

Designer sheets can cover more than beds

By SUSAN TAUBER

There's no need to spend time ordering wallpaper and matching fabric from stores — no need to spend hours at the sewing machine making table covers or shower curtains — no need to buy new venetian blinds when you're changing a color scheme.

All you need to decorate any room, said Janet Roda, is a staple gun, glue, stitch witchery (a fusible bonded material) and — sheets.

"Marx sheets, of course," said Ms. Roda, teasingly, to her audience. She is home decorating coordinator for Marx.

With a quick sense of humor and fast chatter, Ms. Roda recently showed more than 75 women seated in Jacobson's Store for the Home in Great Oaks

how to decorate every room of a house with sheets.

There wasn't a sewn stitch to any of her ideas.

"How many of you don't sew?" she asked. A few women raised their hands. "Okay, the rest of you leave," she kidded.

Ms. Roda advocated using sheets for decorative purposes because they are "wonderful, decorative fabrics."

She reminded the audience that sheets, however, are decorated lopsided, off grain. Therefore, when hung on walls, the sheets need to be aligned vertically.

"And always work with a new, ironed sheet," she said.

IN JUST 1½ hours, she showed and told how to cover a chest of drawers,



how to hang sheets shirred or straight on walls, how to cover a Parsons table and make shag window treatments, table skirts, even window shades out of favorite patterns.

There seemed to be nothing she hadn't figured out how to do with a sheet. Ms. Roda covered pleated and plain lampshades with them, made screens and a cover for a radiator in a bathroom.

Some of it looked simple. Some looked hard.

The simplest tricks she showed were making a shower curtain and cafe curtains.

"A twin-size sheet will make a shower curtain for a five-foot-long tub. Just put cafe hooks on the sheet and hang it up."

"For cafe curtains, buy pillow cases. Cafe hooks on these turn them into instant curtains," she said.

Ms. Roda covered tables by laying a sheet over the top, cutting it along the floor and draping another sheet over this.

"I cut the top sheet just by looking at it," she said. "You don't have to hem this. No one will notice."

"If you want to, go around the hem with a pinkish shears," was her advice.

Another simple hint was changing two tire innertubes into a lounging chair.

Ms. Roda accomplished this by tearing a sheet into four even strips and wrapping the strips in a figure eight around the tubes. Weaving around the top tube, between the two, around the bottom of the second tube, back up in between them and continuing this resulted in a rough-proof cushiony chair.

MS. RODA also made place mats from sheets, using the large petals from a sheet design.

"You make these with cork," she said. "Spray the cork with flat white paint. Glue the sheet design on the cork with Elmer's Glue, undiluted, and then add eight coats of decoupage varnish, letting each coat dry 20 minutes."

"Take an Xacto knife and cut out the shape. Then put polyurethane over the mats for protection."

Cutting out shapes from sheets also gave Ms. Roda ideas for making her own backgammon and checkers table tops. These fit on top of the Parsons table from the dime store she covered with fabric.

Here are other hints she mentioned: A king-size sheet is the right size for covering an eight-foot high-wall. Use red in the dining room or wherever you want to excite the senses; Put one tablespoon of salt in a wheat paste solution to keep bugs from eating the paste off the wall, and if you're going to put sheets on a wall with liquid starch, do the work naked.

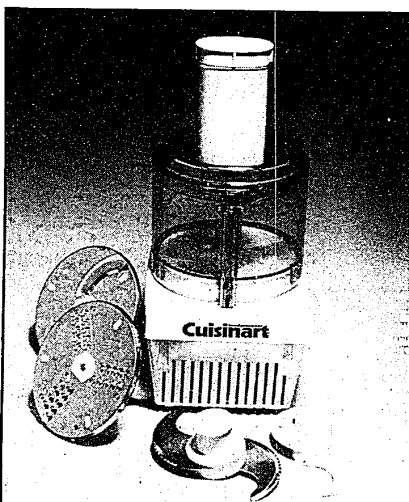
"It oozes all over you when you put it on the wall," she said.

Ms. Roda gave three programs in one day only at the Jacobson's in Avon Township store. For those who missed her demonstrations or who can't remember how she did everything, she has a magazine out with instructions, Patterns for Living.

"And remember, if you don't use Marx sheets, none of these ideas will work," she said before leaving.



This placemat, which will take the wear and tear of multiple uses, is made from a sheet with large flowers.



Sharp and swift... Cuisinart® food processor, noted for its alacrity in the kitchen. The powerful direct drive motor makes for smoothness. Complete with dishwasher-safe shredding blade, serrated slicing blade, mixing and chopping blades, plus spatula. The Levon base model, shown here. *\$40 to *\$200. The metal base model, *\$250.

Saks Fifth Avenue
Troy, Somerset Mall, Big Beaver at Coolidge

Fashion Calendar

Monday, May 21

Sak's Fifth Avenue — The Petite Femme Collection, the Fall '79 furs in small sizes will be featured in the Revillon Fur Salon on the third floor all this week. Anne Cole will appear in person to commentate on her '79 line of Cole swimwear which will be modeled in the mini-show at 1 p.m. in the Sand & Sea Shop on the first floor.

