafting scrapbooks is a fun adventure that keeps those special moments alive. Once you have purchase your pens, paper, patterns, protectors, stationary, etc, it is time to move on to craft your scrapbook, bringing it alive.

## How to Craft a Lively Scrapbook

Crafting a lively scrapbook is a fun task, and can be accomplished with minimal supplies and cash. Scrapbooks are a storybook combined with pictures, embellishments, documents, and more. Each step you take to living up your scrapbook will tell an amazing story to the audience enjoying your creation. The photos say a thousand words alone, yet if you add background, stationary, patterns, lettering, titles, captions, stickers, etc, you can living it up even more to present an outstanding story.

Penmanship is important. If you need help with penmanship, you may want to create your own letters from scraps, such as patterns or stationary. When you create a scrapbook, you want compelling messages, lettering, journals, pictures, and more. You will need a genealogy to start telling the story of your family and their history. Next, you will need pens, paper, letterheads, stickers, etc, to finish your story. You will find archival pens in a variety of styles, colors, etc.

Pens available to create lively scrapbooks include permanent markers/pens, waterproof, non-toxic, fade-resistance, non-bleeding, quick dry, and pigment ink. Black, felt-tip pens are great also, yet you want to be careful not to apply too much pressure when writing. You want to avoid the acid-based pens, markers, etc. Search for the CK OK and P.A.T. approved pens in the craft stores.

How choose pens for writing lettering and journals:

If you choose, the felt-pens make sure that you understand the point size. The sizes range from .005 to .08-mm, depending on the style.

If you want to invent a fancy scrapbook check out the line of inscription pens. The pens are designed to handle captions, titles, etc. The pen tips have broad, flat tips and when used at a "45-degree" slant you can create beautiful letters. Practice first before using the pen if you are not use to calligraphy styles.

When creating borders, captions, or titles for your scrapbook you can use the Zig writers also. The pens were designed by expert crafters, or manufacturers that specialize in scrap booking. You will find the "Zig Memory" Systems, etc. "EK Success" is the creators of these pens, which include the Zig Writers, Calligraphy, scroll tips, fine tips, dense markers, brush pens, and the bullet pens. You have a selection of colors to choose from.

Additional pens include the chisel, colored pens, pencils, and the goof-proof rollers, which are gel based. Chisel comes in a variety of sizes, colors, etc, and will offer you versatile lettering. Scroll is designed to the handle sophisticated letters. The pen is called "Scroll and Brush. If you are familiar with computer fonts, perhaps the closest font to the scroll pens is the CASTELLAR font.

In addition to pens, you can purchase the craft paint pens. You will find a variety of colors and pen-tip sizes are craft stores, online, stationary stores, and more. The gel-based pens are similar to paint pens. In the line of pens, you will find lightning, milky, and more. The pens are ideal for writing journals.

Color pens enable you to color in areas of your scrapbook to produce a nice looking design. You can use the color pens also to draw your own pictures and more. Colored pencils are ideal for designing titles, lettering, captions, etc. The pencils come in a variety of colors. Some of the popular craft brands include Berol Prsima, and the Zig brands.

TIP: When using paint pens make sure that you apply adequate pressure without over doing it. To create letters, i.e. fancy letters large or small use the double "fine n' chisels.

## How to Choose Film for Crafting Scrapbooks

Pictures make up scrapbooks, since the photos is what delivers a story. Of course, you need journals, lettering, titles, captions, dates, names, etc, yet the photos will make up your book. To create photos for scrapbooks it is wise to choose the proper film speed.

Film as on its label the marks ISO and ASA. If the ASA mark has a high number behind it, the quality of film is good in particular settings only. For instance, if you were taking pictures outdoors where the sun is reflecting brilliant light, you would likely use the ASA 64 to 125 films to avoid sunlight exposure that affects your film. If the light is low, you would use ASA 400 to 800.

If you are capturing movement, use the film with faster speed. The downside however, using this film you may pick up grit and the specific details may be lost. You could use slower speed to pick up the details, yet the film will not do well when picking up motion. Therefore, you need recourse.

Medium film speed is in the range of 64 to 125. The film may blur motion, yet if you take a few steps, you can avoid blurring. For instance, if you are taking a picture of puppy, try holding the camera steady. You can practice a few steps to catch your puppy in action. Better yet, trying supporting your puppy against something to encourage stillness and quickly snap your shot.

The fast speed film includes 200 to 400 ASA. If you are snapping shots in low-lighted areas, use this film. The fast film will capture motion and will not cause blurring.

The best outdoors film where the light is glaring from the sun is the 200 ASA series. This film will not blur when capturing motion.

When snapping shots try to make sure, the subject is relaxed before taking the picture. You can choose lighting also to catch special affects in your photos. For instance, lighting can catch background effects, including silhouette figures.

The 400 ASA series is great for using in low-lit areas. The film is also great to use when you are snapping photos that involve replicated motion. The problem is when you enlarge the photos you may see course, or gritty background.

ASA has the series 800 to 1600. The film works best in low-lit area. The 1600 series is best used in areas where darkness shadows low light. You may have course or gritty texture still.

The day you intend to capture photos for your scrapbook, you should consider carrying along with you a variety of film for all occasions. When you start to take, your pictures consider props, backgrounds, position, directions, etc. If the subject is small, you want to move closer in position to snap your shot.

Professional photographers often tilt their camera, change their direction, or angle and so on. Sometimes the photographer will stand, kneel, or sit when snapping shots. When you prepare to take photos for your scrapbook, try to work as a professional would so that you achieve the best results.

Professional photographers use the "Law of Thirds," when snapping photos. The law states that you should move your, subject to the right or left third. This means you do not move the subject to the center at all times when capturing pictures.

When you snap shots outdoors, you may want to use a flashcube. If you have one of the newer cameras, likely the flash is built-in. Work your camera so that you become familiar with the flash actions. When using "fill flashes," i.e. the outdoor flashes make sure that your subject is at a distance before snapping the shot. (15 feet) Next, learn how to create a garden scrapbook.

## How to Craft a Garden Scrapbook

Garden scrapbooks can present a natural feeling when the audience is reading your storybook. Flowers are one of the popular natural-based elements that many people cherish. You can store flowers in a scrapbook to craft a garden style creation. To start you will need a dried flower. Compress the flower placing it into your scrapbook pocket, such as the memorabilia. Next, glue, tape, etc, the flower so that it is sticking on the page securely. You may have seen flowers preserved in bibles. The process in scrapbooks is similar, only you want to stick the flowers so that it does not fall out.

How to craft flowers for scrap booking:

You can use corsages, bouquets, or the colored part of the flower to craft your garden scrapbook. The compressed and dried flowers should be in a straight line, added to your scrapbook page, and smoothly seated near your photographs.

Your dry flowers and compressed flowers should be laminated. Use Xyron, or any acid-free product to laminate your flowers.

During the fall is the best time to pluck materials to make up a garden scrapbook. As you make up your garden scrapbook consider title page, captions, journal, lettering, photos, plant species, headings and more.

If you are adding fall leaves to your scrapbook, you may want to visit a copy shop. You will need to place the leaves in a sealed container when transferring the leaves. The leaves with depreciate over time if you fail to follow instructions. You can add the leaves at your title page to start your garden scrapbook.

If you are making up a scrapbook to present your garden, snap a few pictures and make up a blueprint. The blueprint should include each detail of your garden. Following, you can add a journal to let your friends and family know how you invented your garden.

When to take photos:

Spring, summer, winter, and fall is the best time to take photos of your garden. Each season provides you a variety of colors, shades, texture, blooms, etc. Once you snap the shots add them to your garden scrapbook.

If you want to get created you can cut, paste, and add extras to your scrapbook, i.e. cut magazine clips based on your garden theme and add them to your scrapbook. Also, you can add tips beside your pictures to help your family and friend learn.

During the seasons, you want to document your gardens activities as well as your own to create a genealogy, and history of your scrapbook. Record detail specifics to help your audience learn from your efforts. During the summer record, the blooms so that when winter comes you can look back on your success. When the blooms start to grow, you may want to snap photos so that you can add to your scrapbook. Try crafting your scrapbook in a chronological order so that your book tells the story you want to portray to the audience.

Some people add special rocks to their scrapbook. If you decide to add, rocks try to find the small, flat rocks. The thicker, bulk rocks will only interrupt your scrapbook.

Flowers are beautiful inside scrapbooks. The flowers that set off garden scrapbooks include roses of all colors, daffodils, tulips, crocuses, and so on. Still, if you add flowers to your scrapbook you want to use petals that harmonize with your theme. For instance, if you are crafting a summer page, then use colorful flower copies. If you are crafting a fall theme, then use the flowers that flow in harmony with your theme. Once you craft your garden scrapbook, you may want to craft a time capsule scrapbook.

## Time in a Capsule Scrapbooks and Craft

### How to create a time capsule

Scrapbooks are fun and tell a story about the characters preserved in its content. Scrapbooks can include photos, journals, letters, report cards, certificates, stories, books, handprints, footprints, college papers and more.

Each detail that goes in your scrapbook will leave you a lasting memory. When you create the time capsule scrapbooks, you invent seals, history, and preserve time as a whole. Time capsules can include photographs, clothes, hand/feet prints, CDs, names, weight, height, and more. For instance, you can make up a scrapbook that records your baby's first step and up until this very moment. You can add a journal, photos, prints, etc to set off your design.

How to start your time capsule:

You will need a container to seal your items. You will pictures and members of your family and friends along with the items they want to add to your scrapbook. Make a list that includes your items, photos, family names, etc. Once you collect your details, close your container, label it, and add the date you started. Include the date you intend to begin your scrapbook.

If you have newspaper clippings including recorded events, add them to your scrapbook. You can trace your children's feet, hands, etc, and add them to your scrapbook as well. You may want to craft a favorite page so that everyone knows your children's, yours, spouse, or friends' particular items of interest.

If you have parts of clothing that brings up memories, add them to your scrapbook. CDs make up great memories in scrapbooks as well, especially if the dates are marked. Photos will tell a story about you, your family, friends, etc. Try to organize the photos so that the storybook comes together.

If you have goals set, you may want to add them to your scrapbook as well. The memos will serve as a reminder.

Graduation articles will make a good time capsule for your scrapbook. You can add photos, graduation gown articles and more. Don't forget to add dates, names, locations, etc so that you have something to remember for a long time to come.

If you wrote a short story, you may want to add it to your time capsule. I had started writing short stories when I was thirteen and would give anything if I would have preserved the copies in my own time capsule. The success we achieve is something to remember for a lifetime, therefore adding stories is giving you a moment to remember.

Some people add locks of hair to their scrapbook. The hair is a reminder of the person they love. In addition, the hair represents a special moment in history.

If you received a special rose from a loved one, or friend you may want to add the flower to your scrapbook. You will need a dried, pressed flower and glue to your page. Add the flower to bring your theme come together. That is if you create a garden page; add the flower in this section. Better yet, if you created a page of your loved one, friend, especially the one that gave you the flower, add it to this section.

If someone in your home is an artist, perhaps you can make a special page for this person. Use the arts drawn and mount them to a page in your scrapbook. Your friends and family will appreciate this special moment, since art says a thousand words.

In all you can add nearly anything you choose to your scrapbook and go back in time in your capsule as you choose. The main idea is using common sense when crafting your scrapbook so that you do not invent bulky pages. Now that you have the basics in scrapbook making, it is time you learnt how to craft doll dresses.

## How to Craft Doll Dresses

Doll dresses are fun to make. First, however you must learn the rules for beginners to make quality designs. To start you will need to consider fabric. Some people like multi-colored clothing, however the clothes must harmonize to deliver quality dresses.

To make sure that you accomplish quality doll dresses, you will need the right equipment and tools. You will need a sewing machine, cleansers, universal needles, including stretch needles, pins, olfaa panel, and a rotary or gyratory cutter. You will also need hand-sew needles, dressmaker scissors, sewing scissors, fabric glue and pen, greaseproof paper for tracing, pencil, measuring tape, lace, ribbons, fasteners, elastic, paper scissors, etc.

Before you get started, you will need to clean your sewing machine. Use "Dust Away," to spray your machine near the bobbin region. You will also need to clean the bar where the needles are installed, as well as the "tension" discs at the top. Once you clear the machine of dust, use a drop of oil.

Now you are prepared to make doll dresses. Before I forget, make sure you have thread, specifically DMC broder if you intend to make French dresses.

### How to trim:

You can use the pin tuck method to trim your doll dress. You will need twin needles, and a foot that is designed for pin tucking. Set up your machine. The right needle should be clockwise while the left counterclockwise. At the "tension" discs, you should have the left needle threaded on the same side, and the right needle threaded on the right thread. To keep your dresses fresh, you can use starch to spray your dress prior to pin tucking.

### How to pin tuck skirts:

When pin tucking skirts make sure you leave some space.

### How to pin tuck sleeves and/or bodice:

Take a square of your fabric and pin tuck it. You can cut out the upper section of the dress and/or sleeves after. Keep in mind when you start pin tucking for sleeves and bodice, the fabric size is modified, or reduced.

If you are not familiar with pin tucks, you can tuck your doll dress. To tuck you merely consider the size and width of your garment. To start you press down, pressing the folded center. Along the fold and edge of your fabric, stitch the width precisely. As long as you stay consistent within your stitching lines, you will do fine. You should always start sewing at the grain after pulling a single thread.

After you complete your dress, or near the finish, you may want to consider bows, tassels, smock, or hand sewn objects. Hand embroidering is ideally used in finishing. Use a range of DMC embroidery to make finish your dress.

Smocking is the added finishing whereas you use patterns to complete your dress. Silk ribbons, satin single and double ribbons make up a great pinafore, or back dressing.

Tassels are easy to make, yet you will, need crochet threads and/or embroidery thread to complete your mission. You will also need cardboard in which you will need to cut out a part a length longer than your tassel. Use your thread, wound it around the cut part, and continue until you have achieved the thickness you desire. At one end of the part, use the same thread and channel it through the thickness. Next, tie the thread so that it knots and at the opposite end of your part, cut. Do not cut your thread. Now you are ready to make your tassel.

To finish, at the knotted region, convey your thread so that it meets with your tassel. Next, wound another part of thread about the finish of your tassel a few times. Knot the area so that it is taut. At the finish of your tassel, skid the thread in to fasten your finished work. If the finish necessitate cutting to make sure it is constant, do so now.

## How to Craft Rosettes

### How to design doll dress rosettes

To get started making a rosette, you will need to run a suture, sewing it so that it stitches to crisscross the length of the ribbon. Pull up until it starts to meet. After you bind the ends so that it materializes into a sphere, stitch the two ends together.

Note: The closer you sew your ends, the smaller your rosette will form and contrasting if you sew at a distance.

### How to Gather your Ribbons

Gathered fabric is known as Shirr. If you intend to shirr ribbons, you will need to start by, using your hands, i.e. needle and thread and stitching a line along the edges of your ribbon and then pulling up to complete the process. You can also run a line of stitching at the center of your ribbon and then pull up the thread to bunch.

### How to Shell your edges:

If you intend to add designs around the hems, sleeve edge and neck edges, you can use the shell methods. Instead of starting on the right side of your fabric, start on the opposite side and fold it onto the other side of the hem. At the folded section, stitch around three times pulling the needle so that it goes beneath the fabric. You should be on the right angle at this time, which you can continue by stitching back to the edges of your folded region. The shell design is completed once you pull your thread in tightly and re-stitch to create a tight fold. You can continue stitching until you have your desired pattern.

Doll rosettes and dresses are fun to make. If you haven't already chosen your fabric to make your doll dress, skip this process. You cannot complete the process until you have designed your dress.

On the other hand, if you are ready to start making, yet another doll dress choose your fabric. You may enjoy mixing colors, patterns, etc, yet make sure that the fabric is put together coordinately. When you choose your pattern, it is wise to measure your doll first. You want to purchase fabric that will produce a dress, fitting to your dolls figure.

