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Elsie DeLunger

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Christmas

WRAPS and TRIMS



EXTENSION SERVICE
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Christmas Wraps and Trims

Elsie DeLunger

Many people enjoy the beauty of a well trimmed gift almost as much as the gift itself. We feel flattered to receive a gift wrapped especially for us, for it indicates particular consideration which we appreciate. Some people would rather have a gift untrimmed and very simply wrapped.

Here are basic principles of gift wrapping:

- (1) Simple. The simple, well-done trims are most beautiful.
- (2) Attractive. Use but one idea on each package. Select a few well chosen colors. Keep the package very neat.
- (3) Easy-to-do. This is best choice for children to do, and for inexperienced grownups.
- (4) Inexpensive. The wrap should not overshadow the gift. Attractive wrappings need not be expensive. Unless you do a "permanent trim" on the box top, which is not torn up when the box is opened, it is unwise to spend much money on trims. It would be better to use more thought on a simple, neat ribbon tie with a cutout, planned just for the receiver.
- (5) Imaginative. This includes suiting the wrap and trim to the gift and to the person who is to receive the gift. Fussy feminine laces on a man's gift would be a poor choice. A sophisticated stripe design with mask-silhouettes is unsuitable as a child's gift wrap.

Perhaps it would be well to define some terms. A wrap means the main gift covering. A trim means the added ribbons, cutouts or special gadgets used for ornamenting the wrap. A hand-to-hand wrap means that it is to be given directly to the person and can be quite elaborate. A mail-wrap means one planned for a package that is to be sent through the mails; is usually quite simple and flat, and includes the mailing cover with proper cord and addresses.

Often wraps become expensive when one tries to vary the color and material for gifts to different people. Remember that while the gifts you give may look much alike before they leave you, each will find a place among varied ones the other person receives. So choose one or two basic wraps for all your gifts, and gain individuality in the special trims you use.

Some very versatile wrapping materials are tissue paper, shelf paper and wallpaper, and of course the gayly printed special occasion papers. Opaque papers are excellent, for they can be pasted on box tops to hide lettering or labels.

Ties made from rug yarn, raffia, woolen yarns, rickrack, and commercial ribbons are attractive.

Because of excellent directions available for tying bows and making ribbon trims, this circular puts little emphasis on this subject. References and basic directions may be found on page 6.

How to Cover a Box Top

3

(Permanent Trim)

Opaque paper, cloth, or foil is necessary if the box has printed letters or pictures to cover.

Design of cover material determines placement. The main figure of the design should be centered unless the decorative trim you use is to be centered. A design of many small units should be balanced on the box top.

Cover material should be reasonably firm or durable. If tissue is desired, cover the box in a plain white, then overlay the tissue.

Materials needed:

Box	Ruler
Cover material	Glue or paste
Scissors	Scotch tape
Pencil	Flat, firm table area

Method:

Fig. 1. Test the placing of cover material on box top.

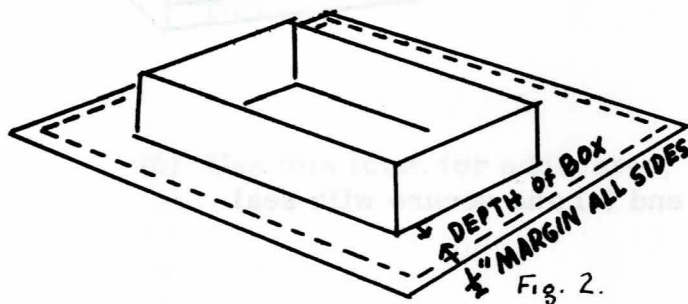
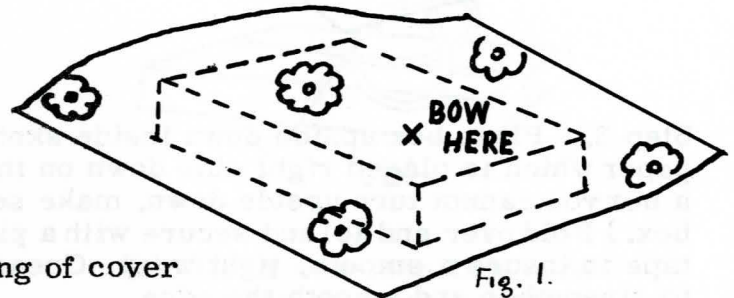


Fig. 2. Place cover material right side down on table. Cut size of box top, plus box depth, plus $\frac{1}{2}$ " margin on all sides.

Fig. 3. Put glue along one lengthwise edge on $\frac{1}{2}$ " overlap. Place box in position and smooth covering along side and $\frac{1}{2}$ " over to inside. Clip overlap at corners. Smooth the ends of covering around corners, and press firmly along inside of box.

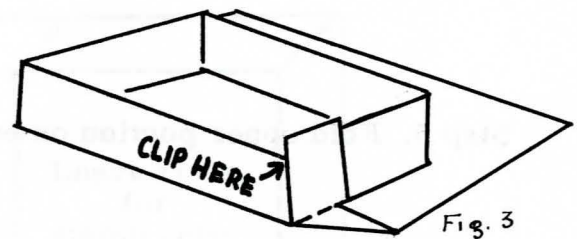


Fig. 4. Repeat on second side, being sure to pull cover firmly (under and over) box top.

