

# SUGGESTIONS FOR

# CHRISTMAS GIFTS



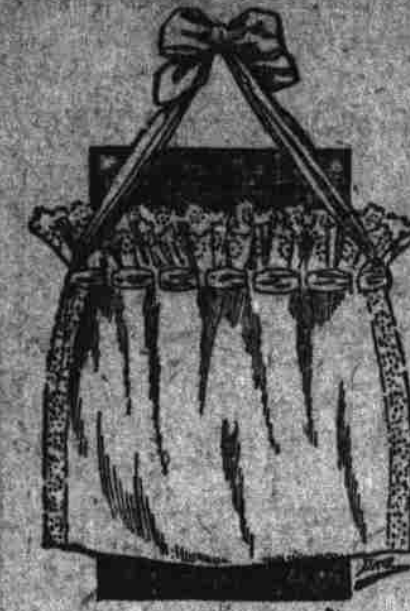
Helpful Hints for Making Useful and Pleasing Christmas Gifts at Home

Presents That the Clever Woman May Construct Small Expense



NECKTIE HOLDER.

Such dainty gifts decorated with ribbon embroidery may be made for Christmas by women who know this art that there is really no limit to the presents that are possible to construct out of inexpensive materials and that will look like costly articles when ornamented with this hand work, for ribbon embroidery made in floral, elaborate scroll or geometric designs will give even the homeliest of bedroom or dress accessories an original appearance, and anything from the old-fashioned pincushion, that is an essential in dressing, to the newest corset bag will be attractive and decidedly acceptable when decorated with it.



LINGERIE BAG.

A pincushion made of white satin in a round style, with two ruffles of real or imitation valenciennes lace and a third flounce of white silk, is pretty, but when decorated in the center with a Louis XVI basket made of gold thread, out of which ribbon embroidery flowers in imitation roses and forget-me-nots fall in confusion, this ordinary bureau article becomes a work of art, or if the middle of satin is ornamented with ribbon embroidery made into a running green vine on which conventional tulips or carnations in yellow, pink and blue are worked the cushion is equally effective and unique.



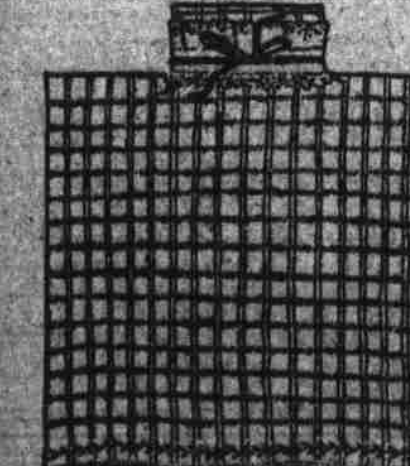
TELEPHONE PAD.

Picture frames for photographs made of silk or satin and ornamented with ribbon embroidery flowers are comparatively new this season and will be most acceptable gifts, for they may be used with appropriateness on either a dressing table or in a sitting room or parlor. Though these frames, finished with an edging of white or gilt wood, are attractive, a piece of bright gold galleon put around the glass makes the whole more original and decorative.



SASH, COLLAR AND CUFF SET AND PINK WIPER.

Five inexpensive Christmas gifts that may be made at home are shown in the illustrations. They are particularly suitable for girls. No. 1 is a heart shaped sash of pale blue china silk, covered with fine linen, on which are embroidered a spray of flowers and French knots. The edge may be finished with a frill of the linen or val edging. A lace bow or ribbon is put at the top. A pretty idea would be to embroider on the linen the flower of the kind of perfume used.



SHIRT WAIST COVER.

No. 2 is a collar and cuff set of heavy linen intended to be worn with a coat. The shape of the cuffs and collar can be marked on the linen after making an outline with a lead pencil. The scallops may be marked with a half dollar and the dots with the end of a pencil. The scallops are done in buttonhole stitch and the dots in satin stitch. Launder the linen before cutting.



WOOLLY DOGS FOR BABIES.

No. 3 is something entirely new, and a woman or girl will find it very useful to protect the front of white shirt waists. It is made of plain white, either linen or muslin. At the waist it is slightly gathered and sewed to an inch wide piece of beading, through which a yard and a quarter of ribbon is run. The edges are featherstitched. The tabs on either side at the top may be pinned to the waist or finished with ribbon, which goes over the shoulders and comes down and is fastened to the ribbon at the waist about one inch either side of the centre of the back.

No. 4 is a penwiper made from pieces of chamois cut in an irregular shape at the edge. A clover leaf is either painted or embroidered in pretty shades of green on a piece of dark leather used for the top. The leather may be bought at any department store.

