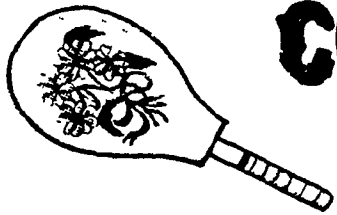


CRAFT CORNER



Permanent poinsettias

This year, when the holidays are over, your poinsettias don't have to fade. They'll remain red all year long, if you make them from velvet scraps and some inexpensive floral supplies.

Poinsettias are the quintessential holiday flowers. One Christmas Eve many years ago, according to the Mexican legend, the poinsettia burst into red

blooms when a poor young girl brought the leaves to church rather than come empty-handed.

Today, you can make the legendary flowers with ease. Here are directions for velvet poinsettias:

MATERIALS: Red velvet; green floral tape; floral tape; floral wire; tiny gold beads; masking tape; white glue; spray

sizing or starch; tailor's chalk; paper and pencil; scissors; iron.

PREPARATION: 1. Spray wrong side of velvet with sizing or starch. Press velvet with warm iron. 2. Repeat step one until fabric feels stiff.

PATTERNS: 1. Using paper and pencil, draw a small petal pattern, about 4 inches long and 1½ inches wide. 2. Draw a medium-size petal pattern, about 4½ inches long and 2 inches wide. 3. Draw a large petal pattern, about 5½ inches long and 2 inches wide.

CUTTING: 1. Using the patterns, cut four small petals, cut four small petals, 10 medium-size petals, and six large petals from velvet. 2. For each petal, cut one stem wire about 2 inches longer than the petal.

PETALS: 1. Dip each stem in white glue. 2. Lay stem on wrong

side of petal. 3. Let glue dry.

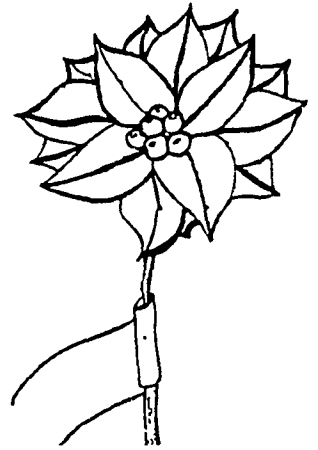
CENTERS: 1. Glue a bead to the ends of six floral wires. 2. Let glue dry. 3. Using masking tape, join stems together about one inch beneath the beaded ends.

ASSEMBLY: 1. Using masking tape, add small petals around beaded wires. 2. Tape large petals around the smaller petals. 3. Tape six medium petals around the growing flower. 4. Bend wires to give petals a more graceful shape. 5. Add more petals where needed to fill in any gaps.

STEM: 1. Stretch end of floral tape. Wind tape around stem, always stretching tape as you wind. 2. Wind on several layers of tape. Keep winding until stem is thick enough to support the flower. (If necessary, add more wires to the stem.) 3. Trim stem as desired.

BOUQUET: 1. Make several

poinsettias according to the above directions. 2. Purchase fabric greenery or make leaves from green velvet and stem wires. 3. Put poinsettias and greenery together in a bouquet.



Let us celebrate together on this day of His birth as we pray for **PEACE ON EARTH!**

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CHRISTMAS JOY

May the meaning and the message of the first Noel rekindle your faith in His love. Merry tidings.

SEASONS GREETINGS

"For God So Loved The World, That He Gave His Only Begotten Son, That Whosoever Believeth in Him Shall Not Perish, But Have Everlasting Life."

John 3:16

We Wish Everyone a Merry Christmas and A Prosperous New Year
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