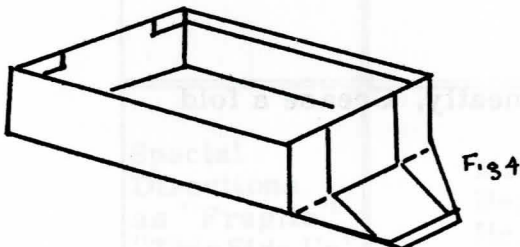
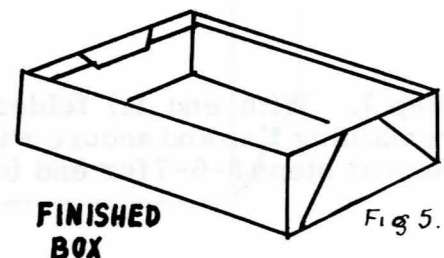
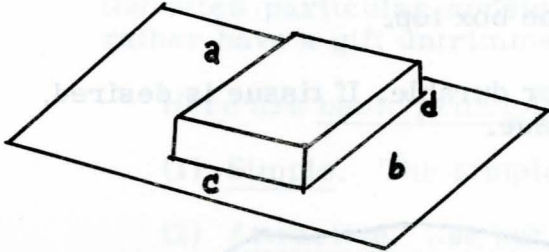


Fig. 5. At end, put a bit of glue under side folds. Glue along end margin. Smooth cover up the end and over edge, pressing margin firmly.



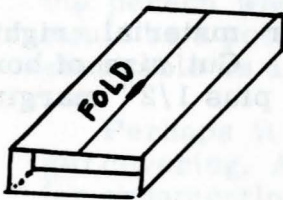
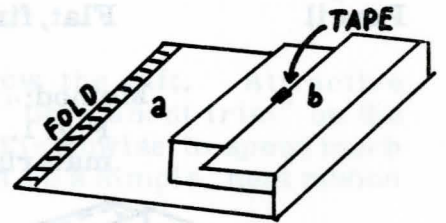
Wrapping a Package

Step 1. Plan well before you cut. If your paper has a design, center the main design and plan where bow will be. This prevents the only figure on the paper appearing part on side and part on top--or later being covered with bow. Lightly sketch exact position on wrong side of wrap.



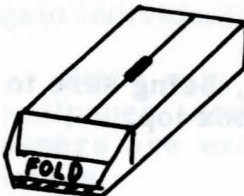
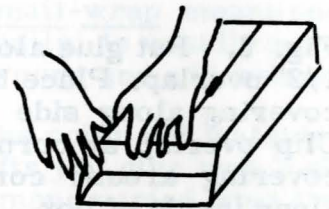
Step 2. (Place box on paper.) Measure and cut so ends (a) and (b) may be folded around box with a 2" overlap (less for a tiny box). Cut ends (c) and (d) slightly shorter than the depth of the box.

Step 3. Place box upside down inside sketched lines on paper which is placed right side down on the table. (For a box you cannot turn upside down, make seam on side of box.) Fold over end (b) and secure with a piece of scotch tape to insure a smooth, tight wrap. Crease fold on end to strengthen and smooth the edge.



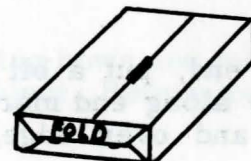
Step 4. Fold over end (a) and secure with seal or scotch tape.

Step 5. Fold upper portion on end (c) snugly against box.



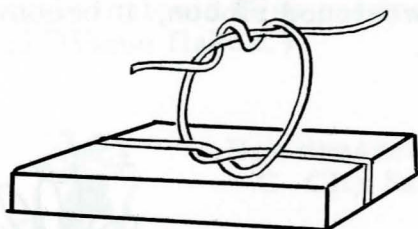
Step 6. Miter the corners neatly. Crease a fold on end (c).

Step 7. With end (c) folded under, fold up the remaining flap and secure with one or two seals. Repeat steps 5-6-7 for end (d). Trim as desired.



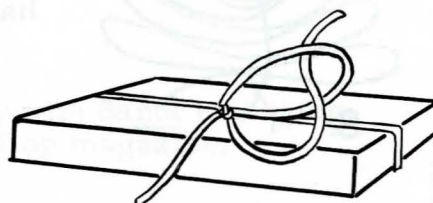
For a mail-wrap.

- (1) Address the inside box plainly. Tie separately if trip is long.
- (2) Use heavy wrapping paper, and allow length to cover the box twice.
- (3) Do not seal or glue ends of package.
- (4) Tie with strong cord, using at each cord intersection the end-through-loop knot as illustrated.



(a)

- (a) Regular knot but with a double twist on top loop; pull up.



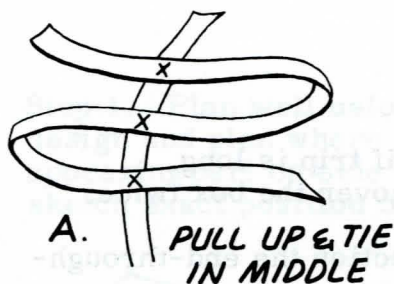
(b)

- (b) Tie a one-loop bow, and put the other end of string through the loop; pull up. Clip ends to $1\frac{1}{2}$ ".

