

THE HOOK UP

A monthly newsletter from cat house rugs
October, 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

Plan ahead to have plenty of wool to complete your projects. Jyl and I have learned that it is better to have too much wool than to run short and try to match up colors later. That being said, it isn't easy to determine exactly how much wool is required to complete any one portion of a rug. A general rule of thumb to determine the volume of wool needed is to multiply the size of the part to be hooked by four to six times that size. Variables include the actual size of the area to be hooked, the cut being used, your individual style of hooking (loose, tight, pulled high or low) and the type of wool being used. One way to avoid this problem is to keep the dye recipe for the colors of wool you choose whenever possible. If that isn't possible, just match up as well as you can and learn to appreciate the effect. After all, that's what the early rug-hookers did before they had the option of dyeing their fabrics or shopping at the Cat House for their wool! I actually like the quaint appearance of the antique rugs that tell stories of the ladies (or men) who hooked them and the restrictions that dictated the colors they used in their rugs.

FEATURED RUG

Title: Kepper Fruit Basket
Artist: Jyl Clark
Design by: Charco Patterns
Size: 30" X 69"
Cut: #8
Hooked with: wool on burlap



I think this rug is just beautiful. I am so proud of Jyl – she never ceases to amaze me. This rug is hooked in a wide-cut, primitive style which is very unusual for her. Her color choices are fabulous although she says this rug was difficult to color plan because of the medium-toned background. When you choose a medium-toned background the other elements of the rug must be bold, strong colors to stand out. Jyl changed the background color once and found that this one (Gold and Golden Brown over Natural) was just the effect she wanted. Then the problem became how to

make the pineapple stand out. In fact, she actually put the rug away for a year because she got so discouraged with it. In time, she pulled it out again and threw it on the floor here at the Cat House. In a moment of divine inspiration I pulled a piece of wool off the shelf and dropped it into place for the pineapple. That worked! How flattering when I can actually contribute to one of Jyl's pieces! Jyl says if you find that you have a unfinished rug that you are avoiding, bring it in. We're always ready with an opinion and a word of encouragement.

THIS MONTH'S SPECIAL OFFER

The October special is **20% off all English plaid wools**. We recently purchased quite a lot of additional English plaid wools which are great for adding "texture" to your rugs. Also we have a limited amount of **reground Bliss Cutter Blades for \$10.00 each** (regular price is \$18.00.)



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