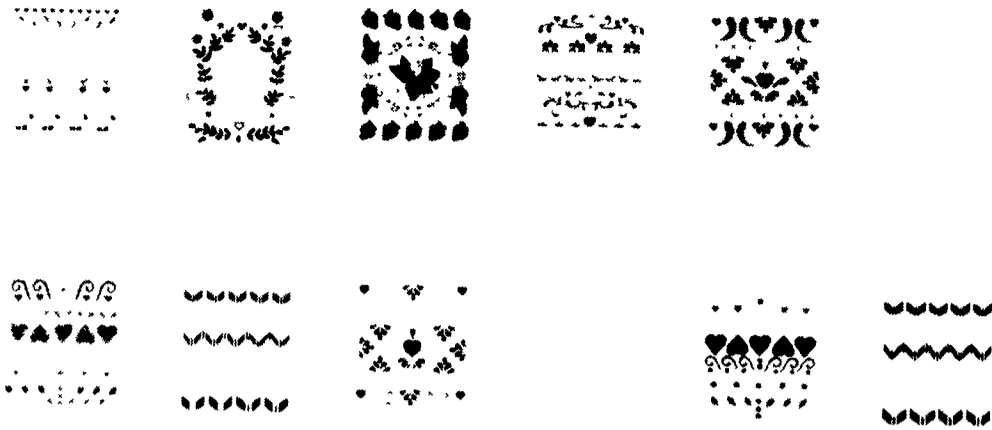




CRAFT CORNER



The craft market is introducing many new products for the active hobbyist this year.

Some of the most exciting items are in the form of rub-on transfers, Images Transfer Act, introduced by Meyercord. The colorful transfers come in 12 different designs. The end results look like hand-painted folk art — the kind of painting that most people are convinced they never could do.

Past experience in painting or even a steady hand is not necessary. These transfers work the same way as Press-type and can be applied to any hard surface such as wood, plaster, medal, tin or glass.

Walnut Hollow Farm offers a wide array of woodcraft products suitable for transfer art. You can choose from wooden planks, clock

faces, boxes and wooden country plates.

Before beginning a project you should make sure the surface is clean and smooth. A wood surface should be sealed, stained or painted. Next lightly sand with fine sandpaper to ensure an extra-smooth application. Check to see that the surface is dry and dust free. Now you are ready to begin.

Your next step is to remove the protective backing, but be sure to save this sheet for storage of any unused transfers. Carefully cut around the designs you wish to use and arrange them in a design suited to your surface.

Once an attractive design has been decided on, use an applicator (a tongue depressor, scissors handle or spoon) to rub thoroughly over each element of the transfer.

For large designs, rub continually from the center out. Start at a corner and carefully peel the sheet away. Continue to rub lightly, just ahead of the peeling procedure. If you miss part of the design, replace the sheet and rub hard again.

These dry transfers also can be applied to surfaces that will be separated such as box covers and cabinet doors. Simply rub the transfer down as if it were a continuous surface and then cut with a sharp knife between the two sections.

A final finish is recommended to seal the transfer. Clear varnish or acrylic sealers are good for glass, ceramic or tin.

Walnut Hollow Farms also produces an excellent finish called Flair Finish for any painted wood

projects. It is clear drying, water based, non-yellowing, waterproof and dries to the touch in only 15 to 20 minutes. You can dry or wet sand in between coats for a professional-looking finish.

For those who prefer an antiqued look, acrylic paints in any shade of brown will do the trick nicely. Apply the paint to a cloth and

gently rub the entire area of the project. Using a clean cloth, wipe away the center areas and the edges until the desired effect is achieved. Allow the paint to dry and finish as described above.

Look for Images Transfer Art and Walnut Hollow Farm products at your local craft store.

A windbreak can help save energy

FLEMINGTON, N.J. — When strong winter winds howl against your windows, it is easy to recognize the value of a well-designed windbreak planting.

A properly located windbreak can be a real asset throughout the year. In winter, a windbreak can decrease your heating bills, reduce drafts, and decrease winter injury to outdoor plants. In summer, it can increase the usefulness of your outdoor living area, screen out undesirable views, and act as a sound buffer or barrier. When carefully designed, windbreaks won't reduce your ventilation during the summer.

Windbreak plantings create a protected pocket of windless space

around your house which acts as a layer of insulation in the cold weather. It is important to create your windbreaks from plants which can withstand the harsh elements they are intended to block.

Look for plants with dense twigs and foliage with strong branches that form a thick growth even (in the case of deciduous trees and shrubs) when they are bare. Evergreens make the best windbreaks since they will reduce the wind more than deciduous trees. Pine, spruce, hemlock and arborvitae make excellent plantings.

Now is an ideal time to plan your windbreak, even though planting should wait until spring.

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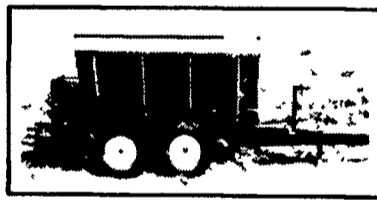


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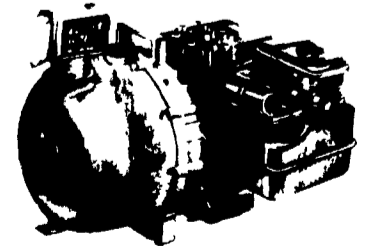
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