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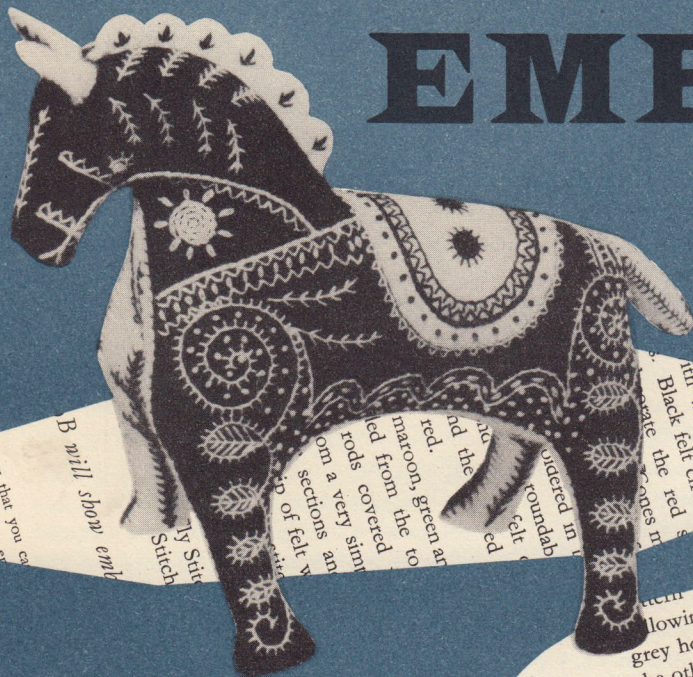
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... AND SO TO EMBROIDER



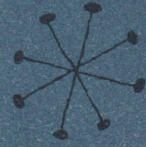
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GREY HORSE

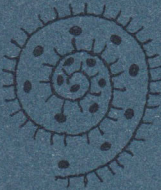
Materials. You will require a piece of grey cotton fabric measuring 18 in. x 16 in.; a sheet of thin white cartridge paper; one skein each of stranded embroidery cotton in black, white, dark grey and light grey; one reel of mercerised sewing cotton No. 40 to match the grey fabric; one needle; one reel of crewel



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<https://www.knitting-and.com>
BULLETIN 18B · DESIGNING TOYS (HORSES)

DESIGNING TOYS · **Horses**

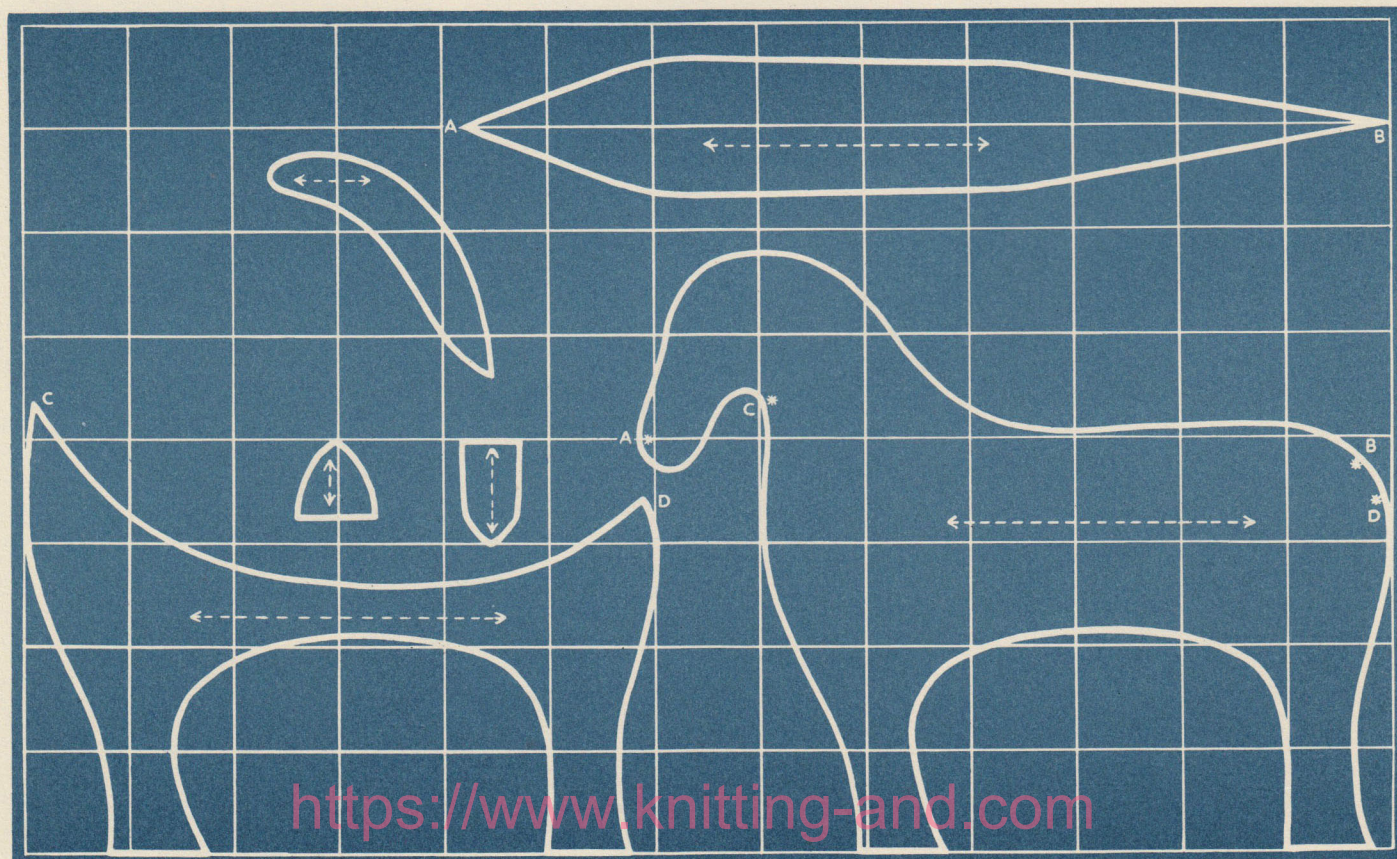
In this bulletin we illustrate more decorative toys—a group of three horses, a roundabout and a donkey together with his Mexican rider. These will suggest many other ideas for which the basic pattern given in this bulletin can be adapted. Why not make, for example, a rocking horse, or even a team of horses drawing Cinderella's coach?