The size of the doll is the most important measurement you want to consider when choosing fabric. If you have a large doll, the smaller or medium patterns will work, providing you take the liberty to follow steps in stitching. When you choose your fabrics, also consider shoes, etc. The shoes designed for baby dolls, including the booties. If you have a reproductive doll, choose fashionable shoes. Once you select your shoes, pick socks that coordinate. You may also want to add a hat.

### How to choose hats:

Hats include straw hats, bonnets, rush bonnets, hoop bonnets, and more. When choosing your hat work in coordination with your shoes, socks, fabric, etc. In addition to hats, you may want to consider belts for your doll.

### How to choose belts:

Belts include the Red Sashes', which are cotton belts that are a good match for Nahualla, Huipils, such as Todos Santos, etc. Multi-color belts include the stripes. Totonicapán belts are handlooms, which come in a variety of styles. Zunil is a hand crafted loom, which has many colorful bold designs, as well as figures.

In addition to hats, shoes, socks, belts, etc, you can also find matching purses, bags, jewelry, shawls, hammocks, bedspreads, and more. Matching furniture is also available, as well as dolls that mate with your own doll. Carrying clothes and toys are available online as well, which you may want to create a fancy station for your dolls platform.

## How to Measure your Doll for Craft

If you intend to design a doll dress, you will need to measure your doll. To start you will need to measure the doll from the crown and down to the toes. If you have a baby doll, you will need to measure the chest region. Usually, the dolls have wider chests. The leg measurements should include the internal and external areas, especially if you are designing trousers.

If you are creating a bodice, you want to measure the doll, starting at the center front, and at the baseline of the neck. Continue measure to the waistline. If you are creating yokes you want to start measuring the front center and to the equidistant of the armholes from the back of the neck.

### How to design longer dresses:

You may have a doll that requires a longer dress at the waistline. Use your measuring tape lengthening it so that it meets with the bodice region where the armholes meet the body region between the ribs and the hips.

### How to design wrist and shoulders:

You can add additional length to dolls with bent arms. Merely use your measuring tape and begin measuring at the elbow. Measure the sleeve length also.

### How to design skirts:

If you intend to design a skirt measure the doll, starting at the waistline and continuing to the hips. Make room for hemming. When measuring your pattern always verify the length with the body of your doll. If the skirt does not fit properly, you can add insertions, using lace to create sides or edges farther apart. Use your inclusion lace, begin stitching panels of your tucked region, and insert into the lace. If you are stitching yoke fashions, party dress, christen, etc, use your fabric length to its entirety. You can hem the skirt also. If the right angle does not require hemming, you can hand sew. You can use the edges of your lace to stretch the length to the desired measure. If you are stitching, the round skirts use your inclusion lace and stitch along the edges while turning up the smaller area of your fabric. Pull up your yarn at the top of the lace until the hem is fitted.

### How to measure shorts, trousers, underwear, etc.

To measure trousers, shorts and under garments start at the area where the legs join with the body (Crotch) and continue up to the front center.

### How to adjust underwear:

If the dolls panties are tight, slash the side downward and add to your pattern.

Sometimes sewers must adjust their patterns so that the doll dress fits. To adjust patterns you will need to shape the fabric so that it matches your dolls figure. If you are adjusting baby doll dresses leave space, since the chest region is often broader.

### How to lengthen patterns for bodice:

When you need to lengthen the fabric to fit your bodice, verify the areas before you start lengthening. For instance, if the waistline demands added space review the area to match a fit.

### How to design sleeves:

If you need a full opening, add breadth, as well as altitude. Starting at the top of your pattern, shape your sleeves by slashing downward and working to the edge, while spreading your design to the preferred pattern.

If you need to adjust the sleeves, start by slashing downward toward the center sleeve and continue. You will need paper to stack the sleeve parts. Starting at the center, measure the desired length and opening, measuring the area side by side. Make sure that your top opening is consistent with the edge of your sleeves. Now add your altitude. If you have porcelain dolls, you will need to learn a few stitching tips to get started.

## Porcelain Craft

### How to make porcelain doll dresses

Porcelain dolls, China dolls, etc, are made up of pottery and/or ceramic. The dolls are small, medium, and sometimes long. The twirps, Mellette, or youthful dolls may benefit from hailsport dresses, apron, shoes, socks, and so on. You can purchase socks and shoes at craft shops, otherwise you can hand knit the items for her.

You will need materials to get started. Materials should include 10 inches of hailsport patterns or fabric, which you will use to make underwear and the dress. Add 6 inches of white plain-woven fabric, or batiste to make your apron. The fabric should be made of fine, soft and plain woven-fabrics, such as linen, cotton, etc. add 40 inches and another 3/8 inches of narrowed edge lace to make your underwear, apron, and dress. You will also need light, DMC thread made of poly-cotton. Embroidery DMC thread should be light also to use on your sewing machine. (If applicable) Helmar is a fabric spray that stabilizes the material. You will need this also. You can find other brands at craft stores.

Purchase 818 embroidery threads, such as pink. You will need green also. (524) the thread will be used to make your bonnet and apron. You will need studs and/or buttons as well. Purchase the OOO types, as well as the "OOO studs" to complete your apron.

Once you gather your materials, you will need an acting technique, which includes patterns that you will cut. The patterns should include 2-underwear, front upper section of the dress on folds, or bodice. You will need a pattern to create the back region of the bodice on folds as well. In addition, add two sleeves, and the fold of your dress kilt.

#### How to design underwear:

To start, crisscross the lace attaching it to the legs. Pull the right face or sides of your fabric together and begin stitching at the front core and back center so that the seams come together. The untreated edges of the crown should crisscross, turning over a 1/4 inch to achieve the covering. Sew in place and leave an aperture to the thread expandable via the covering, or casing. Now bring together your seams at the crotch and add fabric glue to the crotch ends, or seams of your thread. You can cut now. Crisscross and begin stitching over the expandable hat and about the interior of the doll legs at 1/2 inch from the edges of your fabric.

Continue after stitching your expandable fabric, continuing to pull up the fitted legs. Your expandable casing should easily detach from the crisscrossed region. Now you can lock up your expandable and cut to fit. Do the same on the other leg. Next, cut your expandable so that it fits the waistline, and sew at the crown of your underwear and lock it.

Now you are ready to make your dress. To start you want to link the line of stitching at the shoulder and the bodice at the front and extend to the bodice at the back region. At the fold lines, press the middle of the back. Now you can measure the edges of the neck, including the neckline at the front and the back center and so on. Now you can cut your narrowed edges of lace to fit your doll after doubling your measurements achieved.

Next, pull your thread up to meet the top of your lace and gather it so that it fits the neck and the back centers. The ends should fold before you doppelganger your lace and begin stitching the lace about the neck on the seam lines. Keep the opposite free. The right facing side should be brought up to bodice on the right and the seams at the shoulder should match. Start sewing near the neckline and then stitch the row prior, starting at the middle back. Continue to the around the doll to the middle back. Next, cut about the neckline, turn it so that it angles at the right facing outward, and then press your garment. Next, learn how to stitch your sleeves.

## Craft Stitching Porcelain Doll Sleeves

### How to stitch porcelain doll sleeves

Once you have begun making your dress, you want to stitch your porcelain doll sleeves. To get started, affix the lace, meeting it with the edges of the sleeves and crisscross. Press once you finish. Next, gather the dual rows of your stitch and continue about the crown of the sleeve until it fits into the right armhole, coming together, pull the collected fit up, and stitch them collectively whilst keeping your face liberated. Do the same to complete the opposite sleeve.

Starting at the right sleeve joint with the bodice, sew the seams of the underarm from the edges of your sleeve and from side to side seams of the upper region of the dress. Now begin stitching the seams at the side of your bodice so that it faces jointly and moves to face a different direction within, covering the side facing seams. You may need to cut to fit the areas around the seams of the armholes, including the facing holes. Change directions, turning in the hems about the facing armhole, match the shoulders as well as the seams at the side, and then "slip" suture the facing in the region of the armholes, moving in the opposite direction as you stitch. Use the elastic hat and fasten it to the interior region to create the starting legs of your underclothing. You may need to cut to fit, yet add glue before you begin cutting.

Now you have completed your sleeves for your porcelain doll. Once you finish your sleeves, you may want to design an elegant skirt to fit your doll, as well as an apron. To get started with your skirt finish your patterns at the untreated edges, and at the seams of the back using the crisscross stitching method. Next, sew the seams at the back from the dot and to the hems. Line up dual lines and gather your stitches about the crown of your skirt. Fold the back seams and permit to the left side on mutual sides of your seams at the back.

The bodice and front middle of your skirt should come together, as well as the fold lines at the back of the upper region of your dress. Extend to the opening at the back of your skirt and keep the facing bodice liberated. Collect your thread by pulling up and extend to fit the skirt connecting it to the bodice and distributing the collected sections uniformly. Next, trim or shape the seams and fold an upward hem on the facing upper region of your dress so that it corresponds with the seams at the side of your bodice. Use the "slip stitch" method and stitch the seams along the facing so that it connects with the bodice and the skirt.

Now you are ready to dress your doll. As you put the dress on the doll note any areas that may need length added, and mark the seam lines. Finish the dress at the untreated edges of your hem and crisscross. Next, turn the width to needed size and hem while using the slip suture method to fit the skirt. You can make buttonholes next. To start hand sew or machine stitch your buttons after adding glue to the fabric to hold it together. Use a pin to make your buttonholes. Allow the glue to dry and then cut the region, using craft scissors. The buttons or press "000 studs" can be used and sown at the back of your skirt.

You are now ready to create an apron to fit your porcelain doll dress.

## How to Craft Porcelain Doll Aprons

Now that you have created patterns to make your porcelain doll dress, you may want to add an apron to enhance her fashion. Aprons are relatively simple to make. You will need material, including 6 inches of light colored plain-woven fabrics (Batiste) to make your apron. You will also need lace, about 3/8 inches with narrowed edges. In addition, you will need white DMC thread made of poly-cotton, embroidery white thread, fabric glue and spray, embroidery DMC thread (pink and green; 818-pink; 524-green) and studs for your apron. (OOO-Studs)

Now that you have your items, you can begin making your apron. You can either procure lace or else design your own edges. In this instance, we are going to make up edges, such as the scallop and ruffles.

You will need craft paper and pencil to draw your apron pattern. Once you have the pattern drawn, cut it out. Use your stabilizer spray, at the bottom untreated edges, spray about 2 inches, and allow it to dry. Press your rigid fabric. Now, begin sewing a fabric edging, i.e. an ornamental undulate edge in your fabric. (Scallop) You want to sew along the bottom untreated edges. Next, sew parallel with the distance across your skirt. Leave ½ inch or 1 inch opening at the right side of your "foot presser." Avoid sewing overly close to the untreated edges.

TIP: If you use a sewing machine, use your settings to form the scallop method.

Next, use your fabric glue and run it the length of the outside edges of your pattern. Allow the glue to dry and then cut excessive fabric using craft scissors to fit. Cut another 15 inches lengthwise of your fabric and another 4 inches widthwise. You are now ready to start stitching your ruffles. Sew your embroidery scallop on after you finish the untreated edges, stitching the edges so that it zigzags. You want to stitch the seams at the back to the dot and to the hem. Gather your stitches, running them in a line and at the crown. To create the edge of your apron, cut any unwanted length.

Apron making is created in a few methods, which include cutting out the "shoulder straps" and the waistline per outline or pattern. You want to crisscross when stitching along the thin edges of the lace. Continue stitching to the middle edges at the back and bring the right edges collectively to open the apron at the back middle. Now you can fold the lace, press and add a couple of lines while collecting the stitches near the edges of the crown of your kilt. Gather and pull up the fitted kilt, collecting it to meet the waist and compare the middle front as well as the notch. Make sure the gathered area is even. Stitch collectively and brush the seams whilst using the crisscross method to complete your task.

Next, trim the shoulder ruffles in a straight line along the pattern to sew fabric edges. (Scallop) Now take your stitches, gather, and run a few lines along the curvatures of the edge of your shoulder ruffles. Between the notches on your shoulder scrap, place your completed edges and even them out as you sew the seam lines and the trim. Now, fold the straps along the folded line. Press your pattern and turn it so that it falls beneath the untreated edges. Next, sew hidden stitches beneath the strap, preparing the seams of your ruffles. The shoulder straps can now go on the waistband, which should compare to the notches. Before you complete your task, compare the shoulder straps to your doll to make sure it fits, and then complete your stitching.

Now you can add a bonnet if you like.

## How to Craft a Bonnet

To create a porcelain doll bonnet, first determine the size of your doll head. Once you have the size you will need materials. You can use wire to mould your bonnet if it is less than 10 inches. You can use any type of material you choose to make your bonnet, including batiste.

The materials you will need are 6 inches of fabric (white), such as the batiste. You will need a couple of edge laces, say around 2 ½ yards and ½ inches of lace edge. Gather 36 inches of smooth craft wire. You will need 28 inches of dual side rayon fabric, such as satin ribbons and a set of wire cutters, and pliers with a long muzzle. Once you gather your materials, you can start your methods in creating your bonnet.

You will need art paper to create your patterns. Once you finish you will carve two sou' wester: (i.e. bonnets) you should have two rows of lace, which one is on top and the other. Once you have your patterns make a wavy edge forming the scallop near the lace edge and continue to the middle of your bonnet. Stitch together the right side and form a straight-line stitch to lace the edges in order and to connect to the edges of the neck and the edges at the top. To show lace when the bonnet is turned, the lace should jut out over your seams at the finish of your hat.

Now, use your lining and place it over your sou' wester and begin stitching it collectively over the prior stitch lines to the edges of the neck and edge of the crown. Leave open your ends, turn your bonnet at the inner recesses, and out so that the lace shows at the crown edges and neck, and then press.

Use your pattern and stitch along the lines. You want to create a cover for the wire. Next, sew one more edge of lace underneath the hat on the left side and continue to the right. Stitch in the direction of your line and cover near the edges of your crown. Stitch your wavy lines at the crown into the lace and continue to the outer edges.

Now you will need to cut the ends of your hat. Use your wire cutters and cut along the lines of your wire so that it fits 11 inches of the edges of your crown. The last edge of your crown will need 8 ½ inches of wire. The center should be 7 ½ inches and the edges of the neck should be 7 inches. About ¼ inch, curve the ends of your wire. Next, weave your wire into the covers evenly at one finish of your untreated edges. Bend the wire ¼ inch with your pliers and another quarter over until the wire is secured. Pull up your fabric at the edges of the crown, including the other crown edge and add your wire to the center and at the edges of the neck wire.

The wire will extend to the other finish area, which you will need to trim the curved ends once you check to make sure that the area is balance. You want to avoid allowing the wire to ride to the cover. Next, bend the wires ¼ inch twice and secure your ends. You want to even your decorative fabric edgings, which once your bonnet is completed you can trim your ribbon, creating dual 14 inch lengthwise cuts and fix your ribbon to the side of the hat. If you would like additional designs, such as the rose-shaped badge (Rosette) you will need to use rose grubs and embroider them onto the ribbons.

Now let's craft a smock.

## How to Craft a Smock

Smocks are fun; rather making the bodice of a porcelain dress is an adventure that leads to joy. To get started however you will need to consider design.

How to choose design your smock:

In the first row, you will need to knit stitch your design into the 799 DMC. The stitching process is the cable stitches, which you knit to produce patterns that resemble twisted ropes.

The second one and a quarter line requires the baby waves stitched over another  $\frac{1}{2}$  line followed by another  $1\frac{3}{4}$  baby waves over another  $\frac{1}{2}$  line, which should form the shape of a diamond with an additional line at  $1\frac{1}{4}$ . The following line should be two  $\frac{1}{2}$ -baby waves over another  $\frac{1}{2}$  line and continue to the next line at three  $\frac{1}{4}$ -baby waves moving to the other side at  $\frac{1}{2}$  line into another diamond shape and a line at  $2\frac{3}{4}$ . Finish with a 4-line cable stitch.

