

Paint a patchwork pillow

Practically no sewing is needed for the latest patchwork technique. The "patches" are hand-painted on fabric and quilted to look like patchwork.

All you need for the craft are acrylic fabric paints, plain cotton muslin and some ordinary sewing and household supplies. The technique is ideal for a pillow, placemat or nearly anything you'd ordinarily piece together.

Sometimes traditional patterns are easier to paint than sew. The one shown is called "windblown square." Its suggestion of rolling motion probably reminded the early settlers of tumbleweeds and was named "windblown" for that reason.

Traditional patterns are beautiful any way you make them. Hand-painted patches, however, provide them with a unique

modern look. Here are directions for a painted patchwork pillow:

MATERIAL: Unbleached cotton muslin, contrasting fabric for pillow back, polyester batting, sewing supplies, acrylic fabric paints and brush, ruler, pencil, masking tape, graph paper, dressmaker's carbon paper.

OPTIONAL SUPPLIES: Plastic foam board, corkboard or macrame knotting board, T-pins.

CUTTING: Pre-shrink pillow fabrics and press flat. 2. Cut two 16x16-inch squares of muslin for pillow front and lining. 3. Cut one 16x16-inch square of contrasting fabric for pillow back. 4. Cut one 16x16-inch square from batting.

PATTERN: 1. Tape together graph papers to produce a 16x16inch square. 2. On graph paper, either copy pattern shown, copy

another pattern from a patchwork quilt book or draw your own design. As a suggestion, draw a 12x12-inch design with a 2-inch border. 3. Using dressmaker's carbon paper, trace design onto unbleached muslin.

PAINTING: 1. Cover work surface with old newspaper. 2. Pin fabric to plastic foam board, corkboard or knotting board. 3. Paint shapes, one at a time, according to directions below. Be sure to leave some shapes unpainted, letting the plain musling show.

PAINTING HINTS: 1. Dilute paints as necessary to keep them thin enough to flow easily, thick enough to cover fabric. 2. Paint shapes one at a time. Wait until paint dries before painting adjacent shapes. 3. If desired, lay

masking tape around each shape and paint within the taped border. When paint dries, remove tape and place around another shape. 4. Paint in pattern symmetrically. Paint opposite corners, for example, the same colors. QUILTING: 1. With right sides

outside, sandwich batting between painted pillow front and lining. 2. Baste a large X-shape through all thicknesses. Baste around edges.

3. Machine-stitch around all shapes, starting at center and stitching toward the outside. 4. Machine-stitch around outside edges. 5. Remove remaining basting stitches.

PILLOW: 1. With right sides facing, stitch pillow front to pillow back. Leave a small opening for turning. 2. Clip corners, turn pillow to right side. 3. Stuff pillow. 4. Sew opening closed with tiny hem stitches.

Lackawanna plans strawberry meeting

WAVERLY - The Penn State Cooperative Extension Service of Lackawanna County will be holding a Strawberry Growers Meeting on Monday, March 28 from 1-4 p.m. in the Waverly Community House, Scout Room,

The program topics will include Soil Preparation and fumigation, Jim Colitas, Nor-am Chemical Company; Strawberry Growing in Columbia County, Mike Seesholtz, Columbia County Strawberry

Growers; Panel Discussion Irrigation for Strawberries, Three Irrigation Companies; Weed Control in Strawberries, Bill Kleiner, Assistant County Agent.

All strawberry growers are invited to attend. The program will cover specific items from varieties to weed control on strawberries.

For more information call the Lackawanna County Cooperative Extension Service Office at (717) 961-4761.







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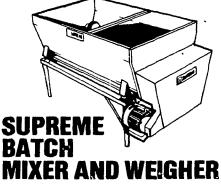
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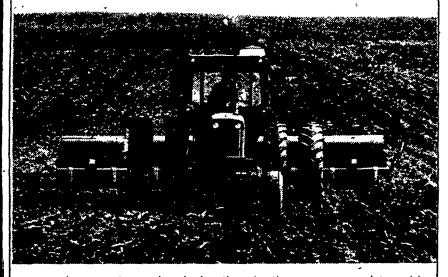
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