As the general instructions for creating bird shapes given in Bulletin 15B apply also to the making of these toys, it would be a good idea to read through the earlier bulletin, as well as this one, before starting work. When you have made your pattern, cut it out in newspaper and pin the sections together to make sure that they fit before cutting the felt or fabric. If you want to change the size or shape of the horse, experiment with the paper sections until you obtain the result you desire.

For the toys illustrated, different kinds of fabric or felt have been used. The grey horse is made from pieces of

cotton dress fabric, the black and white one from felt and the yellow one from an evenly woven heavy rayon fabric. The donkey is made from soft brown woollen fabric and the roundabout from felt over a foundation of wood and cardboard. When using felt, it is not necessary to leave turnings around the pattern shapes. Fabric, however, requires turnings and it is best to make up and join the separate sections by the patchwork method described in Bulletin 12B. It is nearly always necessary to strengthen the legs of a toy animal and this can be done very easily with millinery wire as described elsewhere in this bulletin.

You will find that the pattern for the horse can be adapted for other four-footed animals. Study the picture of the animal you have in mind, then make your pattern in paper, pinning it together to see the effect. Try a lion with a raffia mane, a processional elephant complete with a howdah or a stripey cat with glittering sequin eyes!





THREE HORSES

The three horses are made from the basic pattern which is shown in this bulletin. The following instructions are given for making the grey horse and these can be varied in detail for the other two.

GREY HORSE

Materials. You will require a piece of grey cotton fabric measuring 18 in. x 16 in.; a sheet of thin white cartridge paper; one skein each of stranded embroidery cotton in black, white, dark grey and light grey; one reel of mercerised sewing cotton No. 40 to match the grey fabric; 1 Sharps needle No. 7; 1 crewel needle No. 8 (for embroidery); a small quantity of kapok for stuffing; two 8 in. lengths of millinery wire.

Construction. Make the paper pattern from diagram—1 square=1 in. *Test paper sections by pinning together before cutting out fabric.* Cut from grey fabric two side sections, two mane sections, four ear sections, two tail sections, one upper gusset and two lower gussets. Leave $\frac{1}{2}$ in.

turnings round each section except on those for mane, ears and tail which require $\frac{1}{4}$ in. turnings.

