

Aunt Martha's Work Basket

HOME AND NEEDLECRAFT

For PLEASURE and PROFIT

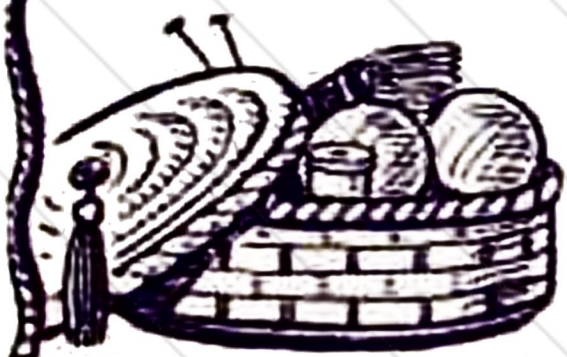
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(Directions on page 6)



IDEAS for the Bazaar, the Home,
Gifts and Sparetime Money-makers
—with Many Inexpensive, Easily
Made Articles that find a Ready Sale.



In the Future

Next month we will give you every possible last minute gift suggestion—you know—the kind which may be quickly and easily made, but will strike a responsive chord both with yourself and the one who receives it.

Hurry-up guest towels—simply decorated with striking appliqued or embroidered flower motifs, stress the bright hues soon in bath rooms. These have accompanying crocheted edges which will carry out the color scheme. There will be six different designs and three edges—also adaptable for many other uses.

Your transfer will also bring you a pair of the cutest pictures you have seen in a long time. These measure about 6x9 and depict such familiar scenes as a cottage nestled in the trees.

The unusual feature of these is that they are to be stamped on a rather bright blue material, and worked in black, white and orange. This gives a very new note in color combination.

Several designs suitable for the most unique Christmas cards imaginable will also be given. These may be stamped on small squares of linen or other material and embroidered, or simply traced on paper and outlined or painted.

Three designs for bean bags offer opportunity to delight the small child with a few moments' work. A butterfly, flower, and a pup completes this welcome group.

A few timely suggestions on package tying as well as tree decorating will also be given. A pattern for the unusual Breoches quilt is included.



Directions for the NUMO Transfer

Stamp the three bibs on unbleached muslin, or if you prefer, a color. Embroider the kittens, rabbits, and puppies in gray, tan or brown, using a short whip stitch. Work all lettering in black outline or tiny running stitch. The carrots are orange, the flowers on the rabbit design may be orchid with yellow centers, all leaves green. Work flowers and leaves in lazy daisy and French knots. Bind the rabbit bib with orange bias tape.

The puppies' bows are pink, flowers pink, bind in green or blue. The kittens' bows are blue, the flowers blue, and the binding pink. When binding the necks, extend the ends of the tape at the back to make ties. If you desire heavier bibs, cut a back of the same shape and use both together with padding between if desired. Embroider only through the front, and use the other as a lining. Bind the edges or stitch the two pieces together on the wrong side, leaving the neck open for turning. Bind the neck.

For the aprons you may use unbleached muslin and work the designs with red and blue flowers, yellow centers, green leaves, and the cross stitch motifs in black, bright blue or red. If you choose, the aprons may be made

of colored material and the complete design in one color to contrast. Pretty combinations are yellow aprons done in brown, turquoise done with white, peach with bright blue, etc. In working the motifs, cross stitch, lazy daisy and French knots are employed.

A waist band to be used on both aprons is given on the transfer, and the skirts are made from pieces of material 36 inches wide by 28 inches long. Stamp the borders across the material 8 inches from the bottom and turn up a four-inch hem which may be whipped down at the bottom of the design. The heavy hem gives the apron body and accentuates the motif.

Finish the sides of skirt with tiny hems, and hem the ties in the same manner. Work the design on the band, cut a second band for lining, and stitch the two bands together across top and ends, with the ties stitched into the end

seams. Leave the bottom of the band open, turn and press. Gather the top of the apron skirt to fit the bottom of the band, and baste to the front of band; stitch, turn under the edge on back of band and whip down.