- (5) Use this form for addresses, or fill in gummed label correctly.

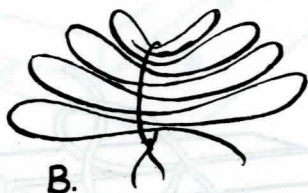
Return to Mary Jones Mistreet Mitown, Nebr.		Leave room for stamp here
Special Directions as "Fragile" "This Side Up" "Mdse"	Mrs. W. A. Jones Her Street Her Town Her State	

Ties and Bows

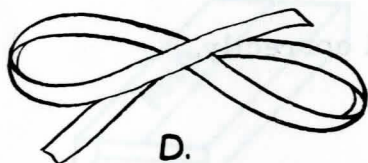
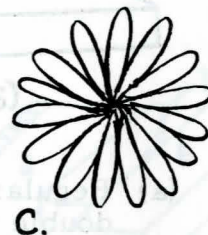


Basic folds - These work best with $\frac{3}{8}$ " to $\frac{3}{4}$ " ribbons.

Fold-on-fold bow. - A and B. Reverses the ribbon. Tie in middle (x). This is a flat bow. It can be used alone or several can be used together. Attractive in graduated sizes, when it becomes a multiple bow - B. Using two-toned ribbon, it becomes a half and half bow.

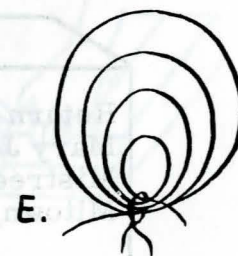


To make a wheel - C. - Use 12 to 14 equal sized folds, tie at the middle and to the side, then distribute the loops evenly.



Twisted loop bow. - D. Keeps the same side of the ribbon up. It can be used in 2 loop bows, 4 loop bows or multiple bows. The loops can be kept the same size or graduated in size. A multiple bow has quite a "curl" and can be used flat as a formal bow, inverted as a cupped bow, or curled as a swinging bow.

Multiple circle bow - E. This is a series of loops that increase regularly in circumference and join at a common point. They can be used sideways by tying on the ribbon edge or upright by tying at the middle of the ribbon. By using various colors and sizes of ribbons, exceedingly pretty combinations can be made.



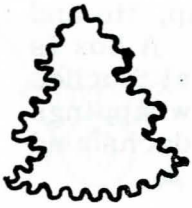
By choosing ribbons of different qualities and by experimenting, one can invent interesting whirls, folds, and shapes. Some ribbons hold a crease. Some can be split into fringes by pulling against an inserted pin. One kind adheres to itself when moistened, but will stick to nothing else. Many ribbons can be curled by drawing them between the thumb and a knife edge.

Wool yarn or darning cotton (4-strand) is good to use for tying ribbon bows because it slips less than the usual ribbon, and holds firmer.

For directions in tying exciting and beautiful new bows and trims with ribbon, ask for these instruction sheets at your favorite store.

Christmas Trims

7



Rickrack trees. - A

A.

Felt or paper cutouts, flat, or erect, on sponge rubber square. - B (Trace patterns from child's book.)



B.

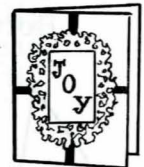
Greeting card cutout, flat or erect, on sponge rubber square. Similar to B.

Snowflake-cutouts (Use paper lace doily sections if you have no youngsters to fold and cut tissue flakes.)



C.

Box dressed like a chimney with Santa emerging. - C Clip Santa from a card or magazine.



D.

Paper lace doily frame around card. - D

Poinsettia trim in felt, red oilcloth, ribbon, or crepe paper. Pattern No. 7, Page 17.

Candle angel or choirboy standing in curled paper or on a cotton cloud.



E.

Three graduated trees - E. Pattern No. 5.

Triple trees standing erect. - Pattern No. 6

Folded fans of foil or gilt paper, standing on box. Can be background for angels or skating figures. - F Fold newspaper to try fan size.



F.



G.

Hide coins in miniature felt or plastic figures. Patterns - page 13.

Use two colors of paper, or a striped and a plain. - G



H.

Tie a candy cane into the bow. - H

Remember the possibilities with evergreen, holly and painted weed pods, each used with ribbon or cord trim.

Holly berry and leaf "to and from" cards - Pattern No. 2, Page 15.

Why Box It?

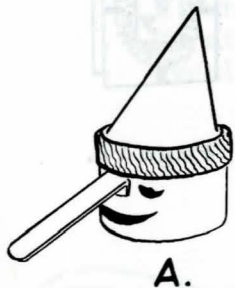
Did you ever stop to think that some gifts don't need a box, wrap, tie and trim? Often the size and shape of the gift makes it hard to wrap. A box is essential only when the gift is to be mailed. Boxes limit the personal touches which add either humor or attractiveness to a gift. Whimsical wrappings double the surprise factor of the gift. Why not turn a salami into a dachshund or fashion a pair of paper hands to hold earrings?

Another thing to remember is that most young children do not care a great deal about the trim because they want to see what's inside the wrapping. So use simple wraps and trims for them and save the "creations" for those who can appreciate your labors.