Next, you will collect the top of your dress to the seams of the shoulder at the back and front yokes and complete the seams by crisscross stitching and pressing the bodice at the back and on the folded line. If you want easy attachment of your pattern to the collar, you will need to trim the piping. Next, begin sewing your piping to the other side of the collars and a the untreated edges.

TIP: Use greaseproof paper and place it beneath the collars to continue stitching with ease.

Once the piping and the collars are collected at the area of your facing collar, attach side by side to the right and use stitch pips to finish the following lines. Next, cut the seams and then trim around the collars. Press after you turn your seams to the right. You want to mark the front center yoke and make a line, marking it so that it aligns with the back of your bodice. Pin your collars so that it is placed with the neck and join with the front center. Once you place your area, begin sewing about the garment's edge and around the neck toward the center of the back whilst leaving the facing liberal.

Continue:

Bring the facing on to the other side and join it so that it collects with the seams of the shoulders and the front center. Now stitch about the garment's edge and around the neck the same as you did on the prior stitch. Cut, and press after you turn your garment on the right angle. Now, stitch pip to, cross the right region and the yoke at the front on your seam lines. The facing should be liberal. The front smock area is now ready for you to complete.

To complete the smock you will need materials. You will need 28 inches of light tone and plain-woven soft, smooth fabric made up of linen or cotton. You will need to choose a small pip, a few long, narrow buttons, size 50 cotton thread broder, embroidery thread, and so on. Once you have your materials make your pattern and cut two frontal yokes, dual fold yokes for the back, sleeves, bands, collars, (4) rear waistline, band for leg, and 1 front and back segment for pant fold. Next, use starch and spray your fabric. To attach your pips use the zipper or pip foot.

You will need to finish your smock starting with your plate, front smock section and fitting the yoke at the front. Once the yoke is fitted you can join yokes and keep the pips near the first row, you will need to knit stitch your design into the 799 DMC at this time and finish your design.

## How to Craft Camille Outfit

### How to choose materials

Do you have Camille? Would you like to create an outfit for her, yet you have no clue where to start? If you answered yes then continue reading, since we are going to design Camille a fashionable suit.

To start you will need materials. You will need 40 inches of pink plain-woven, fine fabric made of linen and/or cotton. The fabric is needed to make Camille's loose fitting pants that gather at the ankle, as well as her underskirt. Purchase 2 ¼ yards of soft lightweight, fabric with small prints and made up of wool. The material is used to create Camille's cape and her dress. You will need 28 inches of material for the cape, such as stiff shining, silk lining. (Taffetas) Purchase 26-inches of entredeux and 6 ½ yards of brown lace edging. You will need some thin lace edges, (30 inches-2/5 inches) and matching poly-cotton DMC-4442 thread. The thread will match your plain-woven fabric, which you will need DMC-4446 (light brown) to coordinate with your soft, lightweight, pink fabric. To make a rose, purchase 3 ¼ yards of ribbon. You will need ¼-inch buttons, one/8 inch level elastic, and 3 ¼ yards of silky spherical cord to finish your rose.

Once you gather your materials, you will need to cut a fold at the front region of the bodice, and cut another two at the back. Next, cut the fold of the skirt front and two at the back. Cut two pantaloons, i.e. the wide pants that gather at the ankle. Once you cut out your patterns use the 50-point pale brown DMC cotton broder to stitch your lace.

Now that you have your materials, you can design Camille an outfit. For those who are not familiar with Camille we can briefly describe the doll in case you want to purchase her and create a dress later.

Camille is a gorgeous doll, which stands around 25 inches tall. Camille includes the collection edition, regency or the Victorian series. Jennifer Esteban is the original creator of Camille. Camille wears collected sleeves and folded skirt, as well as a taffeta cape. Camille also wears batiste underwear, which the lace is pale brown. The pantaloons and skirt extending from the petticoat is also laced with pale brown lace.

To make Camille's dress you will need to start with her pants, or pantaloons. Once you complete the pantaloons, you can move to the undergarments. We can get started now on the project, yet you must find information to help you complete. Unfortunately, a single article cannot produce the length required to make up a complete outfit.

#### How to make Camille's Pantaloons:

At the over-locker, begin French stitching the seams, collecting them at the back and front. Press and then turn the seams under the cover on your folded line. Press the garment again and create a minute size hem at the cover. Stitch a straight line at the cover. You want to leave space to thread from side to side your elastic. Around the edges of your crown, stitch in a straight line in the direction of your cover.

Now you can use starch, spray your fabric, and press once you finish. Cut two, 7 ½ inches length of lace and stitch a row at the edge of the legs near the bottom of the pantaloons. On the right area, press your lace so that it folds back. Perform a crisscross stitching pattern over the crown of your lace. Your stitches should entwine with both the lace and fabric. Near the crisscrossing stitches, cut the extras. Next, trim two, 7 ½ inches of your entredeux. Use your starch, spray, and then press. You will need to trim the ends that extend to the entredeux and the edges of your lace where it crisscrosses, meeting the other, and connecting it. Press and you can move to connect the seams of the legs to the crotch. Align and gather the legs and ankles by threading ribbon so that it goes through the entredeux.

## How to Craft the Petticoat

Making an undercoat for Camille is easy providing you follow a few simple steps and have your materials gathered. You will need lace edge, fabric, thread, and the ability to sew. To start you begin French stitching the seams and gather the seams at the shoulder so that it meets the front and back section of the bodice. Press after you cut the seams that overlap the armholes. Next cut 10-mm and about 2/5 inches of the thin edges of your lace, cutting it into dual nine ½-inch lengths. One length should be cut around 12 inches lengthwise.

Crisscross your stitches and add 12 inches of length to your lace at the inner region of the untreated edges of your collar. Sew the right side collectively and crisscross, stitching the lace to join with your fabric so that it meets the collar. Perform the same actions to finish around the armholes. Press the middle of the back at the fold lines until it forms a facing at the back. Stitch in a straight line down the length of your row without stitching the lace near the crown face.

The side seams should connect. Next, use fabric glue to attach the free thread at the seams of your armhole. Press the upper sections of the dress and cut your insertion lace about 2 ½ yards. Spray craft starch to the area and press. Use your inclusion lace, placing it ¼ inch onto the surface stitching row at the skirt bottom. Now, stitch a straight line so that it joins with the crown of your lace. Press the lace away from the left side of your fabric. Cross-stitch the over crown of your lace without touching the fabric, stitching only into the lace. Cut left over and press. Cut 2 ¼ yards of inclusion lace, starch and then press before placing it over a stitch line from the base line of your inclusion. First, create an outer stitch line and then press, and stitch another row, press. On the left side, cut your fabric down at the center of your stitch rows. Press your fabric on each end so that it does not touch the lace.

Cross-stitch the base line of your lace. Press, and stitch a couple of lines while collecting your stitches near the waistline. The side seams should connect, as well as the back region. Now you can pin your skirt so that it attaches to the both rights of your bodice. Starting at the middle rear, pin the yokes back and fold your seams permitting the rear back and back room.

The bodice should fit your fabric. Pull it up, collect evenly, and continue to stitch to fitting. Cut the seams and check your zigzags for evenness. Before adding, the edges of your lace to the inclusion make sure that the garment fits your doll. Test it by trying it on her.

Now trim 3 4/5 yards of the ¾-inch edges of your lace. Starch, press, and pull the thread to the crown and at the end and edges of your lace. Collect the lace, gathering it at the bottom and bundle it so that it connects to the inclusion lace. Finish with a crisscross stitch. Next, complete the edges at the rear seams. Thread the fabric and lace so that it marks your pattern, and pressing once, you make the inclusion even with your stitches. Now you can create buttonholes.

You will need to mark the area where you want to add buttons. Use fabric glue along the buttonholes and pin. Now you can stitch your buttons. Next, learn a few grandma craft tips to crochet squares.

## Grandma Craft Tips

### How to understand crochet basics

To get started we can begin with crochet abbreviations to help you relate to the process. Crochet experts use the terms beg (Beginning) bet (Between), bk lp (Back loop) ch (chain), ch-(previous chain), cont (Continue), dc (double crochet), dec (decreasing), dtr (double/triple crochet), ft lp (Front loop), hdc (half-double crochet), inc (Increasing), lp (loops), and so on.

Those who crochet must learn how to handle the hook, work jointly, chain stitch, slip knot, and crochet a single row.

#### How to hook:

To hold your hook you would start with a pencil. The hook may have a resting finger, which you can locate your thumbs to gain control.

#### How to work in union:

Once you have a hold on your hook, weave the thread/yarn so that the left fingers have control, and can be used to apply pressure. Once you begin your project (Work), you want to use your thumb and the center left finger to press the stitches.

#### How to slip knot:

You want to form a shape-like pretzel by looping your yarn about, allow the loose ends to drop, fallen behind your loop. Pull the ends of your yarn without pulling too tight.

#### How to chain stitch:

On your hook position a slipknot and use your hands, i.e. center left finger and the thumb to hold the yarn in place. Wrap your yarn first up and then over your hook starting at the back and moving to the front. You will need to familiarize your self with this procedure, since it is a basic crocheting technique known as "Yarn over Yo."

Now pull the yarn using your hook bringing it through the lp (loop). When you yarn over Yo and combine it with lp, it forms a ch. (Chain)

Continue until you have the acceptable chain and continue motion on even strokes and until the stitches that form a chain and each stitch (st(s) are even. Near your work area, hold your chain and continue twisting whilst avoiding counting the loops on your hook.

#### How to crochet a single line:

Beneath your crown loops insert your hook at the second chain away from your hook and begin Yarn over Yo crocheting. You should continue to stitch between the two loops. Continue the yarn over process and pull your yarn through the chain to it meets two loops on your hook. Continue the Yo process again and pull the yarn through the other two loops.

Once you complete your hook, work, slipknots, chain stitch, single line, etc, you will need to learn how to double crochet, half-double, triple; slip stitch, back loop, popcorn stitch, etc. Behind the steps is the process of working back loops, chain space, stitches between, and about the post.

#### How to double stitch:

To double crochet you will need to perform the yarn over Yo steps and then insert your hook into the third chain away from the Yo and hook. Next, pull your yarn so that it goes through your chain and three loops at the hook. Continue the Yarn over steps and pull the yarn through the next two loops. Again, continue the Yarn over and pull the yarn through the remaining two loops.

#### How to half double:

Conduct the yarn over steps and insert your hook so that it goes into the second chain away from your hook. Yarn over and string your yarn through the third loops.

How to triple crochet:

Yarn over a couple of times and insert your hook so that it goes into the fourth chain away from the hook. Yarn over and stretch your yarn through the chain and the fourth loop at your hook. Yarn over, stretch the yarn through the second loops at the hook, and finish your three time steps. Work on the remaining steps before you learn how to craft an Afghan.

## How to Craft an Afghan

You will need a 40 inch by 60-inch material to finish your Afghan. Once you have the finish you can start building your materials.

### How to choose materials:

It's up to you what type of Afghan you want to create, however in this article I will show you a few steps in my the "Ivy League." You want to select deep, vivid colors. Ultimately, you can select soft fabrics. You will need wool, preferably the heavy-duty. Purchase 45 ounces of aqua, red, etc, in a variety of colors. Choose 22 ounces of red, light green; dark greens, forest green, etc, and blue. Choose 28 ounces of red and navy blue in a variety of colors. You will need to purchase a hook, preferably the "K" crocheting hook. The gauge is around 6 ½ squares, which you can purchase a hook that matches this gauge also.

### How to square:

Use a variety of colored yarns in succession per square. If you want to shift colors, it is best to avoid chain stitching at the end of your lines. Start turning your work until you connect with the colors, chain stitch 1 row and work your line in accordance.

To chain stitch, start with placing one slip knot over your crochet hook. Your hands should be prepared to work, which includes the thumb and middle left finger. Hold the yarn at the end and then wrap up and again over your crochet hook. You should be crocheting at the front of the back and to the front. Learn more about "Yarn over Yo."

When you start you, Afghan you will need to square, row, row, border, assembly, border, etc. When you start squares, create 54 squares on a chain two stitch. Move to row. To row one work, you will need three single crochets in your second chain stitch and away from your hook on another single chain turn.

Move to your second row. Work two single crochets in your first single crochet and move to the following single crochet and the second, single crochet in the last single. Continue with five stitches and chain another single turn.

In your third row work two single crochets in your first single, continue singles within the following three singles, adding two more singles to your last single, and then chain another turn.

Moving to the fourth row, work two singles in your first single and then single crochet an even row to the last single. Work another two singles to the last and chain one turn.

Next row, repeat by adding four rows and after you reach rows eleven up to twenty-three begin your stitches across the material.

Continuing, create a loop in all of your first two singles. Use the "Yarn over Yo" method and move through all three of your loops on the crochet hook, which brings you to one single crochet and the decreasing phase. Next, single crochet two even stitches to decrease your last two singles and churn one turn. Repeat the steps on the twelve rows, yet only stitch three single crochet remains.

On your last row create a loop in each of your preceding three singles and start the "Yarn over Yo" method to continue through each loops on your crochet hook and then close.

Now you will start border rounds. Gather your greens, blue, and reds with a slipstitch in your corners. Do another three singles in the corner and another single to the following corner making sure the singles are even. Repeat the steps from about, and slip stitch toward the first single crochet.

On your second and third rounds, slip stitch toward the middle stitch of your corner, and repeat the round once, and close after your finish the third round.

Now you are ready to assemble. You should have a six square Afghan created, which is wide and has another 9 squares lengthwise. You want to oversew stitch (Whipstitch) the square togs and run ALL crosswise stripes so that they move in the same course. Now, border another round. Gather your yarn with another slipknot at the corner, and single crochet three in the corner, single crocheting another in the following corner, while making sure it is even. Repeat, stitching around and slip knot to reach the first single. Round two includes the slipknot to the middle single crochet of your corner, repeat round one, and close. Now try crocheting the "Evening News" Afghan.

## How to Craft the Evening News Afghan

The "Evening News" Afghan is created in several ways, yet many are shades of semi-gray, light gray and mohair blends. Mohair is wool made of soft, silk and comes from the Angora goat. To start your Afghan you will need your finish, which should be around 47 inches by 70 inches. Next, you will need material.

### How to choose material:

You will need smooth, wool cloth, which is closely woven without a nap, and made from tight twisted yarn. The wool should be made up of long-fibers of wool, which you can obtain from worsted cloth. Buy the cotton wool and 16 ounces of semi-gray shades. Buy another batch of heavy worsted mohair blends and 11 ounces of light colors of ash, i.e. gray. You will need 28 ounces of darker gray, preferably the sport-weight wool from alpaca. The wool is made from shaggy, long hairs of alpaca and can be a glossy cloth made of wool, cotton, rayon, etc. Use the wool, and purchase another sport-weight batch of machine washable wool. You will need 11 ounces of medium shades of gray. You will need 18 ounces of sport-weight dark gray wool and 14 ounces of "pearl gray." Purchase another 4 ounces of gray worsted-wool (Weighty) and finally purchase a crochet E hook. The square gauge weight is 7 ½ inches, which you can match the hook.

### How to get started:

To start use pattern stitches along with your yarn to create 54, 7 ½ inch squares. Start by working your borders of single crochet stitches on the squares before beginning to assemble your Afghan. You want the same square size heading in the same course. Now, we can do this a couple of ways, yet to save time it is best to learn a few tips on texture, color, bobble, chain, Chevron, etc.

### Tips:

Texture is achieved with stitches that work in the loops at the front or back. If you work your texture in this way only, you can make ridges easily. To achieve an uneven texture you can work the front and the back loops.

### Color tip:

To start work a double crochet, triple, and/or a double triple using light shades of yarn. Row the yarn about the post at the front of your stitch and work darker shades of yarn to achieve a masterpiece. If you want to create a cheerful wavy pattern, use dark and pale shades and shape your pattern with a flow of tiny gentle waves and/or the V-shaped Chevron stitches.

### How to start bobbling

To get started bobbling, keep the most recent loop of your stitches at the hook, and you are your stitches to a favorable level of the stitches into your following stitch. Next, perform the "Yarn over Yo," crochet and bring it through each of your loops on your crochet hook. The steps will take you to the last stitch, which completes bobbling.