To make the pillow, cut a yellow moon and applique in the center of a 15-inch square of black material. Sateen, rayon, or other black is suitable. Stamp the owl on brown and work all lines in black, cut a branch of black, and applique both in position over the moon. Applique eyes of yellow, and work center of black. Embroider the owl's feet in yellow solid stitch. Cut 4 strips of black material $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches wide and $15\frac{1}{2}$ inches long, to use as boxing. Stitch this around the front of pillow, then to the back, matching corners carefully. Leave one side open for stuffing, stuff with several layers of batting and close opening.

Double Irish Chain

It is surprising with what frequent variation one sees this quilt on exhibit. On the cover is presented a charming method of arranging it, making half the work applique—and you will find the pattern on your transfer. Piece the blocks as shown, using either white and color, or white, color and harmonizing print as suggested. The print should then be used in the shamrock and odd squares applied to the plain block, which should be the same size as the pieced block. When these are assembled, alternate pieced with shamrock blocks.

The tassel and scallop make a most pleasing border, in any width from 6 inches up. Make the scallop of plain color and the tassel of a lighter shade or of print. If the plain block does not have the shamrock, it is clever to quilt these in several different designs—in fact, no two need be alike. These designs are often classified as "teacup" designs, and as the name implies may be drawn with a sharp pencil around teacups and other dishes to form any design one chooses. Plates, bowls, egg cups and many other things found on the cupboard shelves may be drafted into use.

Twenty-five $2\frac{1}{2}$ -inch squares are re-

quired to piece each block. If only white and color are to be used you will need 13 of white and 12 of color. If print is also to be used, you need 12 color, 9 print and 4 white. When a quarter-inch seam is taken off each side the squares will be 2 inches and your completed block 10 inches square. A quilt 82×102 will result if 32 pieced blocks are used alternately with 31 plain white, or the white block appliqued as shown with four 2-inch corner patches and a shamrock in the center—use a 6-inch border of color all around and applique border design to this.

You will need about 3 yards color; 5 yards white, and $1\frac{1}{2}$ yards for a 6-inch border.

How to Use Aunt Martha's Numo Hot Iron Transfers

This hot iron transfer is entirely different, and if the following directions are observed, you can get three or four (sometimes more) stampings from each design. **THE DESIGN IS TRANSFERRED SLOWLY**—be sure to allow sufficient time.

