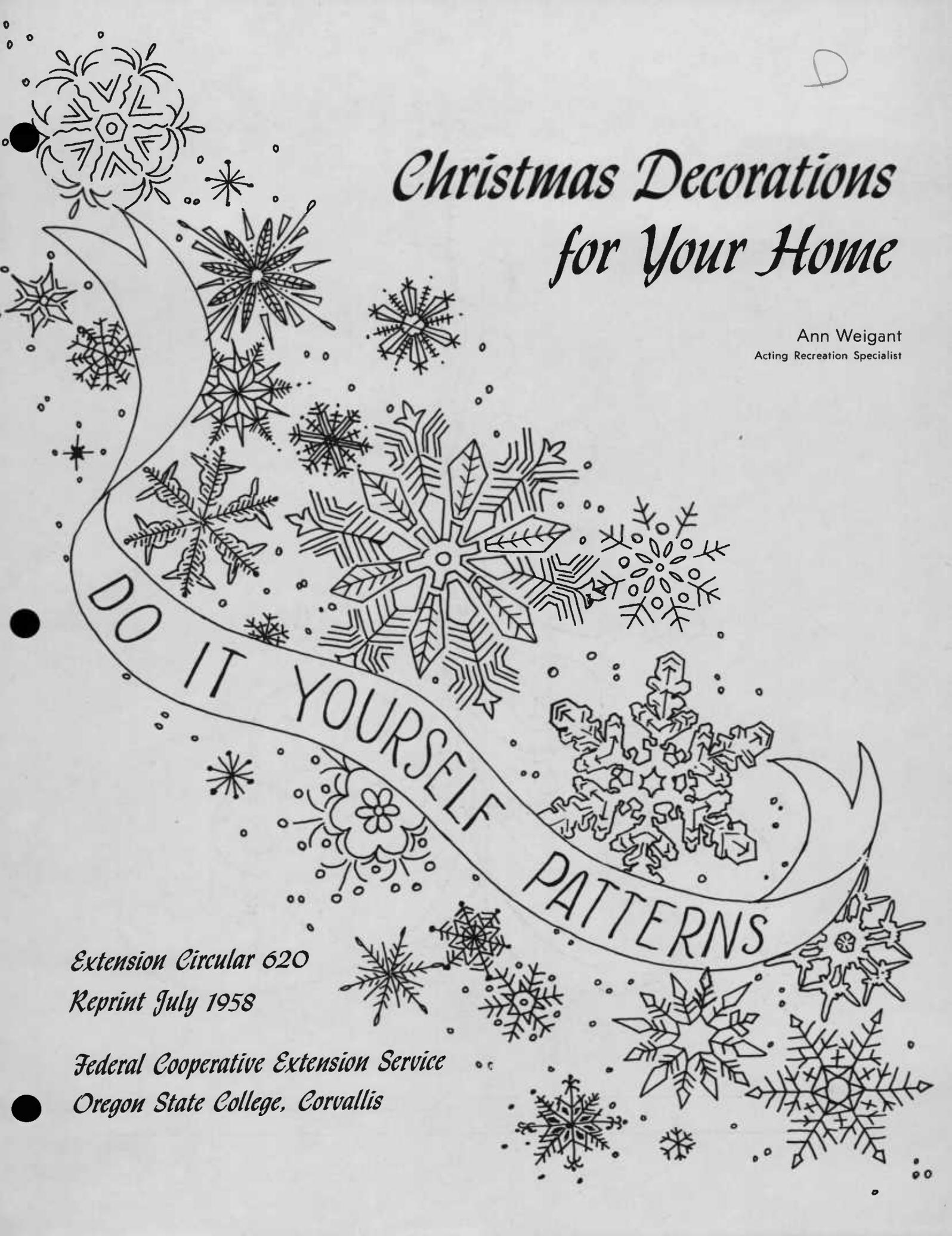


D

Christmas Decorations for Your Home

Ann Weigant
Acting Recreation Specialist



DO IT YOURSELF PATTERNS