### How to Chevron stitch:

Chevron stitches can be achieved in two rows. You will need a base, which adding two is ideal. In the first row skip two chains and double crochet into your following chain and double crochet each of the following three chains. Finish with three double crochets in the following three chains and the next three double crochets in your following chain. Repeat by working across and ending with another two double crochets in the ending chain, and then turn. In the second row, chain stitch three double crochets in the beginning stitch and another double in all of the following three stitches, followed by three collections over the following three stitches. Double crochet in all of your following stitches, double stitch another three in the following stitch, and repeat. Work across, and at the finish adding two double crochets at the top of your turning chain stitch, and turn again. Repeat the steps using row two as your guide to fashion your pattern. Learn more about the "Evening News" Afghan to complete your project.

## Finishing the Evening News in Craft

### How to complete your Afghan in the Evening News

To complete your Afghan you will need to learn steps, such as chain loop stitching, clusters, cross double stitching, cross-batch, and the lines joining angles spike stitching. Of course you will need to learn more about Fantail stitching, knot stitching, popcorn, puff, shell, V stitching, zigzag lozenge stitching, sample square, bordering, assembling, and more to complete your Afghan.

To get your started we can consider chain loop stitching. To chain loop stitch avoid starting your square with the loop stitch. Instead, in row one chain stitch six lines, skip one stitch, and single crochet in the following stitch, throughout, i.e. across, and then turn. In row two chain stitch four rows, double crochet in your following chain, and continue across, finishing with a turn and proceeding to the next row. Now, chain stitch and add a single crochet in your six chain loops and move to chain one throughout until the finish and complete with a double crochet in the initial, i.e. the first chain of your preceding row.

Now you are ready to move onto collecting, or clusters. In the cluster steps, you start with your preceding loop, keeping it on each stitch on your crochet hook. Finish by working one stitch in the following stitches to a favorable level and "Yarn over Yo" throughout the loops on your crochet hook, finishing your stitch with a chain stitch.

How to cross double crochet stitch:

Next, you want to learn how to cross double crochet stitch. You will need to start with two multiples, which creates a base of two. Start with three chain stitches; skip one stitch and double crochet in the following stitch. Skip another stitch and repeat across, and to the finish with another double crochet in the final stitch.

Use a 7-multiple to crossbatch, plus four to add three bases to your Afghan. In row, one skip two chain stitches and double crochet two in the following chain, skipping another three chain stitches and single crochet into the following four chain stitches, skip three chains, and single crochet the final chain stitch, and then turn.

The lines joining angles-spike stitching, is known to crochet experts as "Diagonal Spike Stitch." The experts will use four, plus two multiples to create dual bases. To begin the steps the expert will start in the first row, skipping three chain stitches followed by double crochet in all of the three chain stitches, skipping the following chain, and Yarn over Yo stitch followed by inserting the hook in the matching chain stitch as that of the first, preceding double crochet. Moving along the expert double crochets three groups and Yarn over Yo to pull up the loops. The loops are loose at this time and finished with a stitch, i.e. a double crochet spike stitch and repeats the steps across, and to the finish with a double crochet in the final chain made and then turns.

Continuing the diagonal spike-stitch in the second row by chaining three, stitches for the beginning double crochet and continue to the next step. Skip one stitch, double crochet again in all of your following three stitches, skip another stitch, spike stitch in the following stitch, and repeat the steps across, at the finish, and with a double crochet in your crown turning chain, and then turn, repeat the steps outlined in row two to complete your pattern.

You are almost finished, yet you will need to learn how to knot stitch, popcorn stitch, shell and puff stitch, and so forth.

## How to Knot Stitch and More

When you start a knot stitch, you will need to avoid knot stitch the first square. Instead, start in the first row, chain stitching one time and single crocheting in the identical stitch. Draw up your loop to  $\frac{3}{4}$  inches and Yarn over Yo through your loop on the crochet hook.

Next, intersperse your hook so that it is beneath your single back strand, Yarn over Yo and pull it through, Yarn over YO again and pull it through both your loops at the hook twice, and skip two stitches, single crochet in the following stitch, and repeat your steps across and to the finish, and turn. Complete your knot stitch on the second row. Chain stitch five in the first double crochet and another two chains in the next single across the middle knot of your starting loop. Chain two stitches, a single crochet in the middle knot of your following loop, continuing across, to the finish and chain two stitches a double crochet in the beginning chain of your preceding row. Repeat the steps outlined in the first row to complete your pattern.

NOTE: Chain stitching is sometimes called "Yarn over Yo." SO when we mention Yarn over, begin chain stitches. From here on out however, I will refer to Yarn over as chain stitching.

One of the popular methods used in crocheting Afghans is the popcorn stitch. The stitch works your favorable number of stitches into the following stitch. Once you complete the steps pull up your loop into the following cluster stitch, and then drop the loop away from your crochet hook. Intersperse your hook into the beginning cluster stitch, and continue by plummeting, a loop, and drawing from side to side to the loop, completing your step with constricting.

### How to puff stitch:

Experts in crocheting use the puff stitch to create patterns in completing the Afghan. To start keep your loops on your crochet hook and chain stitch followed by interspersing your hook in the identical stitch. Draw your loop up a few times and chain stitch through the nine loops on your crochet hook. Once you complete your steps move to the shell stitch.

### How to shell:

You will need multiples of six, plus one to create a base. In the first row single, crochet into the second chain away from your crochet hook. Skip two chain stitches and five double crochet into the following chain, skip two more chains and single crochet the following chain stitch. Repeat your steps across, and then turn.

Moving to row, two add three chain stitches for your starting double crochet in the first stitch. Skip two double crochets and use the single crochet method to complete the following double. Skip two doubles, and work five doubles in the following single crochet, repeat the steps working across, and to the finish, working three doubles in the final single, skip your turning chain and turn. In row three-chain one stitch in the start stitch, skip two doubles, and work five doubles along the following double, skip two doubles and work a single into the following double. Repeat your steps across and to the finish adding a single in your turning chain stitch, and then turn. You have now completed your pattern.

Once you learn how to knot stitch, popcorn, puff, shell, you may want to learn how to V-stitch, zigzag lozenge stitch, sample square, border, and finally assemble your Afghan. The V-stitch is simple, so let's get the step out of the way and move onto zigzag lozenge stitching.

### How to V-stitch:

Skip your first stitch and two doubles, chain one, double two in your following stitch and repeat your steps across.

## How to Zigzag Lozenge Stitch in Craft

The zigzag stitch is a common stitch, expert crafters use to create Afghans and more. The steps are relatively easy and must be learned to finish the "Evening News" Afghan, or other patterns of Afghans. After you finish your chain, bobble, Chevron, cluster, cross double, crossbatch, V-stitch, etc, you will need to zigzag your lozenge stitches. To get started we encourage you to read the steps below.

How to Zig your Zag to create the lozenge stitch:

To start the zigzag lozenge stitching you will need a base. The base is factored by multiples of two, plus one. In the first row, starting on the left side, chain two stitches to start your half-double crochet. Half double in the following stitch and skip one stitch including a half double, chain, and another half double in the following stitch. Repeat the steps starting with the final stitches skip one stitch and work two half doubles in your final stitch, then turn.

How to half double stitch:

Chain stitch and then intersperse your hook so that it goes into the second chain stitch and away from your hook. Chain stitch again and draw up your yarn bringing it through your finished chain and three loops on your crochet hook. Chain stitch again and draw up your yarn bringing it through each of the three finished loops on the hook, and the finish, working a half-double stitch into your pattern.

In the second row, continue to zigzag on the right side. Chain stitch 3 times to complete the start double crochet. Double crochet your first stitch and chain one time, and double crochet three clusters in the following space. Repeat your steps starting across, and to the finish working through the final space, adding one chain, two double crochets in clusters and at the crown of your turning chain, and then turn.

Moving to row three, chain stitch twice for your first half double. Skip the starting stitch and half double, one chain, and another half double followed by space and repeat your steps across, and to the finish, completing with a half double in your crown section of the turning chain, and then turn.

Adding Zigzag to Row 4:

Row 4 you will chain stitch three times for your first double, skip the initial stitch and cluster three doubles in the following space. Chain another stitch across, and to the final working a double crochet into the crown of your turning chain, and then turn. Moving to row, five add two chain stitches to the first half double. Half double another stitch into the first stitch, half-double, first chain, half double, and into the following space. Repeat your steps across, and to the finish working two, half doubles into the crown of your turning chain, and then turn. Complete your steps by repeating the second through five rows.

You have completed the zigzag lozenge stitching steps. Now you can move to the sample squares, which sums up eighteen rows. Once you complete the steps, you can move onto the borders, and finally finishing your Afghan. Once you finish however, you will need to edge the pattern to finally finishing your Afghan.

Remember when you design an Afghan, particularly the Evening News; you will need to work through a seven ½-inch gauge. When you start your pattern, keep texture and colors in mind. We encourage you to visit the Internet to learn more about the Evening News Afghan and the patterns available to you. In the period in-between, we can continue learning how to sample your squares.

## How to Sample your Squares in Craft

Crafts are fun experiences all of us can enjoy, providing we know how to sample our squares. Of course one must learn chain stitching, double crochet, double-triple crochet, Chevron stitching, clusters, cross double crochet stitch, crossbatch and more. To get started however, we can learn how to sample your squares.

How to sample your squares:

In craft terms, sample squares include a variety of stitches and crocheting patterns. Crafters' use a variety of hooks, loops, stitches, etc, to complete particular projects, yet in this article you will work toward completing the "Evening News" Afghan. The gauge to complete your Afghan must reach 7 ½ inches over 54 squares.

How to sample squares:

To begin you will need to chain stitch 18 ounces of sport-weight, darker gray wool, and 14 ounces of the pearl shaded grays. In the first row single, crochet into the second chain stitch away from your hook. Chain one stitch, skip one chain, and single crochet into the following chain stitch. Chain two stitches, skip two chains, single crochet into the following chain, and repeat your steps starting across and to the finish. Now turn and start the second row.

At the second row start three chain stitches to the initial double crochet, and double crochet into the following single crochet. Work three doubles into each of your space and across to the finish adding a double crochet into the final single crochet and beginning chain stitch. Finish with your turn and close off the area. Next, move to row three. Combine your sport-weight machine washable wool, i.e. 11 ounces of medium colors of ash, or gray rather with your dark gray and pale-blue gray. Next, chain three stitches to start the double crochet, and double crochet into all, following two stitches; chain two stitches, skip one stitch, double crochet into the following two stitches, and across to the finish working a double crochet into the final stitch, turn, and close.

Moving to row, four add 28 ounces of light gray, i.e. the worsted-mohair weight and blends to your dark gray wool, medium ash, and pale-blue gray. Chain 2 stitches to start your half-double crochet, skip one double, and half double beginning with the following two double crochets. Next, keep each of your loops on the hook, chain stitch, and intersperse your hook into the following stitch, followed by pulling up your loop a few times, and chain stitching through the finished nine loops. (See Puff Stitching) Puff stitch into your following space and chain one stitch. Repeat your steps starting across, and to the finish working a half double crochet into the final double, turn, and close tightly.

Continue to row five by adding 28 ounces of dark alpaca gray to your yarn. Chain 3 stitches into your starting double crochet. Double crochet into the crown of your following puff stitch and puff stitch yet another into the following half double crochet, repeating the steps across, and to the finish, working in a double crochet into the following half double, add a two chain stitches, another double crochet into the final stitch, turn, and close tightly.

Moving to row, six add your pale, blue-gray yarn and chain three stitches to start the double crochet. Double crochet your stitches across and to the finish, turn and close tightly.

In row, seven add the darker gray yarn and use the diagonal spike stitch to start the following stitch, skip one stitch, and repeat the steps across, to the finish and add a double crochet to the last double, turn, and close tightly. Continue rows 8-18 to finish your steps.

## How to Finish the Sample Square in Craft

To finish steps eight through 18, you will need to learn the steps one through seven. We encourage you to visit your local library to take out books to help you finish crafting an Afghan. In the meantime, I will walk you through steps eight and 18 so that you can move onto your borders in crafting your Afghan to complete your pattern.

How to sample square:

Now that you have gathered your materials, such as alpaca gray wools, etc, you can move to step eight. In row eight you will combine pale, blue-gray with medium gray, light gray, etc, from the materials you purchased, such as the worsted-mohair, and cotton. Once you gather your dark, and pale, blue-gray yarn use the diagonal spike stitch to work toward the following stitch, skip one stitch, and repeat the steps across, and to the finish working a double crochet into your previous stitch, turn, and then close tightly. In short, you perform the same steps as you would in the previous row.

Now you can move to row nine. In this row gather your medium grays and use the diagonal spike stitch to work in the direction of the following stitch. Skip one stitch, reiterate the steps, starting across, and to the finish working two double crochets into your previous double, turn, and then close tightly.

In row, ten add your pale, blue-gray and start the zigzag lozenge stitch. (In row one on the left side chain two stitches to join the initial half-double crochet, and half double into the following stitch. Skip one stitch, half double, chain one stitch into the following stitch and repeat the steps continuing to the previous two stitches, skip one stitch, work two half doubles into the previous stitch and turn. \*Continue the zigzag steps as followed:

*\*In the second row, take up again the zigzag on the right side. Chain three stitches to finalize the beginning double crochet. Double crochet the first stitch and chain one time, and double crochet three clusters in the following space. Repeat your steps starting across, and to the finish working through the final space, adding one chain, two double crochets in clusters and at the crown of your turning chain, and then turn.*

*Moving to row three, chain stitch twice for your first half double. Skip the starting stitch and half double, one chain, and another half double followed by space and repeat your steps across, and to the finish, completing with a half double in your crown section of the turning chain, and then turn.*

*Row 4 you will chain stitch three times for your first double, skip the initial stitch and cluster three doubles in the following space. Chain another stitch across, and to the final, working a double crochet into the crown of your turning chain, and then turn: Moving to row, five add two chain stitches to the first half double. Half double another stitch into the first stitch, half-double, first chain, half double, and into the following space. Repeat your steps across, and to the finish working two, half doubles into the crown of your turning chain, and then turn. Complete your steps by repeating the second through five rows.*

*You have completed the zigzag lozenge stitching steps. Now you can move to the sample squares, which sums up eighteen rows. Once you complete the steps, you can move onto the borders, and finally finishing your Afghan. Once you finish however, you will need to edge the pattern to finally finishing your Afghan.*

Continue to row eleven and combine your medium shades of gray, performing the zigzag lozenge stitch. Do the same in the 12<sup>th</sup> row. In the thirteenth row combine your medium grays, work the puff stitch, double crochet, working across, and then close tightly. Combine your lighter shades of gray in row fifteen and perform the zigzag, ending with the double crochet into the previous stitch, and then close tightly. Row 16: combine the medium shades of gray and perform the zigzag lozenge, finishing with a tight close. Row 17: Combine the pale, blue-gray yarn and stitch three chains into the first double, add three doubles into the

following stitch, skip two stitches, and work across the three doubles to the finish, working into the double crochet at the last stitch. In row eighteen, chain two stitches to combine the half-double crochet. Half double crochet into the stitches across your pattern, and then close tightly. Finish your Afghan by finishing the borders and edges. Next, learn how to craft the country square Afghan.

## How to Craft the Country Square Afghan

Down on the farm grannies around the world enjoy crafting the Country Square Afghan. Of course, some country moms take delight in creating the squares as well. In view of the fact, and considering you as one of these country lovers, we can learn how to create the Country Square Afghan.

To get started you will need a gauge of 5 inch squares to create 88 squares. You will need finishing yarn, around 45 inches times 63 inches. Purchase some smooth, wool cloth, i.e. the worsted without the nap and made up of snug twisted, long-fiber wool. You will need 20 ounces of taupe, beige, and a hook to match your gauge size. (J) To start you will create your 88 squares, using the beige and chain stitching six times to join the slipstitch, which will shape your loop.