No. 5 is a travelling case made from a strip of pretty flowered cretonne and interlined with rubber sheeting. The pockets, which are for the brush, comb, toothbrush, soap and sponge, are made of the sheeting and stitched on. The edges are bound with ribbon. The case rolls and is kept in place by tying it with ribbon shown at the pointed end.

A theatre bag of one Novel Leather sort or another is an absolute necessity for the theatre goer in these days, when dress pockets are forbidden luxuries, and when it is impossible without risk of loss to hold in one hand a purse, a pocket handkerchief and an opera glass, possibly a powder puff and probably some chocolates and at the same time to gather up one's skirt with the other hand and in the case of a matinee on a wet afternoon perhaps struggle also to carry an umbrella.

Such a useful little bag as the one shown in our sketch will help us out of most of these difficulties and will leave us with one hand free for our skirt and the other for our umbrella,

as by means of the ribbon handle the bag can easily be slung over one's arm. It could be made from a remnant of strong silk or a short length of brocade, and it should be lined with silk in some contrasting color.

For a modest sum a small piece of looking glass can be purchased. This should be slipped between the lining and the outer cover of the bag and arranged so that the opening in the silk is rather smaller than the glass itself. A little secotine, very lightly applied, will hold the mirror firmly in its place, and it should be concealed from view on ordinary occasions by a flap of cloth embroidered with a floral design and tied with ribbon bows.

An engagement rack Engagement rack has seven rather heavy Back cards, on each of which is printed the name of one of the days of the week. On the ends of these cards a narrow white ribbon is pasted; then the ribbon is pasted to a long strip of white cardboard, to make little pockets into which to drop notes, memoranda, etc. These cards are two inches apart.

The Skye terriers in Woolly Dogs white or a grayish blue are both effective and quite as soft and fluffy as the real pets, for like the living dogs their entire bodies are covered with loops of yarn that hang down from long ears and dangle about their eyes. The noses and mouths of these dogs are made of black yarn and the eyes of large shoe buttons, giving quite a natural and expressive look to the cunning faces.

With large pink buttons tied in bows about the necks they are decorative enough to grace any dainty boudoir and are practically for use as toys for small youngsters to throw around a nursery.

Unlike the griffons, these Skyes have only two feet—front ones—that are shaggy like the rest of their bodies. They are made in a lying-position so that hind legs are not necessary. The claws of the feet are outlined with stitching of black yarn.

The griffons are made on larger lines than the Skyes and are the most effective, because the heads and front parts of the bodies are shaggy and in sharp contrast to the plain crocheted or knitted hind portions, so-fashioned to look as if the hair had been clipped. The tail is of course curly, like the head and front legs. The claws on the four feet are brought out by dark lines of gray wool, which makes the toes distinctive. The eyes are large shoe buttons and the noses and mouths of black yarn, made in the same way as the features of the Skyes. The legs are short, but are stiff and strong enough to support the weight of the dog's body and keep it in an upright standing attitude.

A new whisk Brush and Whisk broom has a stirrup for a holder while the broom itself has a leather handle, and a most effective watch hanger is also in the shape of a stirrup in brass, the watch hanging from a small leather strap.

The charming waste Basket paper basket shown in the illustration is quite within the capabilities of every girl to make. It is composed of six pieces of cardboard cut to shape and lined with colored paper, which also covers the cardboard forming the bottom. The pieces are covered on the outside with flowered material in a stripe design, and care must be taken when cutting to make the stripes meet at each place when it is joined to its fellow. The ends are firmly sewn to the cardboard bottom, and the sides can either be joined or else merely connected by ribbon bows passed through stiletto pierced holes in the cardboard, and if the ribbon is tightly tied and the holes evenly pierced there will be no danger of the contents of the basket falling out.

A practical and desirable Necktie present for either a man or woman is a necktie holder. It can be fashioned as simply or elaborately as is wished once the woodwork is made. These holders that may be hung on a bureau knob, attached to the gas jet or nailed to the wall in a bedroom are made of an oval piece of light white-wood that is covered with denim, crash, linen or satin in any shade desired. They are serviceable if the material is left plain, but when embroidered with tulips in red, white and yellow silk with green leaves or in a gold rose pattern in natural colors they are decorative and are really an ornament to any apartment. On this wood plaque a round steel rod is

screwed, and on it the scarfs and ties are hung when not in use. At the back two ribbons—any length used—to suspend the holder from a desirable place—are attached and tied in a bowknot. The ribbons may be of a color to match the material.

Instead of an oval of whitewood a six sided piece about ten inches in diameter is ten inches in diameter is needed for the modern workbox that is just now so acceptable because it contains all the necessary things that a housekeeper wants when she sits down to sew or mend.

Once the wood is carefully sawed into a hexagon it may be covered with dark red or deep green satin, or with less expensive material, and then the task of fitting the workbox with spools, miniature boxes for needles, pins, tape measure, etc., may be started.

