

Knitting With Dog Hair

All you need to make an afghan from a collie is a brush and knitting needles. It wouldn't hurt to also pick up a copy of *Knitting with Dog Hair: Better a Sweater From a Dog You Know and Love Than a Sheep You'll Never Meet*.

Authors Kendal Crolius and Anne Montgomery walk readers through the basics of knitting with pet hair with detailed explanations of how dog hair differs from wool. One important point is that dog and cat hair does not have to be allergenic if washed properly. From harvesting the pet hair to spinning, dyeing and knitting garments, just about everything you need to know is included. The authors also cover how to care for pet hair garments.

For those without the skill to spin the hair into yarn, the book tells where to find custom spinners who are willing to work with dog hair. They also do a review of breeds and how they rate as providers of the raw material.

Knitting with Dog Hair is a quick read at less than 100 pages of text. Published by St. Martin's Press, it is available from your bookstores or on the Web at amazon.com.

Pet hair can be knitted into beautiful clothes, say the authors of a book on the subject.



Bench Converts To Full-Size Picnic Table In Just Seconds

This garden bench converts quickly into a picnic table, saving space on your deck, patio, or back yard.

The bench table is built from Canadian red cedar wood. "To convert the bench to a table, you just pull out the front part of the bench in one quick action," says Cliff Armstrong of Cliffco, Cranbrook, B.C.

Available in 4, 5, and 6-ft. models. Prices range from \$349 to \$399 (Canadian) plus S&H. Pre-cut kits, complete with all hardware, are also available and sell for \$274 to \$324 plus S&H. Build-it-yourself plans sell for \$60, shipping included.

Contact: Cliffco, 841 4th St. N.W., Cranbrook, B.C., Canada V1C 4A4 (ph 866 286-6686 or 250 426-6686; fax 250 426-6634; E-mail: ss@still.net; Website: www.benchtable.com).

Bench table (top) is built from red cedar wood. To convert table, you pull out the bench in one quick action (middle). The result is a full-size picnic table.



Seat Belts For Dogs

It's just as important for dogs to buckle up as it is for humans, says a Colorado company that makes dog seat belts and other products for dog travel safety.

The Champion canine seat belt system attaches to all types of vehicle seat belts, and to cargo hooks in vans and trucks. The seat belts are made from 2-in. wide nylon webbing. A wide range of attachment options and swivel features make it easy to restrain your dog, control its range of movement, and prevent entanglement - a common problem with other seat belt harnesses. The harness uses a D-ring on each side that's said to make the system very strong and reliable. It includes a specially-engineered harness and restraint strap that quick-releases. Seat belts specially designed for puppies are also available.

Seat belts keep dogs from roaming the car and distracting the driver. They also prevent escapes at slow speeds and help some dogs feel more secure when traveling.

According to the company, driver distraction is the cause of about one third of all traffic accidents. Dog seat belts will reduce driver distraction, making driving with dogs safer for everyone on the road.

The seat belts sell for \$28 to \$34 apiece depending on size and model. The company also sells pet restraints for pickup beds.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, C.A.R.E., PMB 435, 420 E. 120th Ave. B-2, Northglenn, Colo. 80233 (ph 800 352-0010 or 303 280-3087; E-mail: email@canineauto.com; Website: www.CanineAuto.com).

Aids Help With Poor Vision

If you or someone you know has trouble seeing and glasses don't provide enough help, there's some new equipment on the market that might help.

Jordy II glasses look a little funny, but the headset magnifiers enable people with low vision to see objects at a distance, up close and at any range in between. It can let you watch television, read, write, work on hobbies like coin and stamp collecting, and, most importantly, see the faces of family members again.

The headset is worn like a pair of glasses and contains a micro camera and small screen, so whatever is in front of the camera, no matter what distance, appears right in front of the user's eyes. It can magnify up to 30 times, allowing the user to read books, play cards or read fine print on legal contracts.

Jordy II headsets can also be used as a desktop camera by placing it on a docking stand and aiming the camera at paperwork or other objects. It sends a wireless signal to a receiver on a monitor or television, so the user sees the object on the screen. It can magnify up to 50 times in this application.

The headset weighs only about 8 oz., so it's not much heavier than a pair of thick glasses. It's battery operated, so you're not tethered to a long cord or an outlet in the wall. New users say it takes a short time to get accustomed to wearing it. Cost is around \$3,000.

The Aladdin Reading Machine from Telesensory, Sunnyvale, California, blows up anything you put on the table below the screen. A built-in camera magnifies objects on the screen up to 50 times. Models range from simple manual focus black and white units to top-of-the-line full color.

Prices range from around \$1,400 up, depending on the model.

For Jordy II, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Allied Technologies, Inc. - Low Vision Electronics, 11440 Lakeland Drive, Osseo, Minn. 55369 (ph 763 425-8660; toll-free 800 267-5350; E-mail: webmaster@alliedtec.com; Website: http://www.alliedtec.com/jordy_ii.html). For Aladdin Reading Machines, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Telesensory Corporation, 520 Almanor Avenue, Sunnyvale, Calif. 94085 (ph 408 616-8700 or 800 804-8004; E-mail: info@telesensory.com; Website: www.telesensory.com).



Jordy II glasses are equipped with headset magnifiers.



Aladdin Reading Machine magnifies text on a screen.



Nylon webbing seat belt attaches to cargo hooks in vans and trucks.

Reader Recipes

(Continued from page 30)

3 banana peppers
1 1/2 cups jalapeno peppers. Take out some of the seeds. Grind all peppers. Boil 20 min. with:
6 1/2 cups sugar
1 1/2 cups vinegar
1/2 tsp salt

Add 6 oz. Certo and cool 10 min. Add a few drops of green food coloring. Seal in jelly jars. Can add a lot more jalapenos if desired. Serve with crackers and cream cheese. Also good served with meat.

Fried Apples

4 tbsp butter, melted
2 tbsp white sugar
6 cups apples, peeled and sliced
2 tbsp brown sugar

Combine ingredients in frying pan. Cook until apples are soft. Place in a serving dish and sprinkle with cinnamon. Good served with pork roast or pork chops.

Baked Bean Soup (From Boston Puritans)

1/2 small onion, chopped
2 tbsp butter
2 cups Boston Baked Beans
4 cups water or chicken stock
1 stalk celery, chopped
3 fresh tomatoes, peeled and chopped (or 1 can drained chopped tomatoes)
Salt and pepper to taste

Saute onion in butter in soup pot. Add remaining ingredients and simmer two hours on stove. Serves four.

5 Cup Salad

1 cup miniature marshmallows
1 cup coconut
1 cup sour cream
1 cup pineapple tidbits
1 cup mandarin oranges

Stir and let set overnight.
Thelma Pehrson, Indianola, Ind.