Give your imagination free rein in decorating these articles. Here are some interesting examples:

A tricycle, bundled into its new owner's mackinaw, with knitted cap on the seat and mittens on the handlebars. (Looks like a dumpy little man.) Put a sprig of holly or evergreen on the cap.

Bottles can masquerade as negro mammies, hula girls, or Dutch girls.



A stewkettle dressed like a clown. The handle becomes a long nose. Features are of cut paper, the hair of curled tissue or pasted-on yarn. - A



Paste faces on balls - C or make clocks of them.



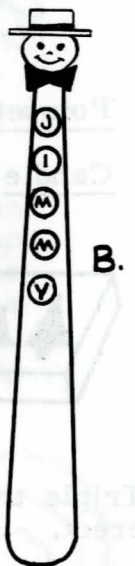
A scooter becomes a low-slung giraffe. - D.



Hard to wrap jars of jam or fruits look exciting if hidden beneath a pixie in a ruffled collar and high gilded hat. See cover and F.



A lamp shade becomes a hat. A simple wrap of white paper around the lamp base can be the background for a face. - E.

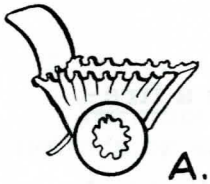


On the top of a baseball bat make a face using stick-on tape. Tie a bow at the "throat," add a saucy hat. Spell out the boy's name on buttons down the bat. - B



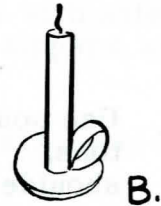
For a man's gift, a jar of goodies is just right to form the neck of a shirt--dress it with collar and tie. It can be done without the head, too. See cover and G.

Put small odd shaped gifts into a felt boot, stitched together with gay yarns. Pattern Suggestion No. 1, page 15.



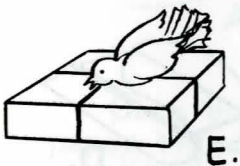
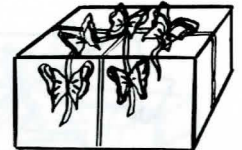
Flower carts of all sizes and colors are beautiful and can be used for various seasons. - A. Pattern No. 14, page 19. Clothes for the dolly, jewelry, or small gift items can hide very cozily in a toy doll buggy.

A waxpaper tube and a cheesebox lid are the beginnings of a lovely candle with a yarn flame of red or orange. A cardboard curl can be attached for a handle. - B.



Trim the front of the box like a dresser, or actually make a box holding boxes like drawers. (Thread boxes in a cardboard frame are excellent.) Above it, on a cardboard, paste a real or a foil mirror. - C.

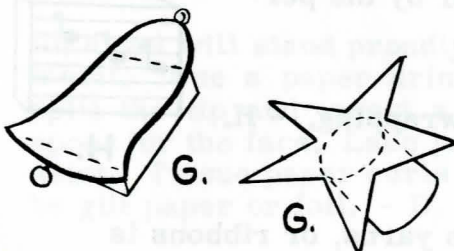
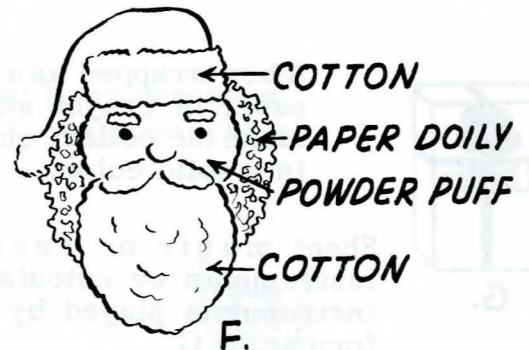
Make a bevy of colorful butterflies - D, to dangle from the ties or flutter on the box top. Five patterns, No. 10, page 17.



Bluebirds mean happiness, so why not adorn the top of a holiday package with a few lovely foldup bluebirds? - E. Pattern No. 4, page 15.

A lamb or fawn capers very saucily on a pastel box. It's a simple cardboard cutout, with tufts of wool or cotton fluffed out on the sides to give it shape. Patterns No. 13 and 15, page 19.

Use a powder puff Santa with frill of a paper lace doily and features of cut felt or paper to lay flat on a package. - F.



A twinkling star or gilded bell of cardboard cut-out on top a flat box. Make big enough so its center will cover the top of the gift box. Dip the edges in paste and then in glitter before pasting it on the box top. - G.

For the Little Boy (and Boys Not So Little)

Here are some ideas to set your imagination afire.

Put crayons and pencils in a mailing tube and wrap it to resemble a fire-cracker. Fuse can be wool yarn.

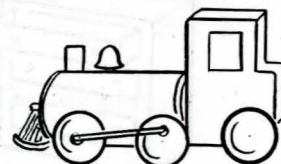
Put two paper plates face to face, stuff the inside with gift or goodies and seal. Affix a tinkertoy stick or dowel as a handle, and trim as a lollipop.



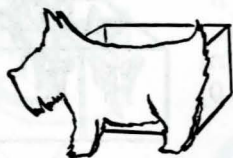
A.

Use pound coffee cans or cut-down oatmeal cartons. Trim as a drum, using rug yarns as shoulder strap and side trim. - A.