In the centre a cushion for pins and needles is essential, and it may be made as decorative as is desired. Around it the small cardboard or pill-boxes, covered with satin or whatever goods is used on the base, are glued in place, and between these boxes spools of thread are tied into place with narrow baby ribbon. On the tops of the boxes narrow slips of ribbon are attached so that scissors, bodkins, knitting needles, thimbles and emery bags will have a place on the workbox.

For the woman who can draw or paint, a telephone pad is simple to make. A piece of strong cardboard, about 4 by 9 inches, in delicate gray or pastel green, is especially attractive as a background. This may be decorated in stencil designs or painted with tiny heads of pretty girls or anything one fancies, the tints being always kept low and refined in tone.

Or if one is without knack with the pencil and paint brush, a piece of wall paper with a small floral design may be procured, and the flowers carefully cut out and pasted on the cardboard foundation. A small pad of white paper is then neatly pasted on, a ribbon hanger attached to the top, a pencil at the end of a short ribbon fastened on where the fastening will not be visible, and the telephone pad is finished.

Small address books, Embroidered bridge score books, Book Covers magazine covers, etc., make charming gifts at Christmas time or card prizes.

Both the designs shown in the cuts were worked on brownish linen, which affords an excellent background for silks and cottons of rich colorings. Gold thread is also often used in combination with the embroidery silks, and on some of the more elaborate book covers made of corded silk tiny sparkling beads



ENGAGEMENT RACK.

or spangles are sometimes worked into the design.

A very fine cord is also most effective for outlining the design, especially when the book to be covered is rather a large one.

The prospective owner's monogram or initials used in the upper left corner or in the centre, as shown in the first sketch, often add much to the effect, the letters being embroidered in over and over stitch after being padded. It is often more effective to throw the lettering into more prominence by using a contrasting shade in a darker tone than was used for the decorative embroidery, black, dark brown and dark green and red all being excellent used in this way when the cover is of brown or dark ecru linen, the flower form being done in old rose, dull reds or yellowish tones, with the leaves in soft grayish greens. When there is a background worked as shown in the second design a darning stitch may be used or a seeding stitch—that is, two stitches taken in the same place.

If an envelope holder Presents of should be chosen as a gift, the work on it would require but a short space of time and really no skill, for it can be made of three or four pieces of cardboard cut square, round or with the upper edge in scallops. One of these pieces—the one that is to form the back—should be at least one-third wider than the other two, while the second piece need not be more than two inches deeper than the last or third one. The width of all three must of course be the same.

When cut to please the fancy, paste on decorative crepe paper in a light shade of tan, blue or pink on which there are bright colored flowers, such as red roses and yellow chrysanthemums, tied prettily with long ribbon.

When the paste is thoroughly dry, an edging of heavy paper or tape to finish the pieces at the top should be added. At the bottom or about an inch from the edge of each two holes should be made, one on either side, for through these openings ribbons that tie the pieces together are run. The ribbons are made into pretty knots and help decorate the holder. Through two holes at the top of the large piece of cardboard a ribbon is fastened with bowknots so that the holder may be attached to the wall or desk—wherever it will hang conveniently.

Quite as serviceable as Blotter For the holder and equally appropriate for man and woman is a blotter for a desk. It is made of a square piece of cardboard, over which a light blue or delicate pink blotting pad is placed. This is held down by four decorative corners made of cardboard, covered with crepe paper in pretty floral designs. These corners are made like right angled triangles to fit the square edges of the bottom and are attached to the latter by fine wires.

The lingerie bag illustrated Lingerie Bag requires for its fashioning a pretty embroidered linen or lawn handkerchief. Fold it once and join the sides with inch wide lace insertion. This forms the bag. Trim the top with insertion to match the sides, then a wide beading for the ribbon to pass through and an inch wide lace frill. Run the ribbon through the beading, making a pretty bow at each end. In addition to the handkerchief the materials required are one and one-quarter yards of lace insertion, three-quarters of a yard of half-inch ribbon.

A shirt waist cover designed to slip over the Cover regulation hanger is here pictured. To make it, take a piece of silk or cotton material forty-four inches long and twenty-two inches wide, fold it in the middle and stitch up the sides, forming a bag. Turn and fold the top in three parts and slit the middle section, leaving one-third on each side. This slit is for the collar, which is made by cutting a band five inches deep and sixteen inches wide. Attach with a wide beading and trim top and bottom with lace. Run in nice ribbon and make a generous bow in front. This slit is just wide enough to allow the hanger to slip through, and the waist or coat is protected from the dust and light. The cover illustrated was made from ordinary barred muslin, with brier stitching around the bottom in blue wash silk and with ribbon to match.



SHIRT WAIST COVER.

Many useful Christmas Gifts For an invalid may be made at home.