*Extension Circular 620
Reprint July 1958*

*Federal Cooperative Extension Service
Oregon State College, Corvallis*

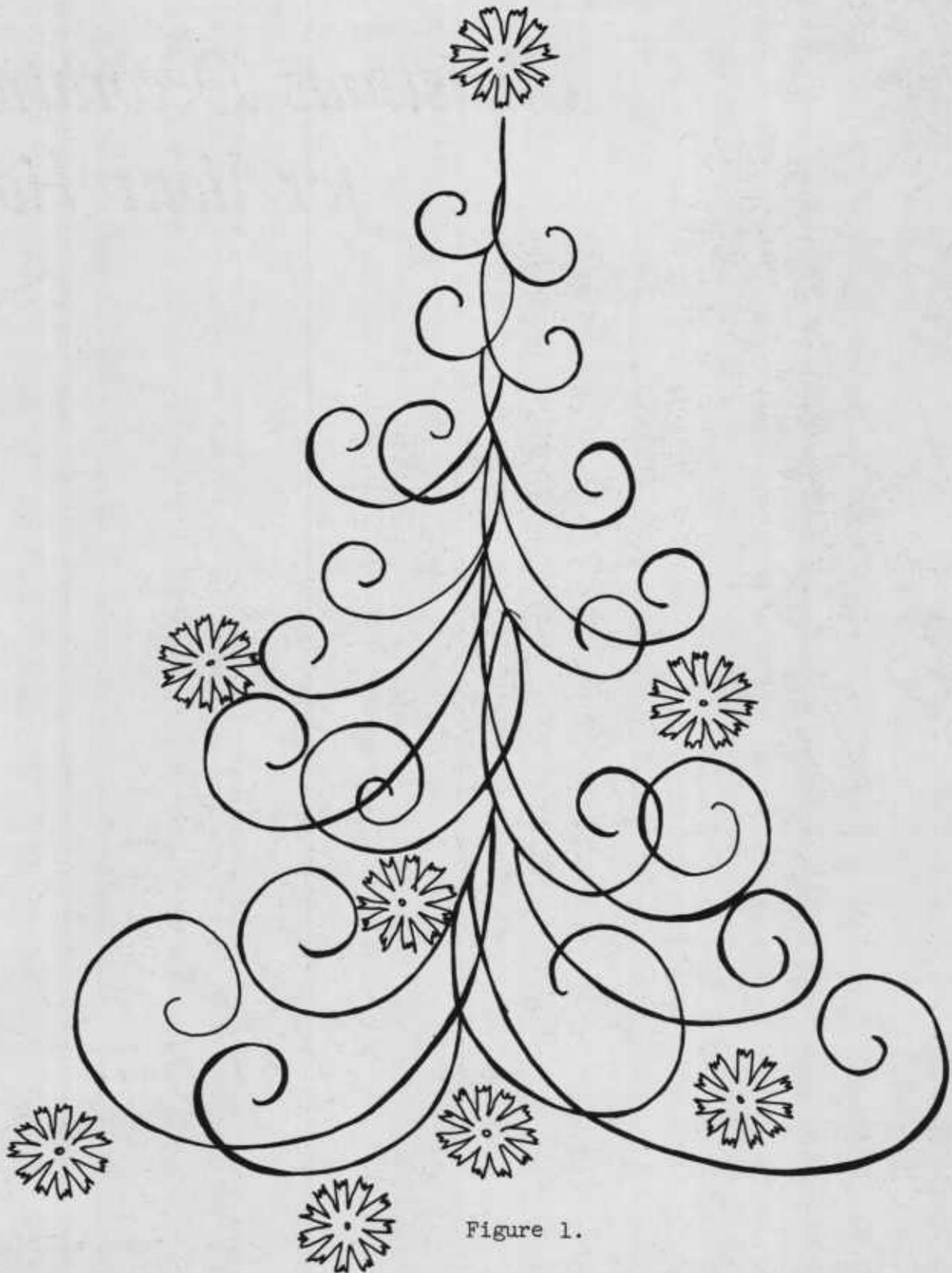


Figure 1.

