Stitch in time

(Continued from Page B2)

pocketbooks, tea cozies, appliance covers, book covers and many other gift and holiday crafts.

Machine-stitched, strip-quilted pillow.

To make a strip quilted pillow, start with a 12 to 14 inch square piece of batting (or whatever size desired). Lynn prefers Thermolam or Pellon Fleece because it keeps its shape better and is easier to work with.

Use strips of fabric cut in varying widths from 1 to 2 inches (or whatever you prefer). When selecting fabrics around a basic color and use other shades of that color or those that contrast with it. Be sure to pick fabrics with patterns that vary such as some with small prints, some solids, some with an overall print, some multi-colored and some with just two colors. Lynn particularly enjoys helping customers coordinate fabrics for quilts and crafts.

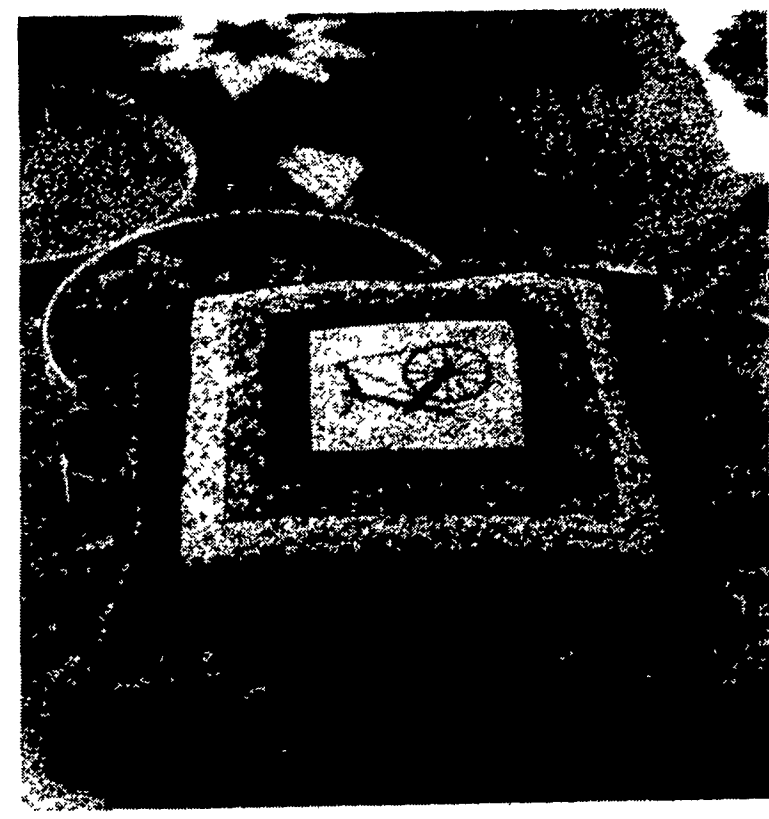
Your imagination is your only barrier when it comes to putting the strip quilting method to use. Place mats, purses, and tea cozys are just a few of the ideas.

Cut a three inch square of fabric you want to use in the center of the pillow and place it so it is a diamond shape against the square (figure 1). Take one of the strips that you will use for the first row and place it face down on top of one side of the square and stitch a ¼ inch seam along the even edge.

Flip strip over and finger press in place. Trim away excess of strip so that it is even with the edge of the center square.

Using the same strip of fabric, place it right side to right side, along the next edge of the center square and the strip you have just sewn. Stitch in a ¼ seam. Using the same strip and the same process, continue sewing around

(Turn to Page B5)



One pillow using the strip quilting also incorporates a counted cross stitch spinning wheel for the center square.

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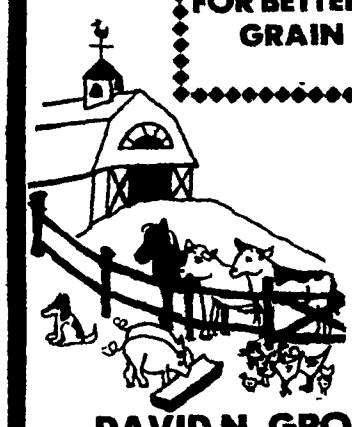

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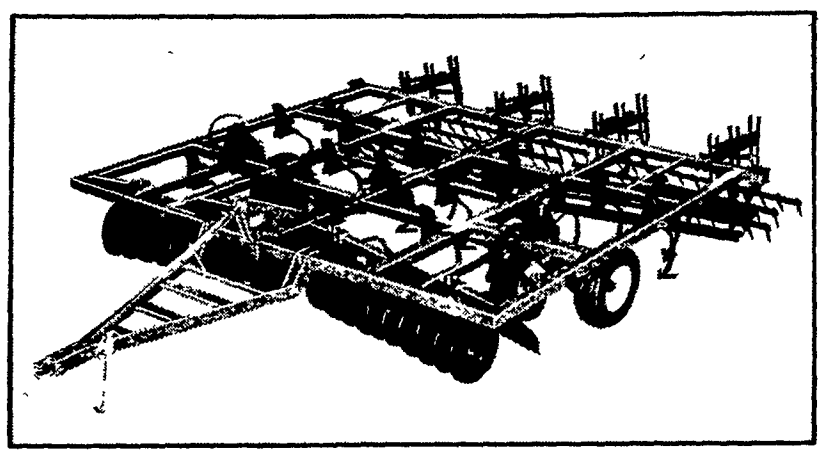

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