

New Products Especially For Women And The Farm, Ranch Home.



Kids quickly learn how to knit yarn into long thin tubes that can be formed into rugs, pillows, hats, belts, seat covers and so on.

INVENTED BY A GRANDMOTHER

New Way To Knit

Anyone can quickly learn how to knit with "Granny's Magic Rug Block", a new "instant knitter" rug-making device invented by Utah grandmother M.C. Frehner for her 25 grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

What started as a family project is now a booming mail order business with demand for the Rug Block coming from around the country. "My daughter and I were looking for worthwhile and wholesome activities for kids that would keep them busy and interested while at the same time teaching them something new. Our Magic Rug Block can be carried anywhere. Kids catch on to it right away and they get a tremendous feeling of accomplishment when they see what they've made," says Frehner.

The Rug Block consists of a 3 1/4-in. sq. block of wood with a 1 7/8-in. dia. hole through the center. Four brass hooks are spaced around the hole on one end of the block. An easy-to-learn process is used to wrap yarn in a pattern around the hooks to

make a "jumbo cord" of yarn that's pulled down through the hole in the block with the help of a special knitting needle. The long narrow tube of yarn can be knitted to any length and is then coiled to make rugs, carpets, pillow and seat covers, ornaments, hats, belts and so on.

"It's great for kids and for adults. We've had a lot of interest in it for the elderly or handicapped because it's so easy to use and provides a great feeling of accomplishment after just a short period of use," says Frehner.

The Rug Block comes in a kit that includes the block, two skeins of heavy rug yarn, a 30 by 30-in. rug mesh canvas (to attach the coiled-up cord to), two needles, a carrying bag, and detailed instructions. Sells for \$19.99 plus shipping.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Sunflower Country Crafts, Inc., P.O. Box 9387, Salt Lake City, Utah 84109-0427 (ph 801 484-3949).

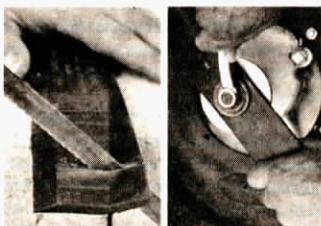
CUTS GRASS LIKE STEEL BUT WON'T HARM TOES OR THROW ROCKS

First-Of-Its-Kind Rubber Mower Blade

"Our rubber mower blade cuts grass as well or better than steel thanks to the nylon fibers that run through it," says John Chung, representative of Safe-T-Blade, Inc., manufacturer of a new rubber lawn mower blade that virtually eliminates danger to toes and fingers from spinning blades and reduces the danger from thrown rocks and other objects.

The combination rubber-nylon blade has a steel mounting insert at center. One size replaces any 17 to 22-in. blade. You simply trim off the ends of the blade to fit.

"It'll never rust, chip or break and you never have to sharpen it because as the rubber wears the nylon fibers that do the cutting are exposed. It's the only lawn mower blade that's self-sharpening and self-balancing, requiring no maintenance. It also works better in damp grass because grass won't stick to it as easily," says Chung, noting that the blade virtually eliminates danger to operators. "When the blade strikes an object, it absorbs the impact, greatly



One size fits all 17 to 22-in. mowers. Just trim to proper blade length, left, and attach with bolt and washer.

reducing the chance of injury and reducing the danger of flying rocks or objects. It also protects the crankshaft."

Can be used on riding mowers and also on edgers (it won't chip sidewalks). Sells for \$12.

For more information, contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Safe-T-Blade, Inc., 1422 California St., San Francisco, Calif. 94109 (ph 415 776-5755).



Photo courtesy St. Paul Pioneer Press Dispatch

Charlie Betz surprised his wife by hanging their Christmas tree upside down while she was away from home. One advantage is that "there's more room for presents".

HUNG BY THE CHIMNEY WITH CARE

He's Got A New Way To Display Christmas Tree

When Joel Lynn Betz went out of town a few weeks before Christmas last year, she asked her husband Charlie if he would buy a tree and set it up while she was gone. So the Midwestern businessman went out and bought a 6-ft. tree for \$14 and brought it back to his Maplewood, Minn., home. Since he had extra time on his hands, he let it sit in the living room for a while until all of a sudden he got an idea for a different way to hang a tree.

He went for his tools and a ladder and installed an eyebolt in the 8-ft. tall ceiling, over by the fireplace. Then he put an eyebolt in the bottom of the trunk of the tree,

looped a rope through both eyebolts, and hoisted the tree up until it was about 2 in. from the ceiling. He then decorated the upside down tree, leaving off only the star that would normally go on top. When his wife came home, Charlie says she couldn't believe her eyes. Gradually, however, she grew to like it and started inviting her friends over to see "her husband's tree".

The upside down "exclamation point" tree has both advantages and disadvantages. Charlie says there's lots more room under it for presents. On the negative side, there's one drawback. The tree is impossible to water.