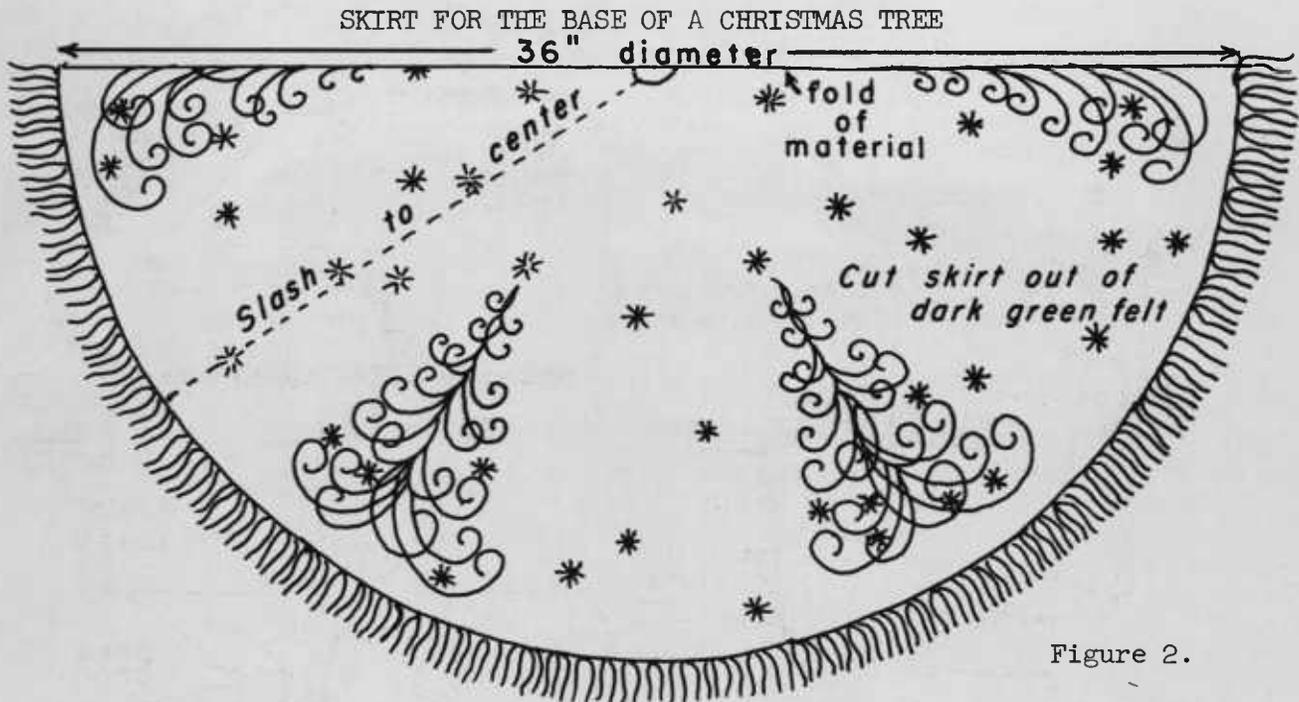


Figure 2.

Perforate the tree pattern on facing page by laying it on a piece of box carton cardboard and piercing along the entire pattern with an ordinary sewing needle stuck into the end of a pencil eraser. The piercings should be 1/8 inch apart. When completely

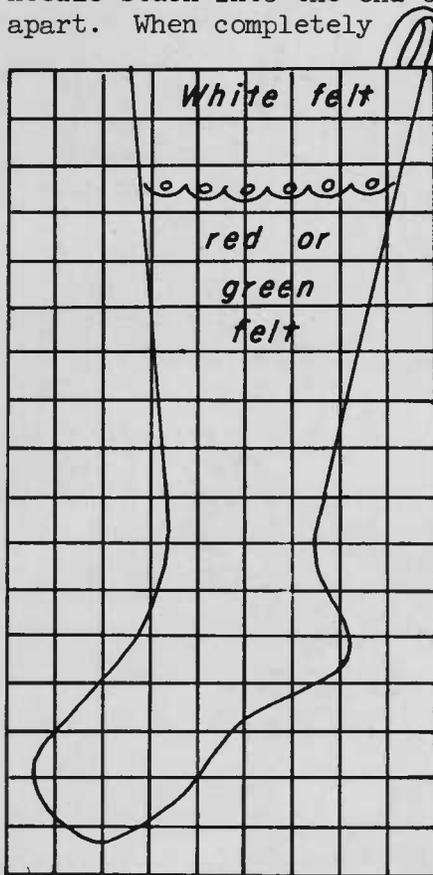


Figure 3.

perforated, turn pattern over and sand off protrusions with 000 sandpaper. Lay pattern in place on skirt and rub over perforations with powder puff dipped in powdered blackboard chalk. Trace chalk outline on skirt with thin, even line of casein glue. Sprinkle immediately with fine nontarnish silver glitter. Shake off excess glitter, and complete trim by sewing on fancy pinwheel sequins as indicated in above sketch. Slash skirt to center between tree patterns. Cut out 2-inch hole in center for tree trunk. Sew white cotton fringe around edge. See figure 2.

