



Ladies Have You Heard?

By Doris Thomas
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Home Economist

Your Crafts Are Showing

Have you received a beautiful hand-made craft and not known what to do with it? Crafts are not only made to be used, they can also be displayed to beautify and add character to your home.

One of the best things about decorating with crafts is their availability. We make our own, receive them as gifts, and buy them at fairs and festivals. If you want to use the crafts you have to decorate your home, select those that show quality in design, workmanship and materials.

There's a place for crafts in

nearly any room of your house. Try hanging or displaying them in unexpected places such as hallways, bedrooms, bathrooms, and kitchens to create your own crafts gallery.

Two and three dimensional crafts have different space needs for display. Generally, three dimensional crafts such as furniture, pottery, baskets, and boxes need only space for the object and a surface that will support their weight. Two dimensional crafts can be hung on their own, hung within a frame, or grouped in a series of related crafts in or out of frames.

Look for the unexpected spot to show your crafts. Study the space and the area around it so you can select a craft that "fits" and relates to the surrounding objects.

Design is the key to how and where you display your drafts. Place them at eye level and integrate them so that your eye moves easily around the room. Establish a focal point to showcase your best pieces and allow them room to breathe and be noticed.

Once you have decided where, you need to think about how. Test the condition of the wall and the weight of the object. Some types of walls are able to support more weight than others. You'll also need to decide whether you want to live with an arrangement of crafts for some time if you want to be able to change them around. Temporary and permanent installations require different types of preparation.

Post Holiday Poinsettia Care

To keep your Christmas Poinsettia in good condition, after the holiday is over, you need to give it special care.

Place the poinsettia where it will receive the greatest amount of sunlight — in south, east, or west exposures — and where the plant is not exposed to cold-air drafts such as near an outside doorway or on a window sill. Do not place the plant near a radiator, furnace register or fireplace.

Poinsettias grow best in temperatures which average 60° F at night and 70° F during the day — the same temperatures recommended for conserving energy.

Avoid over-watering. Too much water damages roots and causes the plant to wilt. Water when the soil becomes dry, but do not let it become so dry the foliage begins to wilt. Never allow a poinsettia to stand in water for long periods of time, especially, if the container is placed in a saucer for watering purposes.

When the colored bracts begin to fade, reduce the amount of water and place the plant in a cool place — 40° F to 45° F. Allow the plant to receive some light. Keep it slightly damp until May when it should be repotted and perhaps placed in the garden for the summer.

Light Horse and Pony Club

The Cumberland County 4-H Light Horse and Pony Club met recently at Ranchland for their annual awards banquet, Christmas Party and installation of officers. It was hosted by the West Club and included a buffet dinner, followed by a slide presentation of Cindy Frey receiving her Bob Evan's Quarter Horse.

The gavel was passed to incoming president Mindy Galbraith by past president Tom Schlusser. The entertainment for the evening was square dancing.



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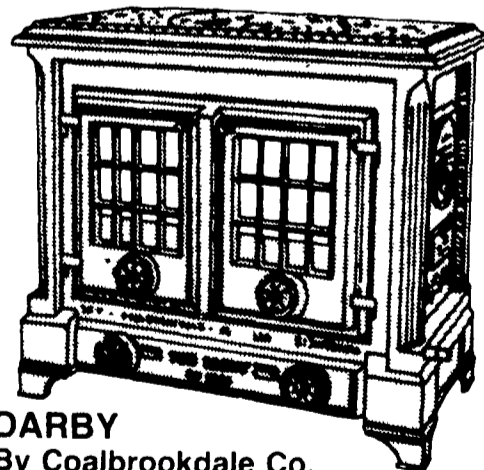


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