A case for the hot water bottle is one that calls for skill with crochet hook and knitting needles.

Heavy fingering and bone needles will be required for this, the bag being knitted on two needles. A frill is crocheted, also of wool, and sewn around the three sides and the mouth of the case. When the water bag is inserted the top is drawn together by running a ribbon in and out, tying the bag in place, and it goes without saying that this is much more pleasing and slightly than the usual flannel case. To match this a pretty covering for a hand warmer may be constructed on similar lines, except that both ends are drawn up and finished with tassels and loops, though one is left open to receive the warmer. Little bottles filled with hot salt, then lightly corked, are slipped in the case and the open end drawn together. When complete it is not unlike the silk crochet purse of long ago, as the hand warmer, though matching the colors of the hot water bottle case, is made of heavy silk in crochet.

Then, too, the sofa rug, that will keep slipping off, may be made to retain its position by having an under portion—say half the length of the rug—into which the feet are slipped, thus having it up to the knees both over and under the legs. From the knees upward the rug may be drawn up or thrown back, as preferred, because this part is single.

Every one knows how pillows are apt to slip, whether the patient is lying or sitting in bed, and so a holder is quickly and simply made by sewing to a strong pretty ribbon stocking suspender clasps, which will grip the pillow and hold it in place when the invalid wishes to sit up for a few minutes. Leaning back again, she will find it in exactly the same place. A thoughtful gift would be a strip of white linen embroidered, bound and the ends finished with clasps.

As the holiday season Approaches almost all other work is laid aside that one may devote all her time to making suitable gifts.

A dainty calendar is always useful and acceptable, and there are a number of attractive designs for this season.

One is oval in shape and made of linen in a dull green or blue shade and mounted on an oval cardboard mat. It has a design of dogwood embroidered entirely around it in white, or small white flowers of any sort can be used. After the embroidery is finished and pressed it is mounted very carefully and neatly on the oval mat, and the edges are turned over and fastened on the back with good library paste.

This is covered with another card oval, which has a ring attached. Two pieces of ribbon the color of the linen used or of white are caught between the two pieces of cardboard and tied in a graceful bow, by which it can hang. The small calendar is fastened on the front. This will also be attractive made of white lawn embroidery in wild roses or buttercups and mounted over an oval card covered with pink or yellow silk and tied with pink or yellow ribbon.

Tobacco pouches are always acceptable gifts for men, and stunning ones may be made from suede. A pretty pouch in rich brown or dark green, lined with a maroon silk, would be attractive when the edges are pinked and a drawing of heavy silk with long tassels runs in near the top. It's not the lid, the lining or the cord that makes these bags so unusual, for without the monogram or crest done in gilt thread or in bright colored silks the pouches, aside from being handsome, would be quite the same as those bought in the shops, but with an attractive emblem or two or three initials prettily embroidered in one corner the pouches are presents any man, no matter how surfeited with gifts, would be glad to receive.

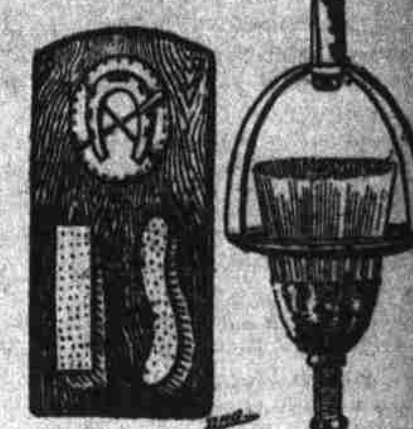
Knitted or crocheted ties, though not a novelty, will be desirable gifts, for they are serviceable and, being made by hand, are a valuable accessory to any wardrobe. In plain green, dark cardinal or made of a combination of two-tone effects or of two strongly contrasting colors, such as black and red or orange and blue, they are striking contrasts in neckwear.



SHIRT WAIST PROTECTOR AND TRAVELING CASE.



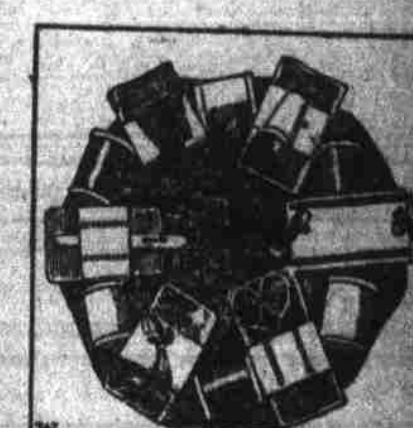
WASTE PAPER BASKET.



BRUSH AND WHISK BROOM HOLDER.



PHOTOGRAPH FRAME IN RIBBON WORK.



MODERN WORKBOX.



ENVELOPE HOLDER.



NECKTIE HOLDER.