CHRISTMAS SOCKS FOR EVERYONE

Each square in the diagram represents a 1-1/4 inch square in the actual size sock pattern. Although any pattern may be increased or decreased by the "square" method, the purchase of an inexpensive "Pantograph" from an art or hobby shop can make the task an easier and faster one.

The patterns shown on the next two pages may be "pierced" as described in the tree-skirt directions. Then lay them on scraps of colored felt, rub the perforations with chalk dust, cut out, adhere to socks with good felt glue, and decorate lavishly with sequins, beads, charms, etc.

Figure 4.

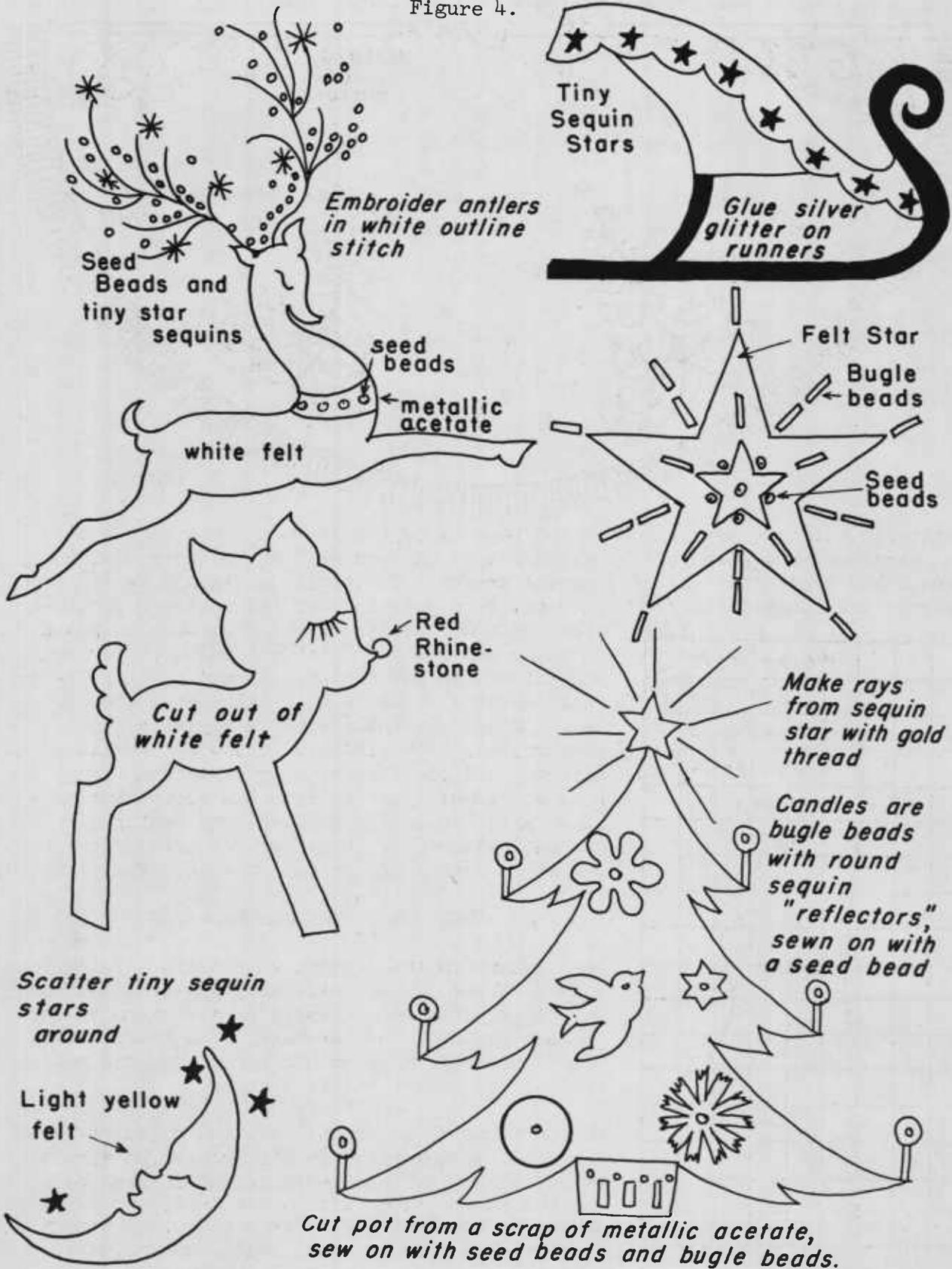
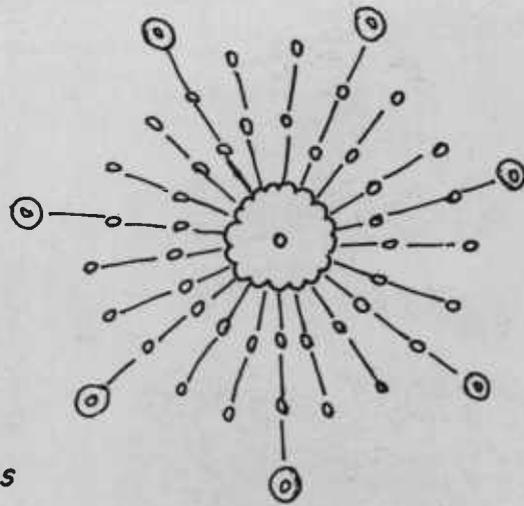
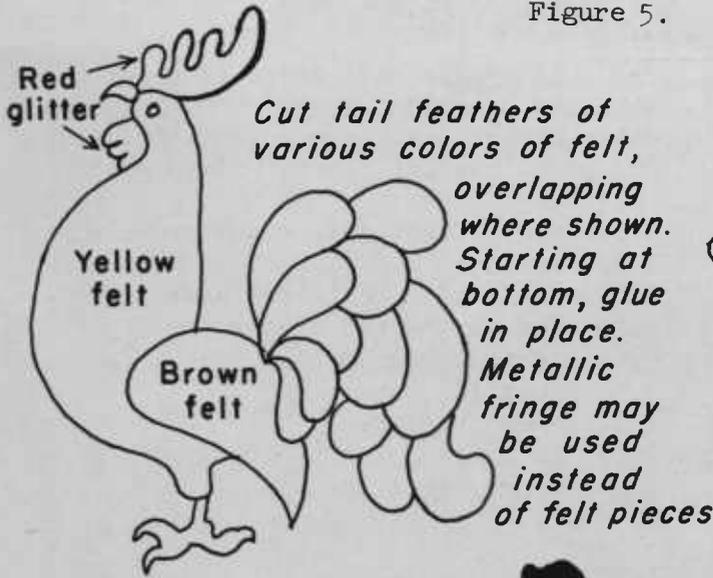
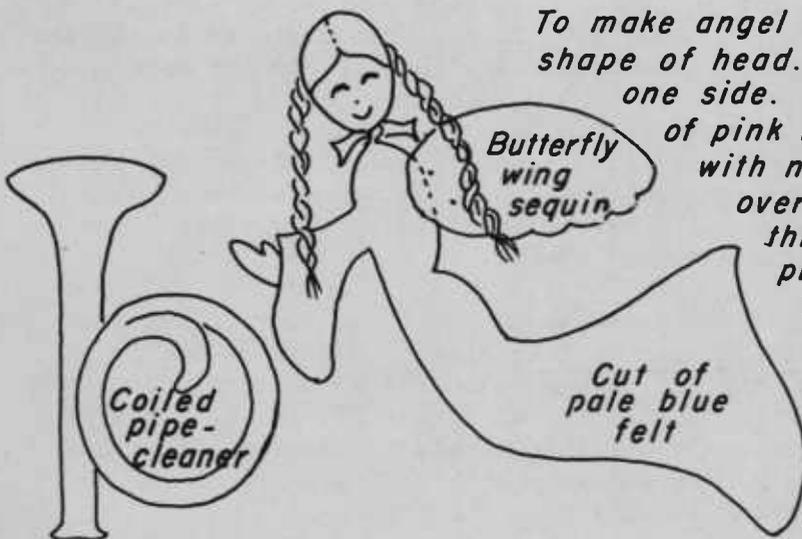
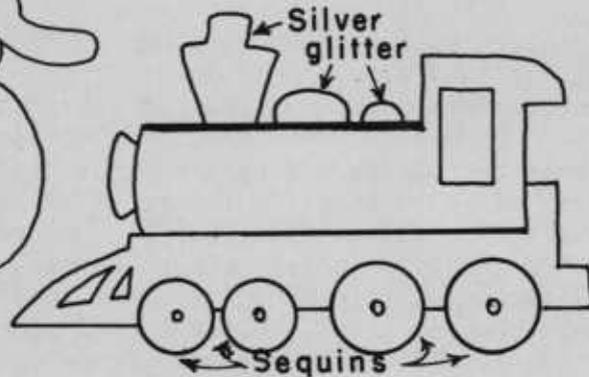
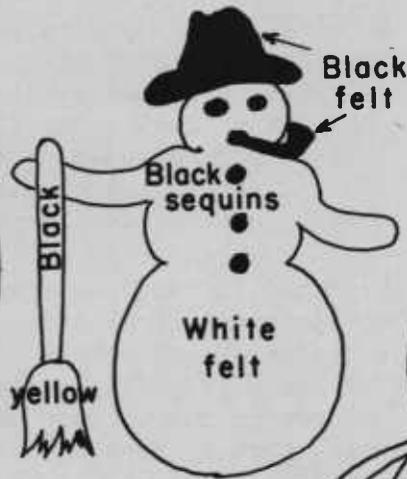