In the first round, chain three stitches to meet the first double crochet. Add fifteen doubles into your loop and slip stitch to the crown at the beginning of your chain. Tighten, and move to round two. Next, create a slipknot, using your taupe. Chain stitch and intersperse your hook at the back and moving to the right/left and in the region of the post of one of your doubles on the beginning round. Finish your stitch by creating a double crochet at the beginning of your double crochet and raise it back. Chain and intersperse your hook commencing at the back, then right/left moving about in the identical double crochet post. Finish with a stitch, creating a double, i.e. one double about the post and onto the following double crochet created in the first round. Repeat the steps working around the finish and add three chain stitches and a slipstitch at the crown of your beginning chain stitch. Tighten and move to round three.

In round, three combine your beige forming a slipstitch into your choice of the three chain spaces you have created. Chain three stitches to create the beginning double crochet in this step. Work in a double crochet, three chains, and another two doubles, working it into the following space. Now you have created a corner, which you will continue to repeat the steps twice, adding three doubles into the previous three chain spaces, complete with the slipstitch at the crown of the beginning chain, and tighten.

The final round, combine your beige at your corner (Choice is yours) and chain three stitches to meet the double crochet and exert a double, two chains, two doubles, and working it into your corner. In each of your previous seven stitches, double crochet and add a slipstitch at the crown of your beginning chain stitch. Tighten and begin to assemble your Afghan.

How to assemble:

Back loops are created with an 8 x 11 width, squared length, starting on the left side and facing the beige oversewing small stitch tog squares. (Whipstitch) Once you assemble, you will need to border your Afghan.

How to border: Starting with round one add your taupe yarn at choice corners and chain three stitches to meet with your double crochet. Continue to exert double, two chains, two doubles, into the identical corner and double it into the following two stitches. Chain one stitch, skip one, and double crochet into the following stitch. Before you come to the next corner, create two stitches from the previous steps and double crochet into the stitches while working two doubles, chains, and two more doubles into your corner. Repeat the steps working about the corner adding a slipstitch at the crown of your beginning chain.

Continue to round two, three, and four. In round two, chain three stitches into the next double and at the corner space. Exert two doubles, chains, and two more doubles to meet in the corner and another double before arriving at the succeeding corner. Chain one stitch and repeat your steps working about the first slipstitch at the crown of your starting chain, and tighten. Continue to round three. In the corner, combine the beige yarn and chain three stitches to meet the double and exert a double, two chains, and two doubles, working toward the following corner. Chain one stitch and to the double creating six doubles total before working to two doubles, chains, and another two doubles in your corner. Repeat the steps working about the corner, adding a slipstitch at the crown and tighten. Use your taupe yarn in

the last round and work from the corner adding three chain stitches to meet the initial double. Exert a double, two chains, and another two doubles working in the corner and moving to another double within the following eight doubles. Chain 1, double, and work into the eight created doubles at the corner and repeat your steps working about the slipstitch at the crown of your starting chain. Snug the Afghan and you are finished.

Now that we have worked through a few Afghans, including the Country square how about crafting a tablecloth to setoff your dinner room.

## How to Craft a Tablecloth

Tablecloths add cover to your table, which can protect it from scratches, dents, etc. To craft a tablecloth you will need materials, finishing sizes, gauge structure, and directions. In view of the facts, we can present to you a few steps so that you can protect your table from damage.

You will need a gauge start at 5 inches diameter or 2 ¾ inches in diameter for the smaller motif clothes. You will need your finishing, which should be around 35 inches times 35. Purchase crocheting thread around 10, and 250 yards of spherical cream. Purchase the number seven crochet hook made of steel.

Once you purchase your materials, you can choose to make the small or large motif. Use your 5 inches in diameter to create 49 larger motifs. To start add eight chain stitches to meet with a slipstitch. Once you form your sphere move to round one and continue through to round eight, until you come to the smaller motif.

To begin stitch five chains to meet with your double crochet and the two chains you created. In your ring, double crochet and chain stitch two rows working up to eleven stitches/doubles and slipstitch into the third chain at the start of your first chain and leave three spaces as you work to round two. Now, add a slipstitch to start another space, chain one stitch, and three single crochets. Once you finish crocheting around the space, add a slipstitch to the first single and the 36 single crochets.

Moving on chain one stitch and work into the back loops and add single crochets in the other stitches. Finish with a slipstitch working it into the starting single crochet. Continue to round four. Chain four stitches into the first double and chain another stitch working it so that it blends with the back loops. The following stitch, add a double and one chain. Repeat your steps working around the slipstitches and to the third chain stitch created at the beginning of your chain. Move ahead to round five. Slipstitch so that it blends into the following space you will create and add a chain stitch working another two single crochets into the surrounding space. Slipstitch so that you meet your first single crochets and moves to the next round.

Now, chain four stitches so that it meets with your first triple crochet. Work the stitches into the back loops and triple crochet stitches so that it combines with the following stitches. You will need to create four and then chain five stitches, skip one, and triple the following five stitches. Repeat and work around your slipstitch at the crown of your starting chain. At this time, you should have grouped twelve of the five triples as you work to the crown.

Continue add a chain stitch it toward your back loops. Single crochet up to the five triple crochets you will create. In the five chain spaces thereafter you will need to have created four singles, chains, and four singles again before repeating your steps, working about the slipstitch the created at the beginning single. Continue to create your first motif, which is the larger part and then slipstitch so that you meet with the following two stitches. Chain stitch into the single crochet that starts the following two stitches and then chain five stitches working in your double, four chains, and another double crochet within the four chains at the loop. Chain two stitches and slipstitch to meet your loop that starts your motif, Chain two stitches within the identical four chain loops on the succeeding motif. Chain five stitches and skip up to five stitches on the beginning motif. Repeat your steps as you did when creating the initial motif. Continue up the ladder by creating your tablecloth. Now you are ready to make your smaller motif and complete your tablecloth.

To begin create 36 motifs and join them into the facing of the larger motif at the between lines. Chain eight stitches, add a slipstitch, and begin moving your starting ring to repeat rounds when creating your larger motif, i.e. rounds one through three. Next, chain stitch and work into the back loops. Create four single crochets, while single crocheting into the four, and add six chain stitches to join a single and the larger motif. Add another six chains and skip one, make a single and work it into the following single. Chain 4 and another single working until it blends into four chain loops not joined with the larger motif.

Chain four stitches and skip one single. Repeat your steps, working about the slipstitch that you created in your initial single. Now, complete your tablecloth by fastening it. Now that you have finished perhaps, you would like to craft a bridal suite.

## How to Craft Bridal Collections

Perhaps someone in your family is planning a wedding. In this event, you are probably struggling to decide what type of gift the groom and bride would appreciate. Well, rest your mind and purchase a bit of finishing materials, such as small and large pillows, crochet thread, white fabric, matching thread, and some stuffing to craft a bridal present.

You can add some plants with three-lobed leaves (Trefoil), roses and so on to create a magnificent bridal gift.

### What to buy:

Buy one 20-inch square pillow without the ruffles. Buy another 20-inch time's 10-inch pillow without the ruffles also. You will need, thread (10) and 250 yards of white balls, as well as (10) crochet hook made of steel, and 45 inches wide of snow-colored fabrics. (Nine Yards) Add some snow-colored thread and purchase your filling. You are about to make 9 inch squares on a gauge to create six rose (or choice flower) motifs.

### How to start:

Create eight chain stitches at the start and work them into a slipstitch. You will form a small band, which you will continue to create a chain stitch and around 24 single crochets forming at the bands and moving to the beginning single crochet. Create four chains, skip three singles, and create six times working to the following single crochet, creating a slipstitch that begins at the baseline of your starting chain. Create a single crochet, double, and three triples, along with another double, and single working it into your four chain loops and around your slipstitch created at the initial single. Hold your rose petals at the front, continue to chain five stitches into a single, and work back into the following single in between your petals. Repeat your steps around the slipstitch and continue to the first single and onto the six petals.

Create a single, double, and three triples as well as a single crochet into the five-chained loops created and about the slipstitch started at the first single. Stitch another seven chains, work it into a slipstitch in the middle of your stitches, and continue to the following petal. Chain seven stitches to the slipstitch following and move to the beginning two rose petals. Repeat your steps and work around your slipstitch, working to the beginning baseline of your chain.

Slipstitch again and work toward the middle of the stitches, working another seven chain loops into another seven and slipstitch it into the middle stitches, continue to the following seven chain loops and repeat the steps working around your slipstitch at the beginning base chain. Work up to seven single crochets into the seven chains loops and work around your slipstitch, working to the single you started.

Chain stitch and work into a single crochet, working it into the seven singles and the three chains, and into the slipstitch in your third chain away from your hook. You have created a decorative loop, which you will create twice by finishing the instructions. Single crochet until you reach the following fourteen singles and repeat working around the slipstitch you created at the first single.

Chain twenty stitches skip through seven singles and two decorative loops, six singles, and the slipstitch that works into your following single, skipping up to six times and slipstitch working to the initial single. Single crochet, working into the following stitches of your decorative loops and do this four times before you reach the single crochet in the following five stitches. Repeat the steps and work about the slipstitch, working to the first single. Tighten and then start your large leaf.

## How to Craft Leaves for Bridal Pillows

Now that you have started to create your bridal pillows, you will need to add leaves to join, assemble, and finish. To help you finish we have written the following directions.

How to create leaves:

Chain fourteen stitches into the single crochet at the third chain and away from your hook, single again working it into your chains and through to the previous chain. You will need to work three singles into the previous chain and continue back, working to the facing side. Once you reach your chain, single crochet it into the ends of your chains and turn before creating two chain stitches. Work the fresh chains into your back loops and single crochet into the middle single at the leaf baseline. Work three singles into the following stitch and single crochet into the stitches up until the preceding stitch. Omit the last stitch and recur your steps three times.

Next, create 24 smaller leaves. Chain fourteen stitches into your single crochet, and onto the third chain, away from your hook: Single crochet into the chains and continue to the preceding chain. Now, work the length of the back facing side of your chain and continue with a single crochet at the ends of your chain, turn, and create two more chains. Work the fresh chains into your back loops and work the single into the stitches you created, working toward the middle single at the leaf base. Add three singles and work to a fresh stitch, a single into the stitches and into the previous stitch. Omit the last stitch and continue three times, repeating your last steps.

Now you are ready to join. Start with the whipstitch, i.e. oversew your larger leaves you have dressed up and at the baseline work to your three-lobe leaves (Trefoil), working toward the corner. You will need to make trefoils for each of your finished squares. Now you will need to add your flower, rose, etc, design. Rest it on your creation in the center and add three-lobe leaves to the corners making sure that leaf at the center is pointing in the opposite direction of your leaves. You want to point four of your between leaves, pointing the tips so that they are in the direction of a clock's hands, around your squares.

Once you join your parts use thread and connect it with a slipstitch. Work through the tips of your smaller leaves and chain four stitches, a slipstitch into the tops of your following larger leaf. Once you finish chain thirteen stitches, a slipstitch and work it into the second decorative loop. Work the second décor into the neighboring edge of your undulated fabric. (Scallop) Continue to the leaves and chain ten stitches into a slipstitch on the third loop, and the shorter larger leaf. Chain 10 stitches into slipstitch into your last loop and onto the identical undulated fabric. Stitch fifteen chains into a slipstitch. Work the stitch into the tip of your larger leaf and chain four stitches to a slipstitch at the small base of your leaf. Chain ten stitches into another slipstitch and work to the following loop onto the identical undulated fabric of the leaves. Chain ten into a slipstitch and at the tip of your smaller leaf. Finish by recurring, your steps about the finish and until the slipstitch at the beginning base of the chain. Complete the remaining squares.

Now you can assemble your bridal collection. You will need to connect the blocks of squares by joining your three-lobe leaves into the cloth. Finish with ½ inches seam. Next, cut your bridal collection at the front and at the back of your collection. Cut the strips that do not fit if applicable.

## How to Craft Chimes

Did you know that you could take old reddish-brown clay made of unglazed ceramics to make chimes? (Terra Cotta Pots)

The pots will make up a nice batch of chimes. To get started you will need up to ten ceramic pots. The diameter should be around 1 ¼ inch and up to 1 ¾ inches. You will need wood, 4 inches time's six plates and varnish finish. You will need up to ten 5/8 inch grommet screws. Add up to ten rounds of beads made of wood and around 3/8 inches of spool, i.e. up to 30 pounds of anglers' line. You will need wire up to 20 yardsticks, i.e. spools and a 7/8 inch grommet screw.

How to make chimes:

Now you are ready to make your chimes. On the wooden plates, add a coat of varnish, allow drying, and continuing a few times adding the varnish as needed. Use your grommet 5/8 screw, and screw it in by hand, screwing it into the plate. If you add, additional screws keep them an inch apart. Cut your line measuring lengthwise. Next, at each end feed the line through, and into the grommet screw. Work the line through until you reach the lower region of the vessel.

Once you finish the step, run another line measuring lengthwise through your beads of wood, and fasten so that it forms a dual bond. You can use adhesives to fasten the area if you feel the need to do so.

Take the other vessels you have available to create your chimes, threading them and regulate the measurement lengthwise as needed. You can now add the grommet 7/8 screws to hang your chimes. Fasten the screws at the middle of your crown plate. Use the wire outlined in this article to hang your chimes.

You are now finished with your chimes. To complete this article I will give you a few tips on crafting snakes to place beneath the lower areas of your door so that you can keep wind out during the cold months.

If you do not have a yard of fabric around your house, purchase a yard of strong textile weaves of fabric or corduroy. You will need thread that coordinates with your fabric. In addition, you will need stuffing, dry beans, and rice. Add some adhesives and felt, preferably red, white, and black.

Next, gather your fabric and trim up to 10 inches wide, and around 6-inches lengthwise. Measure your door before cutting, since you will need length wider than the bottom area of your door. Use two parts of the outer regions of your fabric, gather and hand or machine sew at least 3 sides and around 3/8 inches away from the edge of your fabric. You will need to leave a short region of your fabric available. On the right side of your fabric conceal your seams and add your filling, i.e. stuffing. Turn up your edges and then stitch them and choose additives to design your snake.

You can use glue, buttons, studs, etc to make your eyes if you choose to do so. As well, you can use your felt to make up the mouth, nose, and so on. Use the red felt to make the lips, tongue, etc, and the black to make up the surrounding features about the eyes, since as lids, or brows.

The snakes will make up a great warming gift also. You can craft a few to give to your friends, as well as keep a few around your home to keep it warm in the winter months. Now you are ready to learn the basics in quilt craft.

## How to Choose the Basics in Quilt Craft

Quilts are often made up of quality fabrics. The fabrics include cotton, which polyester is often avoided. Once you purchase top-quality cotton fabrics, you will need to consider style.

How to choose style:

Quilts are crafted in the Feminine, Cottage, Victorian, Country, Scrappy, Lodge, and Conventional Amish, Modern, or Juvenile style.

The female and Victorian often has a mixture of flowery and smaller scales of coordinating patterns and colors. Cottage quilts have brighter pastels and prints on a smaller to average scale with off-white solids, such as beige, manila, fawn, or camel. The Country quilts include the reminiscent of dusty shades that stretch along scales of solid shades. The colors are solid and a couple of colors, such as off-whites, or flag colors integrate to make a fashionable quilt.

Lodge style quilts are made up of reticent, or silent shaded prints, or reminiscent of woody colors that are deeply imprinted in the quilt. The colors are offset by shades of plaid, and the variations combine green, brown, rust, orchra, red, navy blue, tan, black, etc, blending it to make the Lodge quilt.

The scraps means you can create any type of quilt you choose, as well as shades, tones, colors, etc. Conventional Amish quilts combine the penetrating shades of gemstones on a solid background with a mixture of black.

Modern quilts include the colorful novelties whereas simple lines are used to make up its squares.

Juvenile quilts is often made up of brilliant pastel, or crayon shades, colors, tones, etc, and includes prints as well as a solid background.

Once you choose your style, you will need to purchase your materials and measure your fabric. The fabric should be machine washable. Sometimes however, the fabric will bleed, which in this case you will need to continue wash, rinse, and continue until the dye remains in tact.