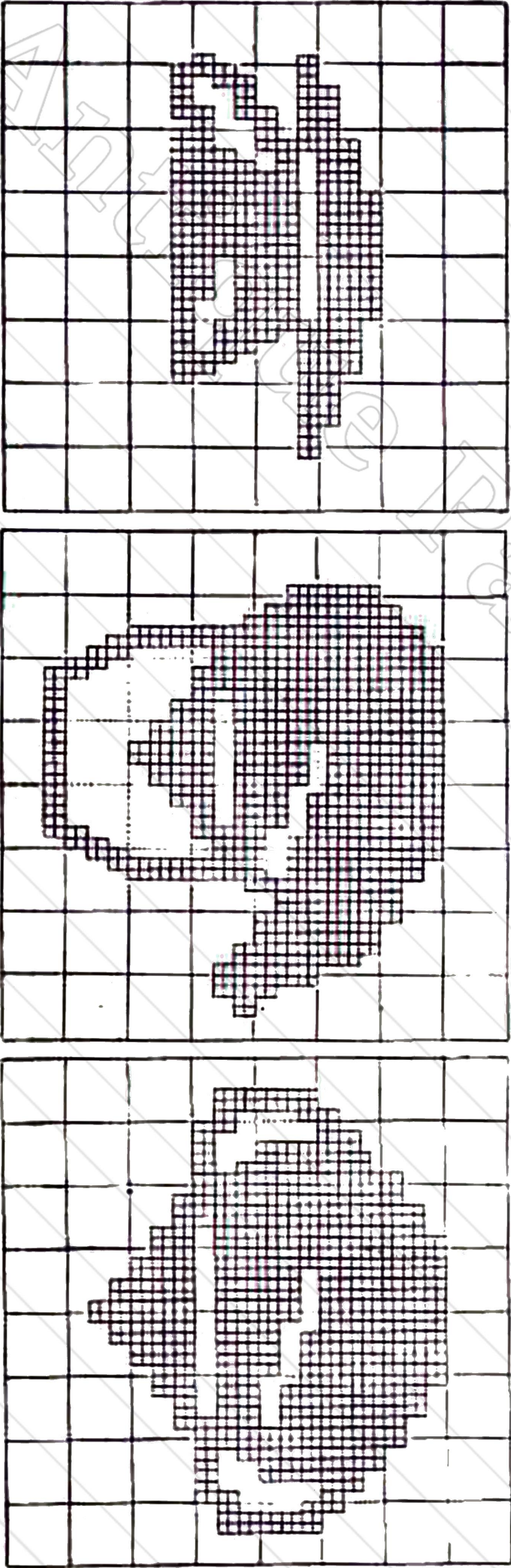
NUMO patterns stamp in blue and give best results on light cotton materials. Silks do not withstand hot temperatures and most heavy linens contain large amounts of dressing which cause it to scorch easily. For use on dark materials rub chalk or lump starch on back of pattern and then trace lines as stamped on the paper to your material.

1. Iron must be very hot, almost, but not quite scorching.

2. This transfer will seem wrong side out, but the design you stamp will be like the picture. Cut out that portion of pattern you intend to use and place it **PRINTED SIDE DOWN** where it is to be stamped. Cover with larger piece of paper to prevent slipping and press, moving your iron to keep from possible scorching.

3. For your convenience a "test" design is included. Use this on a scrap of material, remembering that the design is transferred slowly.

FOR BEST RESULTS YOUR IRON MUST BE ALMOST SCORCHING HOT.



Silhouette Dish Pan Holders

Single crochet (1c) makes this set, working the background with string and the design is colored mercerized or other thread of equal weight. With a number 3 hook the resulting stitch will measure 8 to the inch and 8 rows will equal an inch. In the accompanying chart, each large square represents 6 stitches or 6 rows and each small square represents a colored stitch.

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If the large blocks are followed your completed pan holder will be slightly longer than it is wide—about 7x6. For a square pan holder, decrease the number of rows of background worked before the design is begun. On the sugar bowl and teapot, 3 or 4 rows should be worked instead of the 6 indicated by the large square. On the cup and saucer work 8 rows instead of the 12 indicated by the large squares. After the design is completed, reduce the number of background rows to correspond and your

work 8 rows instead of the 12 indicated by the large squares. After the design is completed, reduce the number of background rows to correspond and your

finished pan holder should measure 6x6.

Begin with a ch of 50 sts, 1c into third ch from hook, making 48 1c; work desired number of rows in background color and begin design as in diagram. When changing color, always make last loop of preceding stitch with the new color and carry background thread back and forth (there will be a double thread in your design, for you will work over background thread). Finish with a row of 1c in color all around; make loop of 15 ch with 1c in each to hang.

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Interesting Things Made From Gourds

There are so many things which may be made from your gourds that it is difficult to decide just which to give you here as our space is naturally limited. The first step, of course, will be in gathering the gourds if you have not already done so. All sizes and shapes have their purposes as the large ones make bowls, jugs and vases, while the smaller ones are nice for ash trays, table ornaments, charm strings, etc. It is a good plan to collect all available gourds and select the unusual shapes for separate items. The ones which remain may then be incorporated into your charm string, or used to fill a large bowl which makes an interesting table ornament.