A small oatmeal carton makes a grand container for many items. Turn it sideways to resemble a railroad engine. Affix a smoke stack, bell, wheels, (which can be cheese carton lids), and make a cowcatcher. A box becomes the cab. - B. For a fire engine, affix driver's seat, wheels, ladders, bell and rolled up hose.



B.



C.

Cardboard Scotty dogs - C., ponies, or a snowman can be pasted on one or both sides of a medium-sized box. Pattern No. 9 for pony, page 17. No. 11 for snowman, page 19.

Sleds can be made by using match boxes and attaching runners of cardboard and a pull rope. - D.



D.

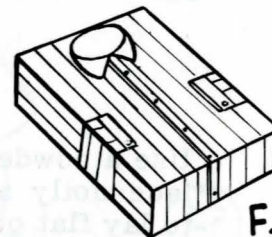


E. Any square box can be made into an alphabet block by pasting on a plain wrap and adding A, B, C's. Be sure the letters spell the child's name or initials. - E.



G.

A box wrapped as a folded shirt, done in striped wall-paper or crayon stripes on plain paper, is effective. Make the collar, cuffs and button trim of felt or paper in a solid color. - F.



F.

Sheet music or records can be adorned with miniature instruments or cutouts of the same. These can indicate the instruments played by the receiver of the gift or by the performer. - G.



H.

Musical note cutouts on a striped paper wrapping. - H.

A monogram traced in gilt thread, rug yarn, woolen yarns, or ribbons is very personal. See cover.

Why not put her new dress material in a sewing basket? If she needs notions or sewing equipment, include them as trims.

For the one who sews, wrap a gift in a swatch of cloth, seal with safety pins, tie with tape measures, and trim with spools of thread, zippers and needles.

For a knitted gift use a knitting bag. Any other craft materials could be treated similarly.



A.

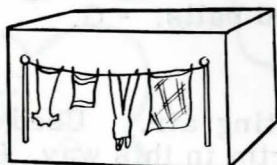
A choir girl or boy - A. This trim can be made with construction paper as shown in pattern No. 3, page 15.

Another nice trim for a box of writing materials is a tiny pen and pencil tied into the decoration. - B



B.

On a box of stationery use a stamp bouquet. Simply put a piece of waxed paper between each two stamps (face out) and cover with transparent wrap to make little petals. Make 3 to 5 petals into a flower. Three to 5 posies make a bouquet. Since stamps cost money too, plan to make that a part of the gift. Green 1-cent stamps form the leaves, 2-cent stamps make red flowers, 3-cent ones make violets. Remember this when you choose other wrap colors, or use white.



C.

A clothespin bag or basket liner deserves a tiny clothesline trim, either flat or erect. - C.

An angel will stand proudly on mother's gift of special merit. Use a paper drinking cone as the skirt base. Split the tip and insert a covered wooden or plastic spoon for the face. Lace paper doilies make the tiered skirt. Tissue paper curls are pretty. The wings may be gilt paper or foil. - D.



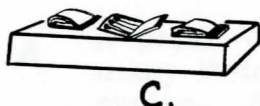
D.

For Father, Uncle or Grandfather

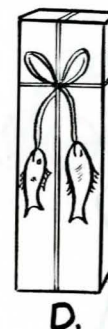
Trim a box containing slippers with miniature felt slippers on ribbons tied in with the bow. Wash a bright colored felt hat to use for cutouts. - A.



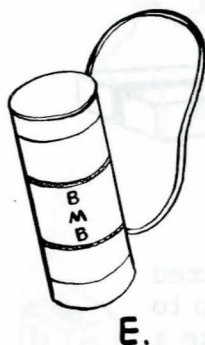
A smoking jacket would be appropriately trimmed with tiny cornucopia pipes tied with evergreen into the bow. The pipes can be made from popcorn cobs and toothpicks. - B.



Tobacco products might have several books of safety matches arranged on top. - C.



For fishing equipment use cutouts of fish for the "to and from" cards, or paste cutouts all over the package. - D. Pattern No. 12, page 19.

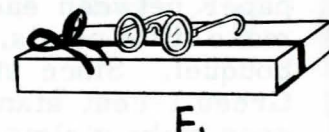


Most any sporting goods gift can benefit from this type of trim.

A tiny golf bag, made from an oatmeal box, with a twill tape sling could hold golf socks, balls and small gifts. - E.

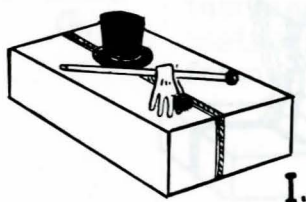


A book or other reading material could be trimmed with tiny spectacles (made from pipe cleaners or hairpins) as part of the trim. - F.