Once you purchase your yard bolt, or fabric you will need to learn steps to cutting your parts "On the grain." This is a common phrase used by quilt makers. In addition to cutting, you will need to purchase fillers and learn how to craft them so they blend into your quilt. In quilt maker terms, "batting," is choosing your style so to speak. For instance, if you wanted to create a traditional quilt you would choose "flatters" that match your material. When choosing batting it is ok to purchase polyester. You will have a choice of wools, cotton, and so on available as well. To help you make a decision consider the following questions.

How to choose:

Do you intend to craft your quilt on a sewing machine, or by hand?

What is the size?

How much time can you invest in making your quilt?

Do you intend to wash your quilt regularly, or design a fashionable quilt for your showcase?

Do you plan to make a quality quilt?

Asking the questions can help you choose your materials. You can find additional help by visiting craft shops and reading recommendations by the manufactured written on the batting label. In the meantime, visit the Internet to choose your patterns.

You also have the pre-packaged options, which you can purchase your batting, including the yard of batting. If you choose the pre-packaged, you will have convenience, such as elimination of cutting. The pre-packages are already cut to fit the average beds.

If you purchase yards of batting, be ware that it has not been pre-shrunk. This means, you will have bulks of batting to carry to your home. You want to keep in mind that yards of batting is suitable for smaller projects only, and is difficult to cut your patterns. Next, learn how to choose batting fibers for quilt craft projects.

## Choosing Batting Quilt Fibers for Craft

### How to choose batting fibers

Quilts include the crib sizes, twin, and full, double fit, queen, and king. The standard crib fit is around 45-inches time's 60. Twin fits are 72 x 90, full and the double are 81 x 96, queen fits are 90 x 108, and the king fits are around 120 x 120.

To choose your materials you must consider batting quilt fibers. Once you choose your batting make sure that, you unfold the cotton material and let it set a couple of days before you start crafting. The batting will relax and inflate. You want to space your batting closely to avoid bunching also when crafting your quilt. Some materials require pre-washes before you can use the fabric. Read your labels.

You have options in battings, including the traditional, which is often made of cotton and the polyesters. The blends of polyester and cotton will shrink sometimes. To stitch the cotton you will need to create intervals of larger stitches, yet if you combine polyester with your cotton, you can minimize the stitches.

The line of battings, include polyester, silk, wool, etc as well. If you choose the polyester, you can create a non-shrinking quilt with intervals of larger stitches. In addition, you can create intervals of wider expansions, which you can craft your quick at a speedier pace. Polyester is the choice of battings, since crafters can design a quick, machine washable, and non-shrinking quilt. As well, the crafter can design a thinner quilt verses the thicker, since polyester is a batting made of "high loft."

My favorite is silk, yet if you are creating a traditional style quilt, the silk may not be suitable. You can still make a quilt of silk, yet you will pay top-dollar and spend a length of undesired time to finish your project. In fact, most crafters do not recommend silk for creating quilts.

Wool has migrating fibers, yet you can sew through the material with ease. You will need to space closely when needling. The wool over time will loose its fibers however. Wool will also fuzz. You can use lightweight materials, or cloths to prevent fuzziness, as well as to prevent fiber loss. Wool is not suitable for machine wash; rather you should take your quilt to a professional cleaner, or wash it by hand and allow it to air dry.

Now choose your style:

If you want the antique or traditional quilt, you will need to use the "low loft" material. The quilts include the Fairfield, which is 100% bleached cotton, the poly-filled cottons, which is 80 % cotton; the "Mountain Mist/Blue Ribbon Stearns" are 100% cotton as well. You can also choose the 100% polyester, Morning Glory, or the Glory BEE I, which is also 100% polyester. Many other styles and varieties are available.

Once you decide which fibers, or fabrics you want to craft your quilt you can then consider your backing. You can purchase yards of backing. The backing today makes it easy to fill in the length and width of your quilt. Ultimately, if you choose backings that come up short or longer you can stitch a couple of pieces together to even your quilt. Still, you want to make sure that the backings work in harmony with your fabrics, or fibers.

Ultimately, if you want to spend time making a quilt you can choose blocks and patches. The pieces of material were frequently used by grandmas, or women of traditional days. The quilts are often sturdier than the modern quilts, yet you can still craft a strong quilt today.

## The Crafts in Patching your Quilt

Patches can make up a fashionable, yet old-style quilt that will last for a long time to come. To create patchwork you will need fabric. You merely cut the pieces of your fabric to form patches and design, stitching in simple numerical lines. If you are creating the traditional patchwork, you will need fabrics, including lengthy stripes, squares, curved shapes, and rectangles. You can leave out the shapes that curve if you don't want to go through the steps of creating a complex quilt.

Crafters often use patches to create quilts with many parts, such as the quilts that resemble the Picasso arts, or the basic quilts. Once you gather your patches, you will need to form blocks of your fabric. The blocks in crafter terms include the "corn and beans," motifs, "turkey tracks, maple leaf," and so on. One of the more attractive quilts is the "Robbing Peter to Pay Paul" blocks. Regardless, you will need blocks to finish your quilt.

To start you will need to select your block scheme. You have the choice of the 4-patch scheme, or the 9-patch. The patch block schemes make up grids, which fill in various simple lines in numbers and shapes. The 4-patch is one of the common patterns used to make traditional quilts. The 9-patch is also used, yet other styles are made up on different geometric grids.

The 4-patch:

The 4-patch is 4-squares factored into a numerical grid. For instance, you can picture a box, draw a cross inside, and count 1-4 to achieve the 4-block scheme. To continue to the 4-patch scheme you would need to add squares, stripes, etc.

The overall notion behind the 4-patch scheme is that you can use a variety of patches to create a multi-color quilt, yet you must lay out your block foundation first.

Now if you want to use the 9-patch scheme you would create nine squares in your grid and either leave them together or break them into parts. Still, you must leave the 9-patch structure.

For instance, if you were to take a piece of craft paper, rather graphing paper and draw per inch, four squares, eight squares, and then another ten, you would have your foundation to start your patchwork. To make up your designs however, you would need to add shapes to your grids.

Once you design your craft on graphing paper, you can create a full-size block. You will need to cut your patches, as well as create templates however before you can start your quilt.

To start your quilt you will need to consider the style again. Do you want the 12, 14, 16, 18, or larger blocks? If you are new to making quilts, you may want to start with the lower block inches. However, you will need to learn how to make borders to complete the quilt.

Once you decide you will need to consider your schemes. If you are working the 4-patch scheme on blocks, around 4 inches then you will need to cut your patches 2 inches in squares. The higher the scheme, the more patch inch squares you would need. For instance, if you want to create a 12-block scheme, you would need twelve patches and cut in six-inch squares.

On the other hand, if you were using the 9-patch scheme, choosing the 12-inch blocks then you would need to cut your patches into 4-inch squares.

Now you can move to create your templates. Templates in crafter terms are patterns, which are cut from strong fabrics, or materials. You need the templates to create an easy squared quilt, otherwise prepare to battle.

## The Craft of Quilt Templates

### How to make templates

Templates are patterns so to speak, only with templates you cut the materials you need from strong fabrics. Otherwise, if you were making patterns you would cut the templates from ordinary paper.

At what time you create templates, you are making your quilt making process easier. The surface patterns will flow consistently as well. You can use your created templates and trace along your patterns, instead of pinning graphing paper to your quilt material. You can purchase ready-made templates, however if you create your own you will save money. You can purchase transparent plastics at craft stores, or stores that carry supplies, such as craft, paper, pencils, etc. If you choose plastic, you will need to individually, trace your patterns. You will need allowance for your seams. After you create your patterns, cut your templates. The plastic templates are ideal for making larger quilts.

*Straight grains* make up woven textiles. The grain lines run comparably along the edges of the non-fraying edges in the materials. Across the "straight grain," is another line known as the "cross grain." Crafters use the term to define the lines, such as "Fabric on the grain." You will need to eliminate the edges, by cutting it off.

The non-frayed edges are makes up the areas that have not been cut, especially around the label and the snug woven areas.

How to create basic templates:

Creating templates is as simple as tracing your footprints on paper. To create your templates you will need to choose plastic and/or paper. Once you make your choice you will need to trace your template to paper, add a few permitted seams, and then use adhesive to add your trace to a clip of hard copy, i.e. cardboard or the like and cutout your templates. Stop: before you cut your templates, first replicate copies and play with the patterns until you achieve your desired mark. Once you achieve your patterns add numbers and/or letters to mark your pattern. This will help you remember where each template goes. Next, you will cut your pattern parts out, using common scissors. Cut the outside areas only at the edges. You will need to create one template per piece to add to your quilt.

Next, trace your patterns, tracing the parts onto your plastic and/or paper. Space the parts one inch in all directions, and away from the other. Use a measuring device, such as a ruler to draw ¼-inch line at the outer outline. On your templates, create a dot. You want the dots to meet two seams per count. The dots are important to mark your stitching areas.

Next, use your direction of textile thread lines (Grain line) and convey the arrows you have created from your model parts and relocate it to your template. You have made basic templates; however, there is a variety to choose from.

Tip: You can invent templates using software installed on your computer.

In addition to the basic templates, you can make window templates. The templates are ideal for those want to pierce by hand. You can also make templates for pre-prepared designs. Window templates can assist the beginners, since you will have a marked line to follow through when you begin stitching. The windows are easy to make, yet you must follow the "hand piercing: rules to complete your patterns. You can also add templates to your window, which may include emblems such as roses, bouquets, etc. Regardless the window, basic, or other types of templates can lead up to a block/border pattern, rather a fashionable quilt.

## The Craft in Blocks and Borders

Once you select your patterns, blocks, templates, etc, you will need to prepare your fabric. You will need to consider how to organize your blocks, once you gather the necessary amount needed to complete your project. You want to consider your borders as well.

You will need graph paper, since you will need to sketch in order to determine how many blocks you will need to complete your quilt. To get started you will also need to decide the size of quilt you want to create and then you can consider settings.

To set your blocks, or organize the blocks you can consider borders, sashing, and cornerstones. The diagonal settings are another style you can consider, as well as the straight set.

Sashing works in the same way as the straight sets, i.e. you merely block your settings against the other and in an organized line. After you will run horizontal and vertical lines, which makes up your 9-patch scheme. The blocks in this instance are interacting with the stitches in three lines and with only three blocks. Use the "block-to-block" steps as listed above to continue. To create a visual, think of a box, or frame with nine rows across and nine rows down in a framed grid. Now add star-shapes, creating nine stars in three rows across your grid. If you can visualize the grid, you can get an ideal how the slash and straight setting works.

Next, add narrow stripes at the corners and around your row of boxes. If you can visualize, you have created a grid of lattice and/or slash. The pattern is designed to enhance your quilts overall outcome, yet you can add different effects to achieve your ultimate design. You can create an ordinary quilt from this grid, or you can crisscross the framework by interwoven your open-mesh frame, crisscrossing the stripes until you form a pattern. Some crafters use geometric patterns to arrange points.

How to set diagonal patterns:

If you want to create a diagonal pattern, or set you will need to organize, and add your blocks, placing them diagonally across your fabric, and on the points. Work a 45-angle into the scheme and work at the side. "On point" is a crafters term to state that the set blocks are on the points.

In the middle of the diagonal set, you will need to create triangles to make up the middle section of your pattern. You will need large and small triangles, which the larger batch will make up the center, while the smaller batch will fit the corners. Slashing terrazzo or strips is optional as well.

In addition to the slashing, straight, or diagonal, you can also choose to vertical set, or else the strip set. Crafters refer to the strip set as "Strippy." Forming the Strippy is easy. You merely place your blocks perpendicularly in narrow pieces and divide the other narrow pieces, or strips.

The medallion is another set you can consider when crafting quilts. You will need to create middle equidistant from the other points. Next, you will need to focus on the points in the middle and surround them with various styles of blocks, slashing, or borders.

Now create your borders. To start your borders add your blocks to achieve the dimension of your borders at the side. You will need to factor in the slashing measurements, as well as the blocks. Example: Three blocks measuring 10-inch square, plus four strips at one inch wide equals 34 inches. Once you finish add a quarter or ¼-inch seam and leave room to each side of your fabric. Now you can move to finish your borders.

## How to Stitch Quilt Borders

We started the borders by adding blocks to complete the range of your borders on the sides of your material. We calculated the dimensions of slashing, as well as the size of your blocks. If you haven't done so, use the example as followed to measure your blocks. Example: Three blocks appraising the 10-inch square, in addition to the four, terrazzo at one inch width, which adds to 34 inches?

How to create borders:

Once you finish your dimensions, insert  $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch seam and leave space to each side of your textile. The side borders should measure up to 10 x 34, i.e. width and length. The finishing measurement is factored into the  $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch seams you inserted. You will need to take up the spaces or seams left (later) to complete your borders. Once you insert  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch you will have created 10  $\frac{1}{2}$  x 34  $\frac{1}{2}$ , which is the inches you will use to cut to fit the borders along the side. Use the same dimensions to cut at least two borders. The borders will cover each side of your fabric. Now measure the lower and upper borders. Add your blocks together to achieve your size. Follow the same method as outlined in the example above. Once you achieve your dimensions finish the width on one side of your borders. You should have counted 10 x 43, width and length unless you are quilting a larger or smaller quilt.

Next, insert another  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch to your seams and leave space to each side. Refer to your measurements 10 x 43.

You will need to cut from the borders to achieve 10  $\frac{1}{2}$  x 43  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch to fit the edges at the top and bottom of your fabric.

You are creating a framed quilt so to speak. You may need to trim your borders to fit.

How to trim borders:

Starting at the crown of your quilt and working down to the middle, measure your quilt. You want the length dimensions. If your dimensions are 30  $\frac{1}{2}$  inches, thus round it off to the nearest tenth, i.e. 30 to complete your calculations: You will need to insert  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch into the seams and make room for your sides. Next, use measuring tape, or a ruler to measure your quilt. Measure from the alongside and factor in the dimensions of your borders. Now insert the  $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch seams to the sides.

Once you finish your borders, you will need to start stitching after your prep the strips of your borders. Start by folding your strips. You will need to fold them in half and search for the middle, then press until your borders crease. You can pin to mark. Now find the middle of your sides by performing the same action as you did above. Mark again, and then start stitching your quilt. The center should be aligned. The right sides should come together, as well the crown should center. You will need craft pins to hold your ends in tact.

Along the length, start stitching your borders. You will need to work the fabric as you stitch to keep it in tact. If you are sewing on a machine, you can place the excess over your machine parts, which accept the input of your fabric (Feeder dog) to align. Hold back the shorter top layer and begin stitching slowly. The feeder will work the layers through.

You can pull the layers at the top through to slow the excess while allowing your feeder to pull the layer at the lower end through. Now connect your borders, by stitching it to your quilt. Insert the side of your fabric and allow your feeder to pull back the layers at the top. Press out your borders and leave a seam to work through the fabric border.

## How to Choose Craft Threads

Threads are important when crafting quilts. You will need certain threads that match your fabric, as well as suitable supplies and needles. Yet, when you consider matching threads to your fabric, you will also need to consider a few other details.

### Types of threads:

You have choices of thread, including rayon, buttonhole-twists, silk, all-purpose, cotton, nylon wool, monofilament, metallic, exceptionally fine, mercerized cotton and so on. To consider threads, first you must ask if you are intending to create your quilt by hand, or machine? Do you prefer to darn or to bast?

If you are sewing fabric piece onto fabric, using shaped pieces to form your pattern, you may want to choose the monofilament nylon thread. On the other hand, if you are sewing your fabric by hand, sewing the pieces to form a pattern then the silky threads, or the all-purpose threads may be a good option.

If you are hand crafting you may want to consider other threads than the all-purpose. For instance, you may get more from the threads with polyester cores and wrapped in cotton. The polished 100% finished cotton is also available. If you use the thread with finished polish, it will reduce wearing if you are sewing by hand. The thread will help you stitch smoothly without worrying about tangles, creases, etc.