Much has been said, and a great many conflicting statements printed on the proper procedure in making these items and each no doubt has its merits. The bits of information which we offer here were gleaned from actual experience in making the items which are mentioned. Our efforts were not without difficulties, disappointments and a few failures, however, for we progressed along the trial and error route, which should produce some helpful results.

First of all, consider the gourds—even before gathering time, it is necessary to give them some attention. The vines should be carefully tied up to keep the fruit off the ground, as any spots which touch may bruise or become discolored. Then again, don't make the mistake of picking your gourds too soon. You will surely lose them if you do, for they may shrivel, discolor and in other ways lose their attractiveness. There is a proper time for gathering each type of gourd, and care should be taken to pick them at just that time.

One fairly reliable method of judging the proper time for gathering is to pick them just as soon as they no longer yield to the soft pressure of the thumb. This takes careful watching, and colored gourds should be watched even more closely, as the sun dulls their color. At this stage they have a hard protective shell which will prevent bruising in handling. Cut the gourds from the vines with knife or pruning shears, leaving long stems. They should now be allowed

at least two more weeks in which to harden. Keep them in a dry, light place during this period.

It is a good plan to spread your gourds out on a large table or work bench which has been covered with an old blanket, coat, or other heavy, soft material. This will keep the gourds from bruising or becoming flattened on one side. Also it will prevent them from rolling off the table. A protected, screened porch is ideal as it will keep insects away and still be in the open air. If you like, the gourds may be put in open windows on several thicknesses of newspaper, and moved as desired. It is wise to keep them out of the direct sunlight, as this will fade them and may tend to dry them too quickly.

In most cases a sharp knife is all that is required in cutting and shaping your various items, however, where the shell is very hard and thick a very fine back-saw blade comes in handy. A bowl, made from the lower half of a large gourd, may have smaller ones decorated to match for a popcorn set. The gourds which are to be used for bowls should be "seasoned" with especial care, so that they will not shrivel after being cut. If possible, the gourds which you select for this purpose, should be left until well in the winter, before being used. You will find them in much better condition then for handling and cutting. The large bowl may be from 8 to 10 inches in diameter, or even larger, while the small ones should be about 6 inches. The complete set is then shellacked inside and out with clear shellac to retain the natural color of the gourds, or one or more colors of lacquer may be applied, followed by the shellac. Gaudy Mexican motifs, cactus, etc., may be painted on with poster paint or oils before they are shellacked, if desired.

Small bowls of the same type may be hung in raffia or twine swings for flowers. You have no doubt noticed the raffia hangers in the stores. They are easily made with twelve strands of raffia and a few beads. From the large goose-necked gourds you may make water jugs, merely by cutting off the tip of the neck, and cleaning out the seeds

and fiber. These may also be hung in the raffia hanger mentioned, as may whole gourds which are decorated in Mexican scenes and used merely for ornaments. Such items may be painted, shellacked, or some prefer the finish acquired by the use of floor wax. The waxing is repeated a number of times to bring out the beauty of the shell.

Among your gourds you are sure to find some which remind you of certain birds and animals. Probably the best example of this is the penguin—a large sea fowl which has a rather heavy body with small head and neck. Some of the smaller white and yellow gourds as well as the large mature "Cave Man's Club" type are suitable for this purpose, and any size from 3 to 12 inches will do. The smaller penguins make interesting figures on what-not or table, while the large ones partly filled with sand make excellent door-stops.

First, of course, you must choose your gourd—select one which, when set up on the large end, has the general shape and appearance of a penguin. The gourd should have a stem as this forms the bill, but if the one which you wish to use has no stem, one from another gourd can be easily glued in place. If the neck of your gourd is slightly curved, all the better.

