

Winter Fun - Snowmen at Play



Introduction

This kit is borne out of the Penny Rug traditions of the early 1800's. From bits of wool scraps and felted wool scraps, they crafted functional items for their homes that reflected their creativity and ingenuity. A penny rug was used as a table mat most often, but translated into other decorative and useful items for the home.

The pennies were circular pieces of wool that were cut using the coins of the day as templates. Coins were different sizes than our modern currency.

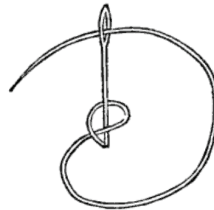
In particular, the penny was the British penny which is much larger than our current coin. The stacks of graduated size pennies were placed side by side on early mats. Both the edges of the pennies, along with the outer edge of the mat were stitched with a blanket stitch.

As time went by, the designs included appliqué work also. The inspiration for their designs often came from other sources that were familiar to them. This would include folk art of a woman's ethnic community.

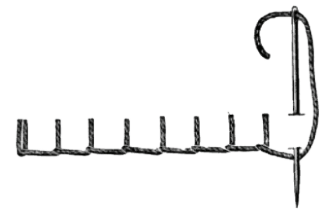
May you find inspiration in these patterns to bring your own unique brand of style into your home.

CARE INSTRUCTIONS: All of the wool felt in our kits is a blend of 20-35% wool. Dry cleaning is recommended for cleaning. To press wool felt, use a steam iron on high.

Stitches Needed



French Knot



Blanket Stitch



Chain Stitch

Instructions

Design Side

First you will make the snowmen family (parents, teens, baby, cat and dog). They will have no arms or legs and the outer edges will remain with no stitching.

Each character follows this basic sequence. For example to make a parent, pin the medium penny ovetop of the large penny. Then pin the small penny ovetop of these following the picture on the box. Blanket stitch, using cream floss, the overlap edge of the small

penny to the medium penny joining them together. Repeat for the medium penny to the large penny. Add French Knots for the eyes and mouth to represent lumps of coal using black floss. Use a chain stitch with red floss for the nose representing a carrot. Attach the ½” black pennies using a French Knot with black floss.

You can personalize each character as you like. For a snowwoman simply add a bow on her head. For a snowbusiness man, drop the buttons and chain stitch in a tie. To make a snow pirate, simply take one of the black pennies (used as buttons) and cut it in half to make an eye patch. To make a happy or sad snowman, simply place the French Knots in the proper arrangement for the mouth. It's up to your imagination.

Repeat for each character so you will end up with two parents, two teens, a snow baby, a snow cat and a snow dog.

Assembly

Center and pin the blue sky on one of the black squares. Then pin the cream snow along the bottom edge of the blue square to make the basic snow scene framed within the black square. Blanket stitch the snow and blue sky to the black background square with cream floss.

Pin the trees onto the assembly following the box image and blanket stitch with green floss.

Pin the snowflakes and characters onto the assembly following the picture on the box. Blanket stitch these in place using cream floss.

Add snow balls and attach them with French knots. Then add arms and legs with a chain stitch using brown floss.

Finishing

All that is left is to place the second black square behind the first and blanket stitch the edge. You can add a pillow insert to make this into a pillow, or use it as a wall hanging, or join it with other squares to make a quilt of a size of your own choosing. Just remember to have fun.

Feedback

Our company's focus is on providing products that are "Fun with a Purpose" to help young people grow in the world around them and your ideas are always welcome.

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If you have ideas, suggestions, corrections, questions, photos of a completed project, critiques, or reviews on these instructions or the kit that you would like to share with us, you can send an email to:

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