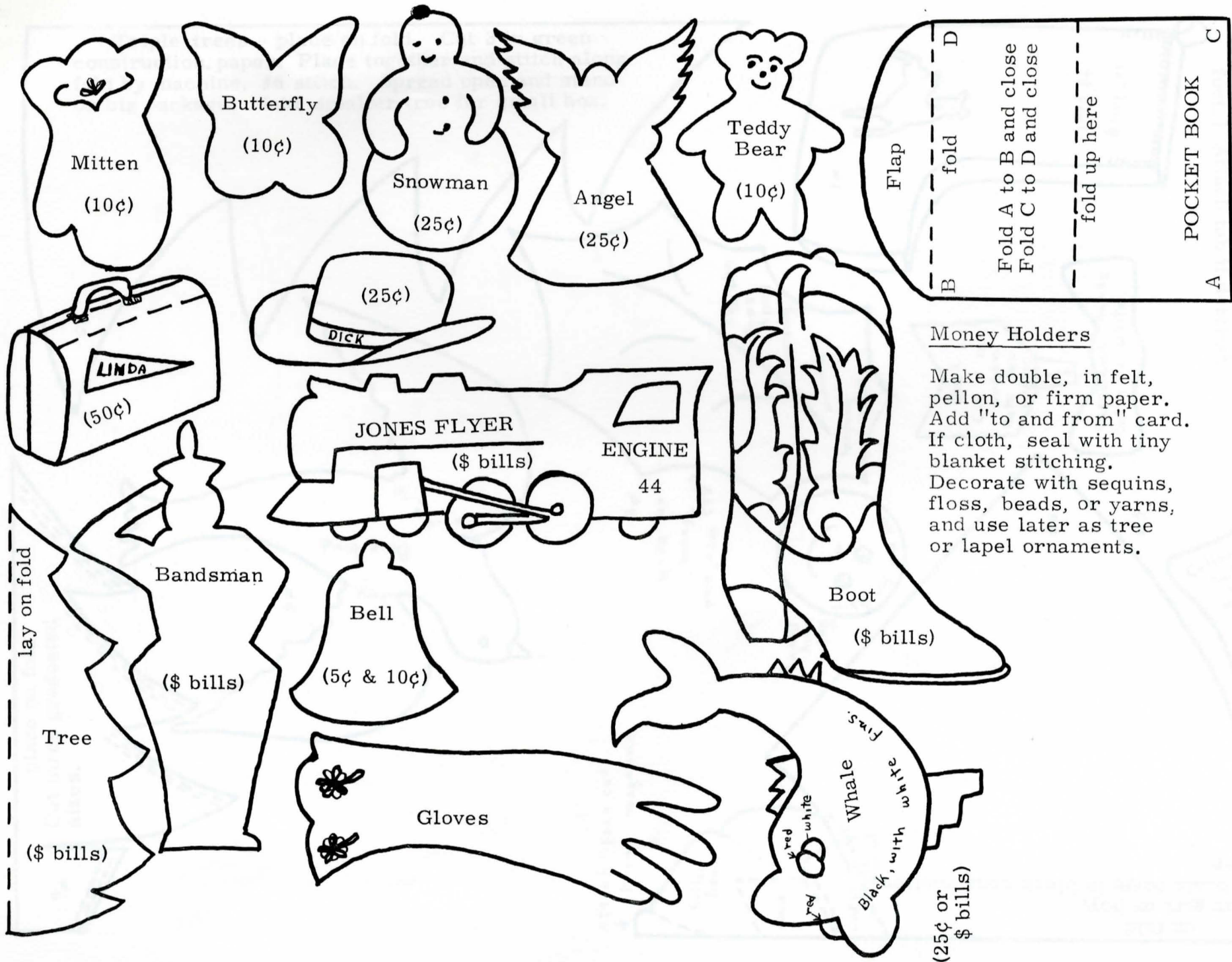
A large Christmas tree cutout roped to the package and trimmed with bows, tinsel and colored balls. - G.

Suitcase trim lends an exciting air. Used candy boxes are especially easy to trim in this way. Cover with brown bookbinding, cloth or paper. Add handle, straps, name tag, and a few labels. - H.



A top hat, cane and gloves on a boxtop are especially chic. Make the hat of slick black paper, the cane of a toothpick with a bead head, and the gloves from kid, felt, or oil-cloth. - I.