TIP: Buy beeswax cake to minimize tangles.

Once you finish choosing your threads, you will need to create a craft basket. The basket will include thimbles, scissors both for cutting paper and fabric, (a few pairs) threader, hand needles, pencils, tailor chalk, seam ripper, and a measuring device. You will also need straight quilter pins, pincushion, glue stick, and a few safety pins. (Large)

Once you gather your basket, you may want to add supplies, such as rotary cutters, iron/board, masking tape, press cloth, spray bottle, graphing/tracing paper, hoops and frames, colored pencils, plastic sheet, ruler, cutting mat, and so on. You may even want to toss in a few band-aids to cover those pokes and sticks you will get from hand sewing your quilt.

When you purchase your needles choose the "household assortment" kits to sum up your sewing needs. Otherwise, needle sizes are opposite, i.e. if you purchase the larger numbers, you get a smaller needle.

If you are hand, sewing you may want to consider "sharp" needles. The needles make it easy to stitch through heavy-duty material. In stores you might look for sharps, or "household needles." To shorten your field trip on the mind tangler, just purchase a couple of 8's and 9's, as well as the variety packages. The needles with slotted eyes are called the "easy-threader," which you can use also if you have problems using other needles.

You will need the seam ripper to correct your mistakes. The rippers will cut your thread, yet you should practice before you use them on the actual quilt, especially if you are new at making quilts.

You will need markers as well as a ruler to measure seams, patterns, fabric, etc. The needle threader will make it easy to thread. Remember the tips of some needles are small, making it difficult to get the thread pulled through the eye. Thimbles are designed to reduce the need for band-aids. You will need to test a few thimbles to fit them to your fingers.

In all, each item in your basket will help you complete your quilt. If you are new at quilting, visit your library, or go online to learn more steps to help you create a fashionable design, or a traditional style if you choose.

## How to Cut your Craft in Quilting

When you start your quilt, you will need patterns, such as rectangles, squares, cut strips, and so on. Once you gather your patterns, you will need cutting tips to complete your quilt.

### Cutting the strips:

When you begin to cut your strips, you will need to align your fabric, mark, etc. Use a ruler to decide the width and start cutting once you reach your desired dimensions. For instance, if you want to create a 2-inch strip, locate the mark on your ruler and place the area side by side of your edges that square.

Once you finish cut the strips. You will need a rotary cutter to complete your mission. Your layers figures are based on the strips you cut. You can also mark and then cut your strips so that you have separate squares. You perform the same actions when making rectangles. Squares are also cut in the same fashion. However, you will need to create two squares per cut.

You will need two rectangles also per cut, since the fabric is thick. For instance, if you were to cut 3 ½ inches of fabric strips x 44 inches, you will need to cut 6 ½ inches x 3 ½ x 6 ½ inches to form your rectangles.

When you start to cut your triangles, start at a 45-degree angle. Cut the squares succeeding to cut the squares slantwise, or diagonally and in half. When cutting your triangles, keep in mind that the longer sides require seams that allow room to finish. You need about a 2-inch finish line per triangle, or side. On three sides however of your triangle, you will need to leave a width of 2 ½ inches to complete your task.

If you are not use to measuring materials, purchase a transparent, heavy-duty ruler and create templates to use as your guide.

Use your templates, aligning it on the material, and lay it in line down the edges at the three sides and use your ruler in a straight line and over your template. Once you have your template in position, you can start cutting across the width to meet your template.

Once you have cut your patterns, you will need to organize and then cut your pieces. Once you cut, your pieces try to organize them so that they do not get lost. You can categorize the pieces and stack them neatly in a desired area near your sewing station.

After you organize your pieces, you want to learn how to press properly. You will need to iron your fabric to prepare it, yet you want to learn pressing techniques, rather than strict ironing. You merely press and lift, relocate, press, release, and relocate, repeating the same cycle to press your fabric.

You will need to press your fabric as you move through the stitching stage also. You will also need to press the allowances at the seams. Head in the same direction at what time you are pressing the seams. To make your fabric durable and sturdier, press the seams to one of your sides.

Learn more about pressing, and irons to complete your quilt. Pressing is important. Once you have your patterns together, pressing down, etc, you can move onto piercing a perfect quilt.

Of course, if you are not in the mood for hand piercing, you can pick up a few tips in stitching seams and allowances, as well as appliqué. Appliqué is the process of fabric pieces sewn onto fabric, sewing shaped parts of fabric onto an underpinning to form a pattern or design.

## How to Seam Allowances in Quilt Craft

As we mentioned in the previous works, you can learn a few helpful tips in stitching seams. In addition, you can learn tips in seam allowances, as well as appliqué. Appliqué is the progression of using fabric or pieces and sewing them onto fabric. You sew the shaped pieces of the fabric onto your groundwork to shape a pattern or design. The appliqué steps include the machine and hand sewn styles. In short, you can use the steps to work through hand-sewn quilts, or machine made. Don't forget to learn more about needles, thimbles, thread, etc before you get started, so that you choose the best brands to complete your quilt.

You will need to stitch your pieces of fabric into the background. First, however you will need to prime the edges of your fabric pieces, or appliqué if you will. Turn the ¼-inch "seam allowance" under the appliqué and stitch so that it meets with your backdrop. If you want to create a quilt in less time, try the "fusible webbing appliqué" style.

The style of appliqué we are discussing now is the simple design. You have advantages with this strategy, since the seams and stitches will not show on the top of your quilt. The "appliqué" will hang in the back of the quilt as well, which creates a stunning design.

The key to making the appliqué is to learning turning steps to bring your seam allowances under your garment. You can use templates to create your patterns. You will need to start by cutting your appliqué shape out and shaping it side by side the lines you have marked. If you haven't learn how to cut and mark visit your library, or go online to find helpful tips. You will need to cut ¼ inch per shape. If you template has a solid row at the outer lines and a dash within the lines, then you are working in harmony with your template and quilt.

Once you cut, the shapes turn the seam allowance under. You can do this by turning and basting, using glue stick, or freezing your paper. If your seam allowances are not flat at the curves, turn the seams in and around the curvatures to the upturned points.

Once you finish turn the seams or shapes at the corner, turning it up so that it meets the first point. Turn your seam allowances up and you are finished. It doesn't matter which side you turn the last seams up.

How to the turning and basting appliqué works:

This is one of the protracted tactics used in quilting. However, you can advance. You want to start by tracing your appliqué, cut it to shape, and work around the seam allowances, turning the seams to the left side. You may need to clip the upturned points and the curvatures. Use your hand to bast the folds. You will need needle and thread, pulling the thread through the needle and stitch 1/8 inch of your shape. Work your stitch to the folds at the edges. You will need to finish by stitching the background so that it meets your appliqué. Now, remove your thread and you are prepared to start the appliqué process.

Once you start the appliqué, you can move to the freezing paper style. This style makes room for easy quilting. The finishing touches will even and smooth out, making you are grand quilt.

Freezing paper in quilters' term is "Freezer paper." You know the type of paper you purchase at your local grocery, and use to store your meat in the freezer. You can also use other types of paper, such as the English.

## How to Craft Quilts with Freezer Paper

No you are not going to craft a quilt with freezer paper, unless you know something I don't, but you are going to use freezer paper to perform the steps in basic appliqué. The process is simple, and makes quilting easy.

How to freeze your paper:

Appliqué is the process of taking fabric pieces and sewing it onto prime fabric, which the shaped pieces are sewn onto a foundation to form patterns and designs. To start with, the steps in freezer paper cut your appliqué out and leave seam allowances. Next, use graph paper or similar products to trace on your wax-free paper, tracing the patterns of your appliqué. Do not trace seam allowances. Now, cut out your patterns and center the shapes on your paper so that it is on the left side. Place the pattern on to your waxy outside layer and bring it to the fabric. You will need to press (NOT IRON) your fabric, as well as the freezer paper. Press the paper so that it is on the fabric of your appliqué. The wax will melt. Once you see the results, cut the curvatures and the points of your appliqué. Use needle and thread that matches your design and run a stitch about the allowances of your seams. Slightly pull your thread to collect with the allowances about your appliqué shape. Make a knot in your thread at one end, and collect your stitches. With the freezer paper inside still, use your iron and press your appliqué.

You can also prepare to work the appliqué style by using glue sticks. Ultimately, you can sew by hand to form the appliqué. In addition, you can use your machine to create a pattern of appliqué. It's your choice.

To use the glue stick method, you perform the same actions, as you would in the freezer paper, only you use copier paper. You can use paper that you use in your printer to complete your steps also. Use your glue stick and fasten the seams. Leave out the wax coating and perform the same steps as you did in the freezer. On the backside of your paper, and at the middle, add a bit of glue. Press on the left side and turn your seam under. Around the shape of your paper, add another row of glue. Add the glue in a row down the shape of your edges. You want to glue the seam allowances to lock them in and to start you appliqué.

Once you complete the steps, you can start stitching the pieces of fabric into your backdrop fabric.

If you choose to hand stitch, start with arranging your appliqué, preparing it to fit the background. You will need pins to hold it in place, and use basting steps or else the glue stick to hold them in tact. Perform your actions moving front and then to the back, and appliqué the pieces that lie beneath the other. Overlap pieces should also be appliqué.

Next, get your needle and thread together, matching the thread with your initial appliqué. Stitch in a ladder motion, or else a tacking motion about the appliqué edges. Use glue to create  $\frac{3}{4}$ -inch appliqué shapes around the beginning tip, or point. You can complete your stitching, once you remove the glue.

In addition to the hand appliqué, you can also use the blind-stitch method, or the machine method to create your quilt. Another option is the zigzag method, or the fusible machine method. Various other methods are optional as well. To learn more about quilting visit your local library. Next, learn how to craft a pierced wall hanger.

## How to Craft the Pieced Wall hangers

Wall hangers make nice gifts. In addition, wall hangers make a nice decoration for your home. The flowerpots, which are pieced by hand, make fancy decorations or gifts as well. In view of the fact, we can start designing a wall hanger together.

Let's get started:

Now understand that we are not talking about making something that will hang on your wall, rather we are speaking of a quilt. The notion behind the wall hangers is to assist beginners, since it is one of the easiest in the craft business to create.

To get started you will need one yard of fabric, i.e. green print. Add another  $\frac{1}{2}$  yard to tan fabric print, and another  $\frac{1}{3}$  yard of blue and yellow,  $\frac{1}{4}$  peach, and  $\frac{1}{2}$ -rust. You need at least 128 x 36 inches of pieces of fabric that coordinate. This will make up your background. Purchase another traditional-weight piece of batting in the same dimension as the background material. Add 4 yards of coordinated quilt binding fabric, and gather all-purpose thread to complete your task.

Throughout the process, you will need rotary cutters, scissors, needles, thread, thimble, pins, pincushion, and so on. The cutters will assist you with cutting  $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch seam allowances throughout your quilting experience. If you do not cut the  $\frac{1}{4}$  as advised, your quilt will come out uneven.

Now that you have gathered your tools, it is time to start assembling the top of your quilt. Before we get started however, let's require the pieces you purchased.

The fabric green print colors are your upper and lower borders. You should have the amount of two when you get started and you will need to re-size your inches to  $2\frac{1}{2} \times 19\frac{1}{2}$ . You will need to of your prints for the border sides, which equals two, and the size of  $2\frac{1}{2} \times 27\frac{1}{2}$  inches. You can start making squares or building blocks to prepare to stitch your quilt. Use your green print as the D square and mark the amount of 36, and the inches in size at  $1\frac{1}{2} \times 1\frac{1}{2}$ . Next, move to your tan print. You want to make the tan amount to eight, and have five blocks, or pieces. The tan should go as follow: "A-Strip, B-piece, C-strip, D-square, E-square, and F-strip." Now the A block amounts to eight, and has inches in size at  $1\frac{1}{2} \times 4\frac{1}{2}$ . The B block should amount to eight also, and measure to  $2\frac{1}{2}$  and  $3\frac{1}{2}$  inches. The C block should amount to 28 and measure to  $1\frac{1}{2} \times 2\frac{1}{2}$  inches. D amounts to 52 and measures at  $1\frac{1}{2} \times 1\frac{1}{2}$  inches; E is eight counts and  $2\frac{1}{2} \times 2\frac{1}{2}$  inches. Finish your final block and should amount to 12 and measure at  $1\frac{1}{2}$  and  $3\frac{1}{2}$  inches. Now you have your blue print, which is the C-strip and amounts to 26, measuring at  $1\frac{1}{2} \times 2\frac{1}{2}$  inches. The C-strip for the blue print is important, since you will use eight of the blues as borders for your quilt, and the remaining amount to create your blocks. The blue has a D-square at 12 and measures to  $1\frac{1}{2} \times 1\frac{1}{2}$  inches. Now you have your yellow and peach prints left. The yellow is C-strip, D-square, and the last four is the cornerstones. C has a value of eighteen, and measures at  $1\frac{1}{2} \times 1\frac{1}{2}$  inches, while the D has a value of 12 and measures at  $2\frac{1}{2} \times 2\frac{1}{2}$  inches. Moving along the F in Peach Print Strips has the amount value of four and dimensions of  $1\frac{1}{2} \times 3\frac{1}{2}$  inches.

Now that you have your p's and q's in order, you can assemble your craft.

## Assembling the Top Craft

Wall hangers are easy to create. The minute size quilts once created will make a nice gift and/or decoration for your home.

Once you have your parts together, as well as have your tools you can get started making a wall hanger. If you are new to quilting, do not worry since the hanger we are making is one of the easier groups of craft to create.

Do not forget to get your rotary cutters on hand, since throughout your quilting project you will need to cut  $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch allowances for your seams. Now, assuming you have your green, tan, blue, yellow, and peach print in order we can get started making your top section of the quilt.

Briefly, I will go over the sections to help you prepare. You should have two,  $2\frac{1}{2} \times 19\frac{1}{2}$  inches of upper and lower borders in the green prints. You should have another two borders in green at the size of  $2\frac{1}{2} \times 27\frac{1}{2}$  inches. You should have the value of 36 for your D Square and the size at  $1\frac{1}{2} \times 1\frac{1}{2}$  inches. Tan print has six parts, i.e. A-strip, B piece, C-Strip, D-E square, and F-strip. Blue only has one part, while yellow has three and peach has one. The yellow is C-strip, D-square, and the last value of four is the cornerstone. C values eighteen, and measures at  $1\frac{1}{2} \times 1\frac{1}{2}$  inches, while D values 12 and measures at  $2\frac{1}{2} \times 2\frac{1}{2}$  inches; F is the peach strip, Peach, which values four and its gauge is  $1\frac{1}{2} \times 3\frac{1}{2}$  inches. Peach has the G-strip, which values four and measures at  $2\frac{1}{2} \times 5\frac{1}{2}$  inches. The rust prints include the value of six, which makes up the sashing #1 vertical at measures to  $1\frac{1}{2} \times 13\frac{1}{2}$  inches. The second sashing creates three and measures to  $1\frac{1}{2} \times 21\frac{1}{2}$  inches, while the last H strip values four and measures at  $1\frac{1}{2} \times 7\frac{1}{2}$  inches.

You will need to cut these pieces of your quilt out. Use the guide above to achieve a precise cut. Now you can crown your quilt. Start by creating a row and a block. Use your block, row, and begin stitching your D-Blue Square to attach to the A-Tan narrow pieces. (Strips)

Continue to the next color arrangement to complete the second block. Use the D-Yellow Square in the second block and create a couple of narrow pieces per color arrangement.

Now stitch two pieces of the tan print together to create a starting row two and in the first block. Use Tan B, a couple of Blue Cs, a Yellow C and overturn so that the yellow/blue has a gateway through the color arrangement at the second block. You want to create double narrow pieces.

In the third row, create a couple more rows and arrange the colors according in the blocks. In the fourth row, create another two rows so that you have a nine pattern in your color arrangement, which should extend crosswise. Alternating, add stitches to the blocks (2) and make your center by creating #2 sashing narrow pieces equaling three. Now press your fabric. Use an iron without ironing, rather pressing as you move along.

