

A twist of yarn finishes a pillow

It's almost the 11th Commandment. Thy Needlework Shall Become a Pillow. And if thee can finish the pillow itself, it will cost thee a heck of a lot less to produce.

I make my own whenever I think I can get away with it, which is any time except when the pillow is to be photographed for a book. For I know my limitations and have collected some tricks to get around them. Here are several pillow hints that you may find useful:

One is to buy your backing fabric before you choose your colors. Yarns can be found to match fabric, but it doesn't always work the other way around. (This may be a little late for the project you're stitching now, but tuck it away for next time.)

DECIDE INTELLIGENTLY between knife-edged and box-edged pillow shapes. A box-edged pillow will make any given piece of needlework look larger and more impressive than a knife-edge shape. Boxed pillows have a top attached to a bottom by a continuous band around the side. By comparison, the top of a knife-edged pillow is sewn directly to the bottom.

I find knife edges much easier to produce than boxes, so I make the original needlework a little larger to compensate.

When at all possible, I avoid cording. This is my particular hang up and doesn't mean that I leave raw seams showing. It's just that making cording

is a drag, and exactly positioning all those layers is one of the most frustrating jobs I know. Something always slips out of line.

But there are seam covers you can make easily then stitch over the seams of the finished pillow. They cover sewing, prevent wear and look nice, which is all you expect cording to do.

MY FAVORITE is a twist made of rug yarn or No. 1 DMC pearl cotton. Persian yarn comes in rug size and can be attached to your needlepoint wool. No. 1 DMC pearl cotton matches other DMC threads so the edge matches the stitchery. Knitting worsted also works well.

Cut a continuous piece of yarn five times as long as the edging you'll need. Fold it in half and tie ends together. Loop the knotted end over a nail, a hook, or your husband's big toe. Walk away until the yarn is taut and straight.

Begin twisting in either direction. Continue until the yarn is so tight that any more twisting is difficult. It will want to kink, but don't let it. Hold, or if the cord is very long, have someone else hold its center and bring both ends together. Don't let the twist kink. Then, starting from the newly folded end, release the twist little by little, moving your hand toward the two original ends. The yarn will twist around itself, making a tight, attractive, continuous cable that won't unwind.

By
MARY
KAY
DAVIS



Tuck it around the pillow seams, tuck raw ends under inconspicuously and you have a really sensational finish. This twist is a quarter inch in diameter, but thicker yarns will produce bigger cables.

Volunteers

The Oakland County Volunteer Bureau, a program of the Volunteer Action Center of United Community Services, has weekly listings of volunteer opportunities. Further information about these and other volunteer needs at more than 200 agencies may be obtained by calling the bureau at 642-7272. Any non-profit organization needing volunteer assistance may also call the bureau.

OFFICE VOLUNTEER — No experience is necessary for this job with Readings for the Blind in Southfield. Volunteers must be able to work independently in a busy office to monitor tape reels and cassettes. Training is provided. Active seniors would be very welcome here.

ENTERTAINER — Individuals and groups with musical ability or other talents they would like to share are being recruited by Lahser Hills Nursing Center in Southfield. Hours are at the volunteer's convenience. This could be a one-time or continuing commitment.

FRIENDLY LISTENERS — If you are a good listener and willing to learn some necessary background material, the National Multiple Sclerosis Society, Mt. Carmel Hospital, has a place for you. Friendly Listeners answer phones and respond to questions and complaints from patients and their families. Volunteers are trained to be able to provide information and referral if necessary, but primarily need to be supportive and compassionate listeners. Patients and members of patient's families are welcome to volunteer. The commitment is for one-half day a week.

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Jerusalem film is at mall

"Jerusalem — The Eternal City" will be shown Oct. 5-11 at Tel-Twelve Mall in Southfield.

The show utilizes 16 slide projectors, eight screens and quadraphonic sound to tell the story of the history of the city of Jerusalem.

The 1,600 slides that comprise the program took more than a year to complete. During that time, literally thousands of slides covering sights, people and documents were taken to relate the

history of this city which is holy to the three major religions in the world.

Show times for the 32-minute program, to be seen in the Center Court area, are hourly from 1 to 5 p.m. Friday, Oct. 5, and hourly 1 to 8 p.m. Monday through Thursday, Oct. 8-11.

The program will not be presented on Saturday, Oct. 6, in observance of the Jewish Sabbath. Likewise, due to the Jewish holiday of Sukkot, the program will not be seen on Sunday, Oct. 7.

Luncheon marks 40th birthday

The 40th annual birthday luncheon meeting of the Three Flags chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, will be held at noon Monday, Oct. 8, in the home of Mrs. Howard Byrne Jr., 316 Hendrie, Royal Oak.

Three Flags Chapter was organized on Dec. 19, 1939. Present members who

helped found the chapter are Mrs. Conrad Bloom of Sun City, Fla., Mrs. Orman Davison of Pontiac, and Mrs. Glenn Levey of Riverside, Calif.

Speaker at the birthday luncheon will be Mrs. Maxwell E. Hunt, DAR state regent.

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