

THE HOOK UP

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FROM CAT HOUSE RUGS

MARCH, 2005

As rug hooking enthusiasts, we are dedicated to teaching and promoting the art of rug hooking. **THE HOOK UP** is our way of keeping you updated on the latest news from **Cat House Rugs** studio. Please forward this newsletter to anyone who enjoys rug hooking as much as we do.

(written by Mary E. Silva)

TIP OF THE MONTH

Here's a great way to use all that leftover wool from past hooking projects – it's called hit-and-miss. Just design a simple geometric and hook the colors randomly to fill in the shapes. You can use random colors throughout or group basic colors together for a different look. For example, some of the shapes can be done using all red tones, some using green tones and so on. If the colors are too garish or clash too badly, over-dye several of the wools together in the same dye bath or simply boil them together to "marry" them. Onion skin baths can make all the colors blend beautifully!

FEATURED RUG

Title: Diamond Medley
Artist: Janice Fessel
Design by: copy of antique rug
Size: 44" X 28"
Cut: # 8
Hooked with: wool on linen



Janice Fessel is my sister and has been hooking for about five years. She attended open hooking sessions before we opened the Cat House and was an early member of the Buffalo Trace Rug Hookers. Janice winced too much when she learned to hook and Jyl would say, "she's your sister – you take her." (You know I love you, Janice.) The problem is that Janice is a perfectionist and expected to be able to hook beautifully from the start. If you have ever seen one of Janice's rugs you can see that she has reached her goal: her technique is flawless, and she has a great knack with color.

Janice has hooked several whimsical rugs based on her own children's drawings, but her favorite design style is primitive geometric. This rug was inspired by an antique rug she had admired and by an abundance of wools from several previous rugs she had made. After drawing the pattern, she loosely divided strips of wool by varying colors to fill the diamond shapes, taking care to disperse the colors throughout the rug. Janice says, "It was easy to do; straight lines are my forte." The only wools she had to acquire were a few added values of browns for the border. The simple, clean design would lend itself to many decors.

THIS MONTH'S SPECIAL OFFER

During March, selected geometric patterns from various designers are on sale. They will be priced at 20% off the original price. Try one – you might like it!



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