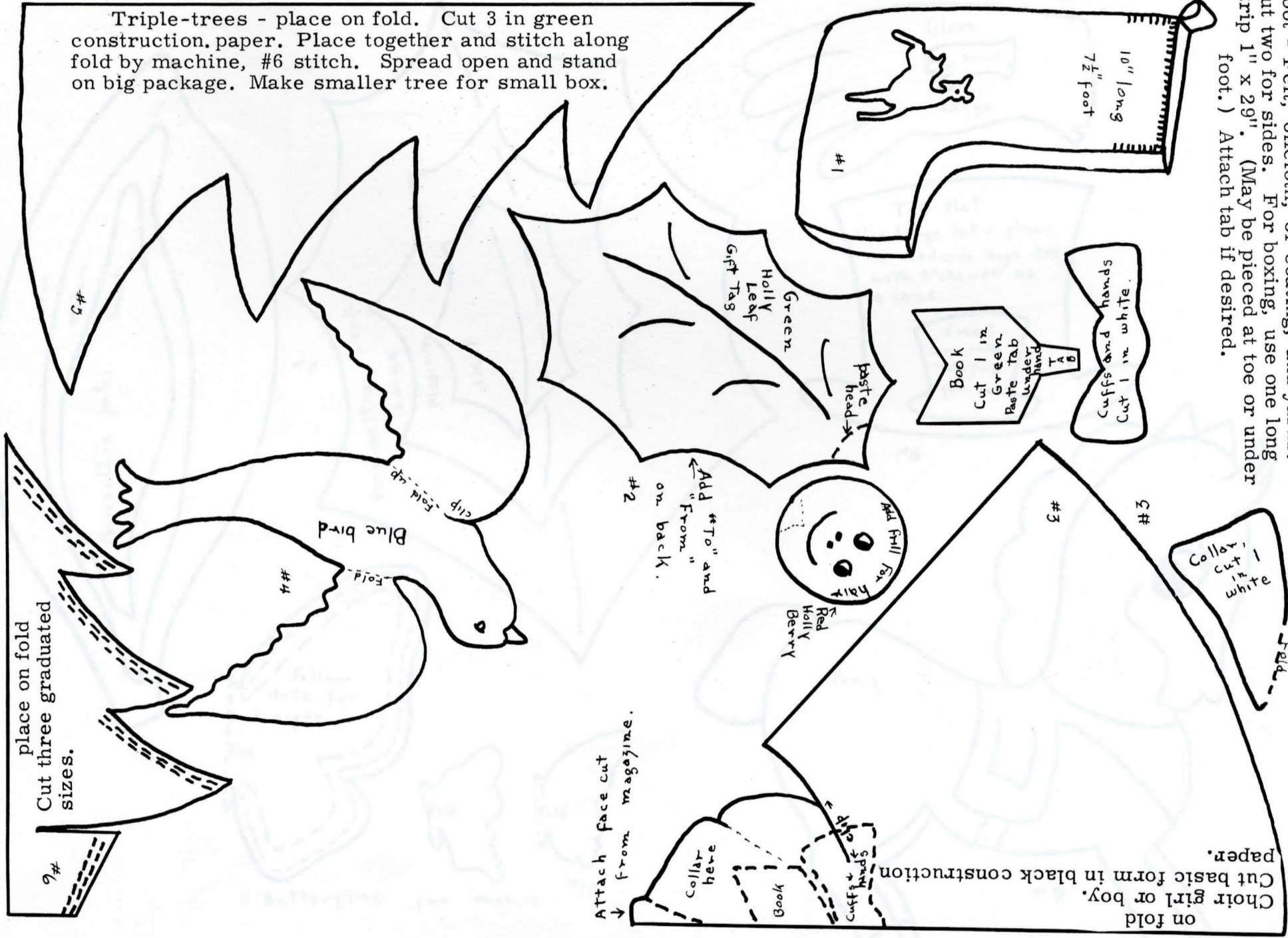




Money Holders

Make double, in felt, pellon, or firm paper. Add "to and from" card. If cloth, seal with tiny blanket stitching. Decorate with sequins, floss, beads, or yarns, and use later as tree or lapel ornaments.

Boot - Felt, oilcloth, or coating, and yarns.
Cut two for sides. For boxing, use one long strip 1" x 29". (May be pieced at toe or under foot.) Attach tab if desired.