Cut from cartridge paper the same sections without turnings. Lay each paper section on the corresponding fabric shape. Turn the edges of the fabric over paper, snipping the turnings at intervals so that they lie flat. Baste securely. This will give a firm non-stretching surface on which to work the embroidered decoration which is carried out in two strands of stranded embroidery cotton in black, white and two tones of grey. The stitches used are Running Stitch, Threaded Running Stitch, Chain Stitch, Detached Chain Stitch, Whipped Chain Stitch, Buttonhole Stitch, Vandyke Buttonhole Stitch and Fly Stitch.

Place lower gussets with right sides together and whip along curved edge from C to D. With wrong sides together join lower gussets to side sections by whipping from C down the front leg and continue round the shape as far as D. Bend each length of millinery wire in half and turn up $\frac{1}{2}$ in. at each end to form loops. Cover with a layer of kapok, securing this to the wire by winding with cotton thread. Insert one wire section into the two front legs and the other into the two back legs. Pack a little more kapok down into the legs with the help of a thin stick or a blunt knitting needle. Join side sections and upper gusset with right sides together leaving an opening in the centre of one side through which stuffing can be inserted. When the animal is firmly stuffed, continue whipping to close the seam.

Join tail sections, stuff lightly and attach to body. Join ear sections without stuffing. Fold at centre of each ear and sew in position. Join mane sections without stuffing and sew firmly in place.

YELLOW HORSE

This horse is made exactly like the grey one, but it is varied in detail. The mane and tail are made from thin white rayon cord frayed out to give a fluffy appearance. The saddle is an oval-shaped piece of red fabric stiffened with paper, with a roll of fabric at front and back. A hand-



made twisted cord is used for the reins. The embroidery is worked in red, black, white and turquoise using two strands of stranded embroidery cotton. The stitches used are Chain Stitch, Detached Chain Stitch, Whipped Chain Stitch, Coral Knot Stitch, Buttonhole Stitch, Fly Stitch, Feather Stitch, French Knots, Straight Stitch, Interlaced Herringbone Stitch and Crossed Buttonhole Stitch.

BLACK AND WHITE HORSE

This horse is made with black side sections and a black gusset. The lower gusset, mane, ears and tail are white, and a white saddle is applied to the finished horse and stitched firmly in position. All the embroidery is carried out in two strands of stranded embroidery cotton, working in white on black and black on white. As this horse is made from felt, it is not necessary to stiffen the sections with paper or to leave turnings when cutting out the shapes. Felt does not fray, and the cut edges can be joined together with Fishbone Stitch as shown in





Bulletin 15B. The stitches used for the embroidery are Chain Stitch, Detached Chain Stitch, Whipped Chain Stitch, Buttonhole Stitch, Vandyke Buttonhole Stitch, Fly Stitch, Coral Knot Stitch, French Knots and Feather Stitch.



DONKEY AND MAN

The donkey is made from light brown woollen fabric embroidered in mauve, lime green and white. The stitches used for the embroidery are Chain Stitch, Detached Chain Stitch, Coral Knot Stitch, Vandyke Buttonhole Stitch and Fly Stitch. The mane and tail are made from natural raffia and the pannier baskets from coiled raffia firmly sewn with fine strands of the same material.

The man is constructed from twisted pipe cleaners padded with kapok and covered with a fine cotton fabric. He wears dark red trousers, a white blouse and a grey and white striped sash. A pink and white striped cotton blanket embroidered in black, red, grey and turquoise is carried over his shoulder. The hat and shoes are made from natural and brown raffia.

ROUNDABOUT

The roundabout with three horses is made from felt over a foundation of wood and cardboard. It is 9½ in. high and the base has a diameter of 8 in.

The base is made from a circle of wood ½ in. thick with a hole in the centre into which a wooden rod is inserted. The circle is covered with blue felt enriched with white embroidery and applied red felt stars. Black felt circles and white running stitches decorate the red strip which neatens the edge of the base. Cones made from cardboard covered with yellow felt form the centre structure and the felt is decorated with applied shapes and embroidered in black,

red and white. The top of the roundabout is made from red, white and black felt over a cardboard foundation and the pointed edging is in yellow, black and red.

The three horses are maroon, green and white, and they are suspended from the top of the roundabout by thin rods covered with felt. Each horse is made from a very simple pattern consisting of two side sections and a gusset made from ½ in. wide strip of felt which passes right round the animal. The stitches used to enrich this toy are Running Stitch, Straight Stitch, Couching, Chain Stitch, Detached Chain Stitch, Coral Knot Stitch, Fly Stitch, Buttonhole Stitch, Vandyke Buttonhole Stitch and Whipping.



detail of horse from roundabout