First, cut off a little of the rounded bottom with a sharp knife, or saw when dry—to make a flat rim which later can be glued to a wooden base. Clean out the seed and fiber, and allow it to remain open for several days before closing the end, so that any remaining moisture will have a chance to dry out; should you glue the gourd to a base while it is green the inside will mold and perhaps decay. A coat of white enamel should be applied to the front half of the gourd, and extended well up on the neck. When this has dried, paint the head and back black. A white line indicates the back of the wing and eyes. Cut a circular base of the proper proportion from plywood or other thin board. A 6-inch penguin requires a 2½-inch circle, which should be painted. If the base is painted black, the three-toed, webbed feet of the penguin should be painted on this in yellow or white. A white base may have black feet. Glue or cement the penguin to this base.

Straight goose-necked gourds from 6 to 10 inches long are being used very effectively for wallpocket vases. To make these vases, the completely dried gourd is used. Cut off the end of neck, and varnish or wax the whole gourd, leaving it natural in color for the best results. Cut a wall bracket of desired size from plywood or heavier board. This should be slightly longer than the gourd and may have straight sides or be shaped. The gourd is then fastened to the bracket with 2 bands of metal which may be obtained at any tin shop.

Candlesticks are also fashioned from this type of gourd—cut off the neck in the same manner—and also a portion of the rounded bottom. Hollow out and glue the bottom rim on a wooden base as for the penguin. Be sure the base is large enough to support the weight of a long taper without falling over.

Dippers are made from the long-necked type, merely by hollowing out the large end. A cord or leather thong tied through the neck makes hanging possible.

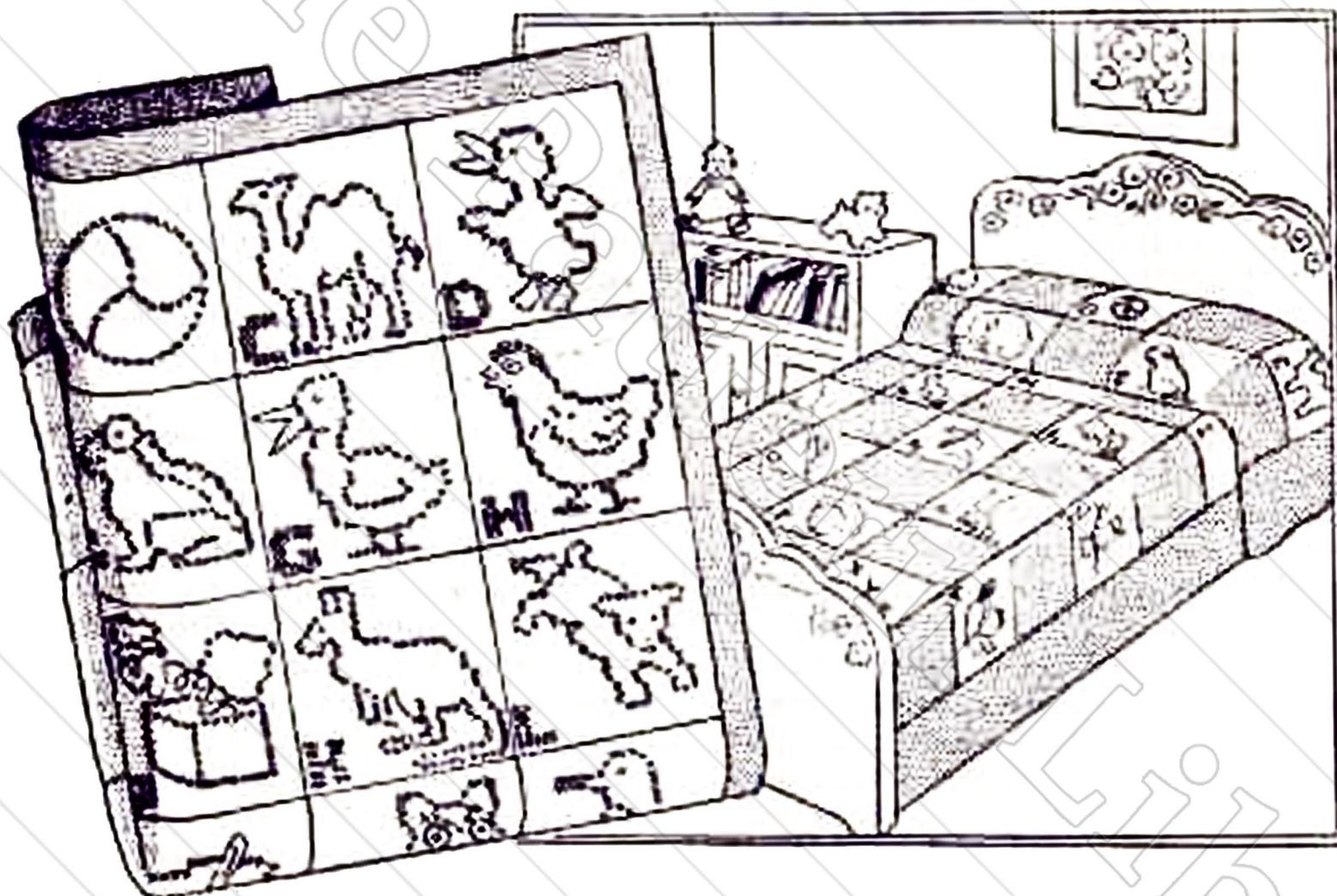
All kinds and shapes, and all sizes except the very largest may be used in your charm string. The basic string which may be from 18 to 36 inches in length, should be of stout cord used double. Perhaps the best thing for this purpose is heavy fiber or hamp cord, and this can be had in colors, which is even more desirable. A bright green cord will set off the other colors used in your charm string, and will not show up when extra pieces are tied on to affix the different items.