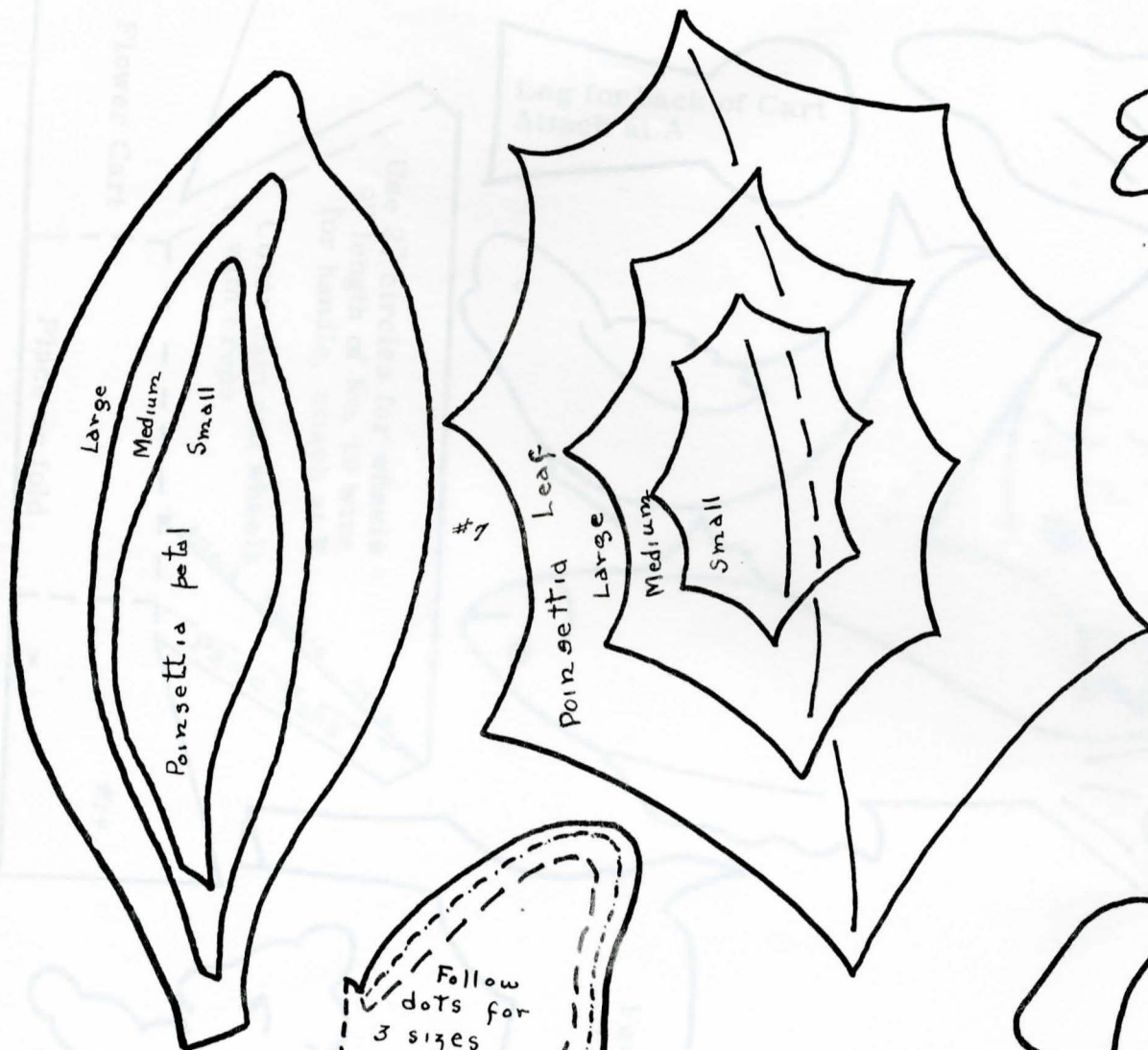


These are the things that you will need to make your Christmas tree. Cut out the pieces and glue them on to the card.

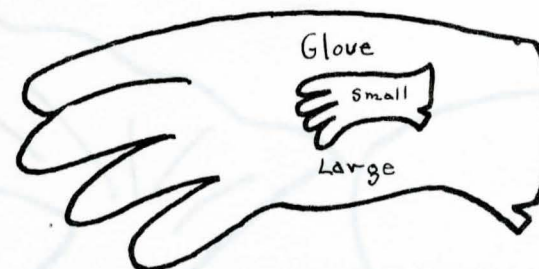
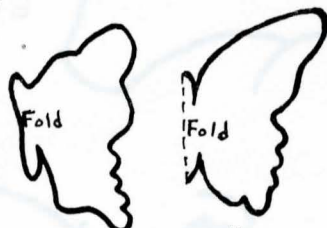


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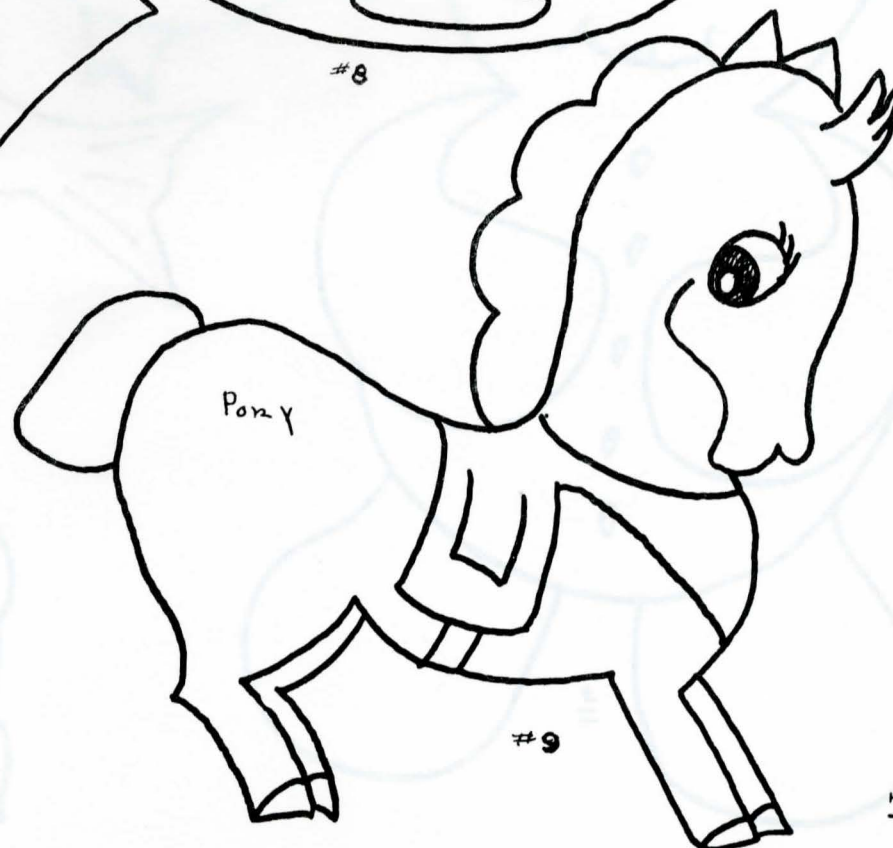
Star
Box
Base



5 Butterflies for mobile #10



#8



#9