You are ready for your borders. Starting with the #2 border, stitch the narrow pieces so that it moves left to right, and to the sides at the right of your quilt, stitching toward the middle. Add  $2\frac{1}{2} \times 2\frac{1}{2}$  inches, by stitching the yellow print square. Stitch along the shorter ends linking it to your dual borders. (Strip #1) Moving along, at the edges along the top and bottom, stitch the narrow pieces, stitching along the middle. You are now ready to complete your project.

Once you finish you may want to design the May wall hanging baskets to offset your quilt.

## How to Craft the May Wall hanging Baskets

There is nothing like the fresh smell of spring when the flowers start to bloom, and the trees grow its natural colors. The only thing that can truly set off the natural beauty of spring is the fabulous May wall hanging baskets. I hope that you have some idea how to craft, since having a basic knowledge will help you move along smoothly. Otherwise, let's hope you can follow directions if you intend to make your own basket.

To get started you will need materials. The materials should include 1/3 yard of fabric print, such as the beige, fawn, manila, camel, or other off-white shade. The material is used to create your back settings; as well, as add tone to a few of your blocks you will build to complete your basket.

You will need 1/2 yard of fabric print, such as the lighter shades of brown. The brown will help you create a beautiful outer border as well as make squares for your basket. Purchase 3/4 yards of fabric print, such as the "medium brown." The brown is used to create your handles and basket. Buy 1/3 yard of fabric print, such as the green to complete your sashing duties. You will need 35 x 30 inches of "Low-loft" pieces of fabric as well for batting. Buy 1/3 yard of "floral print." Make sure the background is offset with white, which will help you bind and create your internal borders. Purchase 123 x 3 inches of scrap. Purchase a variety of greens to create your foliage, or leaves. You will need 64 x 4 inches of scrap to create flowers. You may prefer pink. You will need 62 x 2 inches of yellow assorted square fabrics to create the centers of your flowers. The backdrop is set off with coordinated fabrics, which you need 35 x 30 inches of pieces to complete.

Your quilt will have a finishing size at 33 x 28 inches, and the blocks will have a finishing size of 8 x 10 inches. You should purchase 6-strands of embroidery cotton floss. The shades are optional; however, since the quilt you are creating as flower knots designed in French, you may want to consider the dark and light pinks. Your thread should be the all-purpose, which include the colors light brown, green, pink, and yellow. Purchase 12 x 36 inches of freezer paper, specifically the waxed paper. You will need 2 yards of satin ribbons (Yellow) to create your bows. The satin should be around 1/2 inches widthwise, which the bows once finished will strap to your handles on the basket.

How to trace your handles:

Now you are ready to trace the handles of your basket. Use your off shades of white fabrics, (off white) and cut out your, A-Rectangle. You will need six, and measuring at 5 1/2 x 8 1/2 inches. Once you have your rectangles cut out, you will need to fold them in half and then press. Pressing will mark the core of your quilt. The fold you create is your mark. Once you fold the material in half, open, and draw your post handle lines. At the end of your task you want to expand your prefigure 200%. Now you are ready to trace your copies. On each of your rectangles created, begin tracing. The copies are your guide to cut and create your handles.

Once you finish the project you will move onto create the blocks for your basket. The process is eight easy steps and you will have finished your block building steps in how to craft the May wall hanging basket. Now, learn how to craft your hanging basket in quilting.

## How to Craft Hanging Baskets in Quilting

The guide to learning how to craft hanging baskets rests in your ability to learn, listen, hear, and think while you create your design. However, some people find it difficult to learn crafting rules; therefore, in this article I will do my best to make the steps as simple as possible. I've designed the May hanging basket for your convenience. In addition, I have chosen this particular craft, since it is one of the easier ones to make. I believe keeping it simple can help you to grow in craft, and assist you when you are ready to take on complex crafts.

Before you can make your hanging basket, you will need to gather your supplies, materials, and outlines of your craft. The article is geared to help those creating the May basket complete their project. Therefore, if you are not familiar with supplies, tools, materials, etc, you will need to locate articles to direct you through the first steps. For those of you, who have read previous works, continue to craft your hanging basket. Briefly, we can go over the previous steps, such as tracing the handles of your basket before moving to your blocks.

The next step after you have cut your strips is to trace the handles of your basket. To start use your print fabric (off-white) and cut out your rectangles. You will need six to create the A rectangle, which should measure out to 5 ½ x 8 ½ inches once you finish cutting. You will fold, mark, and create the ending of your pattern up to 200%. Now you are ready to make the blocks to build your basket.

How to create blocks for your basket:

Use your darker shades of brown print and cut six narrow pieces at 1 x 22 inches. You want to break off the cut pieces however so that it is equivalent to ½ inch. This is your narrow pieces (Strips) that make up #1-C in your blocks. You will need 1 ½ x 8 ½ inches to make the B-building blocks, cut eighteen narrow pieces (Strips) to finish. Use your lighter shades of brown to create your B-block. (Sounds like we are in prison or something) The blocks are customary in craft language. You will need five narrow pieces of fabric, cutting out 1 ½ x 22 inches each. This will make up your #2 C-narrow pieces. To create your H-Borders cut two narrow pieces of your lighter brown fabric at 2 ½ x 29 ½ inches. Now, cut 2 ½ x 28 ½ inches of narrow pieces. The cuts will finish your #1 border along the side. Start the narrow pieces in your C-block.

Begin stitching the C-block, using the darker browns, stitching six so that it meets with the lighter shades of brown in your #2 narrow pieces, which should be around five at this point. That is, you should have around five blocks of lighter browns created.

Gather your tools. You will need a transparent ruler and a rotary cutter. I should've mentioned the tools, materials, etc; that you would need in this article, yet again, the information is outlined to finish the May basket. Using your ruler measure 1 ½ inch expansive, or width and cut 12 narrow pieces to make your C block. Use the two narrow pieces (C) to three narrow B pieces and create six blocks to finish the bottom of your basket. Use the darker brown fabric and cut six narrow pieces on your creation. You should have cut 1 x 13 inches to craft the handles.

Use your narrow pieces you cut to create your basket and put them on your ironing board, level to the board. Your pieces should be on the left side, facing down. Fold the pieces at the longer ends so that it meets in the middle. You want to press the fabric. DO NOT IRON. Rather press your material so that it will not expand.

You want to mark the Rectangle A. use a craft pin to do so. Mark the area so that it meets with your handles that you traced earlier. Mark the interior side of your handles with a craft pin along the edges. Use coordinated thread to sew the handles and use your blind stitching mechanisms to complete your task. At the bottom of your basket, you want to accomplish stitching a handle to your block. You are now ready to make your flowers.

## How to Craft Basket Flowers

We have walked through the steps of creating the May basket, now it is time to craft your flowers. We have added handles, basket, etc, to your quilt, which at this time you should have created six blocks to make your basket.

How to create flowers:

We are quilting flowers. On the left side of your fabric, you will have invented pink squares. You can trace your pattern to start your project. Trace at least one flower (Choice), use your outside solid lines, and repeat your steps to create the foliage, or leaves. Use the variety of green patterns and use the yellow narrow pieces to create the center of your flower.

You can design roses if you like. Use a variety of greens, red, pink, white, etc, if you intend to create roses and petals. Along the lines, you have marked, cut the fabric strips sewn onto your fabric, the shaped patterns that form your design, cutting only near the lines. Use freezer paper and turn it over so that you reveal the side that does not have a shine. You want to create a starting line for the six centers of your flowers, and the flowers also. Once you mark the 12 parts, mark the leaves (12), marking them inside the dash lines. Now you are ready to cut your shapes.

You will need an iron and board. Use your hot press, or iron to press the flowers on your paper, pressing in the middle of your flowers on the left side and in the middle. You want the glossy paper turned in the direction of your fabric flower at this point. Do the same with the center of the flowers and foliage.

Next, collect your yellow filament/thread and tone it with the center of your flower. If the colors do not match, try another shade of yellow. Run lines of stitches into your cloth, which encloses the ring of the freezer paper. You want to congregate your material around this ring, so pull your filament up at the end. Now, tie your thread, press the ring, and use your starch bottle, spraying the region. Do the same for the center of your flowers.

Next, use your variety of green filaments that match your leaves and collect the allowances at the seam. (1/4 inch) Collect around the foliage and streamlines of stitches along your fabric, about the enclosed region of your ring that is designed on the freezer paper. You want to collect your textile about the ring. Pull your filament/thread up at the finish and tie it, pressing the ring. Again, spray with starch.

When you congregate your allowances at the flower seams, snip the inner points of the flower corolla/petals where the flower collectively forms a ring. You will need to collect your thread that matches the color of your petals, such as pink. Just as you collected the edges of your leaves, do the same for your corollas. Once you finish running stitch lines in your fabric, which you have enclosed freezer paper about the ring, you will need to gather your material about the ring. Next, pull your strands of thread up at the finish. Next, bind your filament and then press the ring. Press, and spray the region with fabric starch. Now seam your allowances, i.e. snip the central points of the leaves, flower center, etc where the flower collectively forms a ring. Press and starch to complete your crafting task:

Now you are ready to assemble the top of your quilt. After you assemble, you can move to finish your craft. Assembly the crown of your crafty quilt is posted below for your convenience.

## Assembling the Crown of your Crafty Quilt How to Assemble your Crown

You have created flowers, basket, handles, etc, so now it's time to assemble your crafty quilt. Let's get started.

### How to Assemble:

You are assembling the crown of your quilt at this point. If you haven't started your craft project to create the Spring Basket, leave this work to those who are at the crown. To collect your crown use your threads that counterpart and begin blind stitching across your fabric, sewing your flower onto the fabric, as well as two of your foliages. Sew to the center bloom as well, and stitch en route for the wrong side (left) of your created 3-block baskets. Stitch to the right and finish your final blocks. (3)

At the lower region of your basket, affix your blooms so that they join with the handles. Now, snip your lighter shades of filaments/strands, and shades of pink (6) silkworm fibers (Floss), cutting lengthwise so that it is corresponding with the measurements lengthwise of your arm. You want to create strands (3) on each section of fiber. Divide and use needle and thread (large eye needle) along with the length of your three filaments and stitch so that it forms a circle. You are making your granny knots, to create the French version that will stretch about your center flower and the dark flowers you have created.

Again, trim your darker shades of six-pink, filaments, and silkworm fibers, cutting it along the length so that it is equivalent to your arm span. Generate 3-filaments on each section of your fibers. Partition and make use of hand used needle and filament, stitching the length the three threads. Stitch until it shapes a loop. Starting at the shades of green, snip the narrow sash pieces and cut the pieces into 1 ½ x 10 ½ inches. You are making your D-block. Snip another three narrow pieces until you achieve measured parts at 1 ½ x 28 ½ inches. You will use these parts to make your E-block. Alternatively, snip your D-block, cutting three from your pattern and form 4-D narrow pieces. You want your ducks in a row. (I.e. Blocks) Use only 2-blocks to form a row at this time and begin stitching the blocks forming 3-E narrow pieces. This is the middle region of your coverlet, or quilt. Use the variety of floral prints and snip the inside borders of your narrow pieces. Snip at least two narrow parts at 1 x 23 ½ inches. Use the parts to create the F-borders at the side. Now, snip another one x 29 ½-inch narrow pieces to create G-borders at the lower and upper region of your quilt.

Continuing, sew the border sides to the center of your coverlet. Continue to sew the drop and greater borders. Begin in the floral region, i.e. the print textile press with your iron. DO NOT IRON rather gently press? Lift; relocate, etc.

Now, you are ready to craft your binds for your quilt. Use your floral materials and sew the greater, drop, and sides of your borders. Now fill it in with the center of your quilt patterns.

You have done a great job, so now it is time to finish your work. Use your backing cloth, batting, and crown of your coverlet and coat. To prepare your coverlet, pin baste to layer, followed by hand sewing or machine sewing your quilt. Use your machine at the crown to sew the untreated edges. If you have extra batting, cut it. Do the same for backing cloth. Now bind and snip your satin, yellow ribbon to form your bow. Cut six even parts. Finish by tying your ribbon, forming a bow and stitch by hand your bows, one for each side of your handles on your basket. Next, we can create a lap blossom to keep you warm in the winter months.

## How to Craft the Lap Blossom Quilts

You are going to make a finishing quilt measuring 36 x 51 inch with the finishing 8 x 13 inch block. You will need sewing materials to complete your mission.

What materials to purchase:  $\frac{1}{4}$  yard of fabric. (Greens; at least eight different shades) The green fabric will make your foliage. Purchase  $\frac{3}{4}$  yards of background fabric. Creamy colors or your choice of colors: If you want the blossom lap however, choose the creams. Buy  $\frac{1}{2}$  yard of floral in a variety of colors and shades. The material will be used to create your external borders. Buy  $\frac{1}{4}$  yard of pink fabrics. Purchase up to eight or nine shade variety. The materials are needed to make your blossoms, or flowers. Purchase scraps of yellow assorted prints. You will use these scraps to make the center flowers. You will need  $\frac{1}{3}$  yard fabric, shaded yellow to finish your internal borders. Purchase 40 x 55 inches (1 yard) of part fabrics that match to create your background. You will need 1 yard of 40 x 55 inches to create your inner area, therefore purchase the measure of low-loft batting. Purchase six yards of binding material, preferably green and some all-purpose filaments/thread to coordinate with your green, yellow, pink, creamy colors, etc.

Purchase a transparent craft ruler, rotary cutter, scissors, needles, etc so that you have all your materials together to complete your blossom.

Once you purchase your materials, start trimming your parts. You will need to snip narrow pieces of your material to create borders. The material will make up your sashing as well. Your floral fabric is needed to create two A-Borders at  $3\frac{1}{2} \times 45\frac{1}{2}$  inches, as well as two B-Borders at  $3\frac{1}{2} \times 36\frac{1}{2}$  inches. Use your yellow fabric to create C and D borders. You will need two each, which the C will measure at  $1\frac{1}{2} \times 43\frac{1}{2}$  inch, and the D at  $1\frac{1}{2} \times 28\frac{1}{2}$  inches. The creamy colors are used in sashing E and F. E should value 12 at  $1\frac{1}{2} \times 13\frac{1}{2}$  inches, and the F should value at four,  $1\frac{1}{2} \times 28\frac{1}{2}$  inches.

Use the guide and trim the cream fabric creating G, cutting eight small squares per block valuing 72 and sizing at  $1\frac{1}{2} \times 1\frac{1}{2}$  inch. You will need 36 H blocks at  $2\frac{1}{2} \times 2\frac{1}{2}$  inches large per foursquare blocks. Use your pinks to make eighteen I-blocks at  $3\frac{1}{2} \times 3\frac{1}{2}$  inches over squares to make two counts per block. Make your J-blocks as you did the I-blocks, using the same measures. Create K-block using your pink fabric cutting 36 narrow pieces to form four strips per block at  $1\frac{1}{2} \times 3\frac{1}{2}$  inches. Cut L-block in the same method as you did the K block.

Use your yellow print and cut M-block. You will need four blocks per center equally 72 and the pieces should be  $1\frac{1}{2} \times 1\frac{1}{2}$  inch. Next, use the creams to form N and Q block. N should have a value of nine and bands per block at  $1\frac{1}{2} \times 8\frac{1}{2}$  inches. The Q block should have units, i.e. 18 parts and two units per block. Measurements should be  $2\frac{7}{8} \times 2\frac{7}{8}$ . Cut your green prints. Form O-block using the amount of 27 to craft #1 green block, cutting three for each block at  $2\frac{7}{8} \times 2\frac{7}{8}$ . Do the same for your P-block.

Now you are ready to start crafting your blossom quilt to keep your lap warm.

#### Conclusion:

This report is designed to help you get started in crafting a variety of projects. By no means is this work intended to complete any projects, other than the ones spotted throughout the work. You can find helpful craft tips at your local library, as well as online to help you complete any project you choose. Crafts include quilts, cross-stitching, snakes, dollhouses, clothes, blankets, and so. If you have material, laying around your house you can craft the majority of projects listed.