Before beginning to attach the gourds, etc., it is wise to tie knots through both strands of the cord, at about 3-inch intervals for its full length. This will divide the cord into several sections, forming knotted loops from which your ornaments may be hung with other short lengths of string. One large goose-necked gourd, 10 to 12 inches long, hung on the end of the string will give it weight. Bore holes through both sides of the neck about an inch and a half from the end, and run cord through this. Smaller gourds, yellow, orange and green and even striped ones may be hung at intervals along the knotted string. You will find, however, that the fancier ones will not last as long as the plain white gourds, which may be

Painted in bright hues for the same colorful effect. The gourds may be interspersed with clusters of milkweed pods also painted. Let the pods dry thoroughly, and when they have opened, carefully remove all seed and down. Popular colors for use in charm strings are those closely associated with things Mexican—mainly red, bright blue, green, orange and yellow; and they should be distributed in profusion along the length of your string.

Pine cones, in natural color or painted; those long dry beans one finds on

catalpa trees; small ears of bright yellow or red popcorn; clusters of acorns; are just a few of the many handy items provided by nature, which will work into your charm string, giving it a really quaint and natural charm. The completed string may be hung beside a kitchen window, over the breakfast table, in the den, or if your home boasts a fireplace, do by all means hang your string beside this. That is, of course, if the room is more or less informal and the gourds are in keeping with the other objects of decoration in the room.



For the Children's Room

A set of twenty-four 6-inch alphabet blocks with XYZ combined on the last square, makes a charming quilt for the youngster's room. Each cross stitched letter is enhanced by the figure of an animal, fowl, or some object dear to childish hearts. Set these designs together without additional blocks for a crib quilt, or with alternating blocks of color for a bed-size quilt with matching border.

Stamp your own blocks from transfer number C8706, 15c, or order C8706M, 35c, and receive your 24 six-inch blocks already stamped on fine quality muslin. Even the children might embroider these designs in easy-to-do cross stitch. They will find it interesting and instructive work if you let them choose the appropriate colors for the motifs and assemble the blocks in alphabetical order.

Address All Correspondence and Send Orders to