Hudson's — Linden Harding will get you soaring with this slide presentation on the sport of hot air ballooning. Weather permitting, he will give a demonstration on getting the balloons off the ground. Demonstration at the Pontiac Mall store tonight from 7:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., Tuesday at Twelve Oaks, Wednesday at the Oakland Mall and Thursday at Lakeside.

Tuesday, May 22

Cooper's Arms — Designer fashions from Janet Varner's of Rochester are modeled informally from noon to 1:30 p.m. every Tuesday, September through May, at the Cooper's Arms restaurant, 306 Main Street in Rochester.

Sak's Fifth Avenue — Food, the sportswear for toddlers will be featured in the Somerset Mall store.

Hudson's — Weight Watchers wants to help you trim off that excess fat. Meetings are held every Tuesday in the Gift Court on the 13th floor of the downtown store from noon to 1 p.m.

Wednesday, May 23

Christies of Charleston Mills — A fashion show is held every Wednesday from noon to 1 p.m. at Carmen's restaurant on M-15 in Ortonville.

Sak's Fifth Avenue — All the basics for young summer adventurers at camp will be modeled in the Children's Collections on the second floor.

Friday, May 25

Sak's Fifth Avenue — Sleek, body-beautiful basics by Danskini will be featured today.

Saturday, May 26

Sak's Fifth Avenue — Cacharel for men, a special delivery of French fashion for the U.S. male, will be modeled in the men's department, first floor.

Sunday, May 27

Sak's Fifth Avenue — Rain slickers in delicious colors of cherry, grape, orange, lemon and lime will be modeled in Accessories on the first floor.

Where It's At

By JUDY SOLOMON

Wrap session

With Father's Day, graduation days and wedding days all on the June horizon, it's good to know about the sensational selection of gift wrapping supplies at Oogie. The store stocks lacquered paper in 21 colors; tissue paper in 16 colors and more than 50 different patterns of gift wrapping paper. You'll also find bolts of ribbon ranging up to three inches wide in various color checks, plaids, solids, stripes and prints. Some are made of acetate satin; others are velvet and still others are made of white lace.

Oogie, Village Knoll Shopping Center, Maple at Lahser, Birmingham, 647-0740.



Super dolls

Enough of these mundane ties, sport shirts and robes. How about giving Dad something frivolous and fun this year like one of these lovable male dolls (\$25) from Paper Place. One version comes dressed as Super Dad (an adaptation of the Superman costume); there's also a jogger wearing a jogging suit and a tennis player complete with a navy T-shirt, white shorts, red socks and sneakers. The dolls can also be custom ordered with our Dad's name, his hair and eye colors and any other distinguishing features (\$30). Special orders take three to four weeks.

Paper Place, Applegate Square, Northwestern at Inkster, Southfield, 356-6468.



Go blue

For the high school graduate who is going to attend the University of Michigan in the fall, here's a clever as well as practical gift idea. These Cordura nylon fabric travel bags sport Michigan's colors (royal blue with gold trim) and are available in four different sizes and styles. The price ranges from \$30 to \$51, depending on the style you choose. Each bag has multi-zipped pockets and compartments.

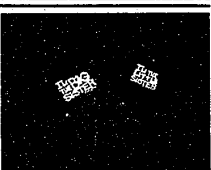
Baggit, Travelers Tower, 356-1800 and Applegate Square, Southfield, 357-1800.



All in the family

Just ask any mother of two or more: sibling rivalry does exist, especially when there's a new baby in the house. This darling duo from Rainbow Lollipop is a lovely way to help smooth things over. The older child can be proud of his or her T-shirt that states: "I'm The Big Brother" (or sister) while the baby gets the shirt that says: "I'm The Little Brother" (or sister). Available in pink or blue with white lettering and in sizes six months to 6X, the shirts range from \$7.50 to \$9.50 depending on the size.

Rainbow Lollipop, Somerset Mall, Troy, 649-3911.



First at SFA, Anne Cole's exotic little blouse for Cole of California. A suit born of the tropics. The sun and jungle rhythms. Clinging at the top, shortening as much as you dare at the leg. It just might be the suit to resort to...wherever waters are blue and the heat is on! In turquoise/purple/navy nylon and spandex for sizes 6 to 14; 40. Sand and Sea Collections...where we are all the things you are. Anne Cole, here today with her new Preview Collection for 1980. Informal modeling from 12 to 4.

Troy, Somerset Mall, Big Beaver at Coolidge.
open Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays, 10 AM to 9 PM;
Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Saturdays, 10 AM to 6 PM; Sundays, Noon to 5 PM.
Sak's Fifth Avenue, Detroit. Second at Lothrop.
open Monday through Saturday, 9:30 AM to 5:30 PM