Figure 5.



Do this sunburst design entirely in bugle beads, seed beads and sequins



To make angel head: Cut cardboard in shape of head. Glue puff of cotton to one side. Cut slightly larger piece of pink rayon, gather around edge with needle and thread, slip over cardboard and draw thread tightly. Glue in place. Paint in features. Tack six 3 inch strands of yellow yarn at center to head and braid both sides.



Figure 6.

Mix plaster with water according to directions below. Hold dowel in cheese carton and pour plaster mix around it, holding steady until plaster "sets." Staple fringe around edge of cardboard circles in small loops. Loops are made by holding a finger against the cardboard circle, looping fringe over finger, and then stapling fringe to circle edge. Slip finger out and repeat around entire edges of all circles. Cover cottage-cheese carton with foil wrap to match fringe in color. Start forming tree by forcing largest circle over dowel through circle's center until this first circle rests on the rim of the cottage-cheese carton. Slide a 2-3/4-inch length of cardboard mailing tube over dowel. Trim with fringe. Force second largest circle over dowel until it rests on tubing. Continue adding 2-3/4-inch lengths of tubing, and circles in diminishing sizes, until all are in place. Starting just above last and smallest circle, wrap pointed end of dowel with fringe, closely overlapped, and secured with gummed tape. This makes the most beautiful, glittering tree imaginable!

To make it still more of a show piece, place it on a round mirror in the center of a large table and surround it with low candles in glass containers. These are known as "Votive Lights" and usually may be found in variety stores and florist shops during the Christmas shopping season.

Mixing Plaster: Usual proportions are 3 pounds plaster to 1 quart cold water. Follow these proportions when mixing more or less plaster. Put water into a nonmetal bowl. Sift the plaster rapidly through a coarse sieve evenly over the surface of the water. When all the plaster is in, let stand, slack, for 5 minutes, then stir gently but continuously until it starts to thicken. Pour at once. Clean the bowl thoroughly and immediately with old rags or papers, allowing none to go down the sink or it will clog the plumbing.

METALLIC FRINGE TREE

Materials

1. Two full spools (10 yards) of 3-inch metallic acetate fringe.
2. Heavy posterboard, same color as fringe.
3. One pound casting plaster mixed with 1-1/3 cups water.
4. A 1-pound cottage-cheese carton or similar container.
5. A 24-inch length of 1-inch dowel, sharpened at one end like a pencil. A broomstick will do.
6. A long mailing tube.
7. A long-arm stapler.
8. Paint to match color of fringe if posterboard needs painting.

Directions

Cut the following circles of posterboard:

- | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1-1/2-inch radius circle | |
| 2-1/2-inch radius circle | Paint all circles top and |
| 3-1/2-inch radius circle | bottom, if nec- |
| 4-1/2-inch radius circle | essary, to match |
| 5 -inch radius circle | fringe. |
| 5-1/2-inch radius circle | |

3-D STARS

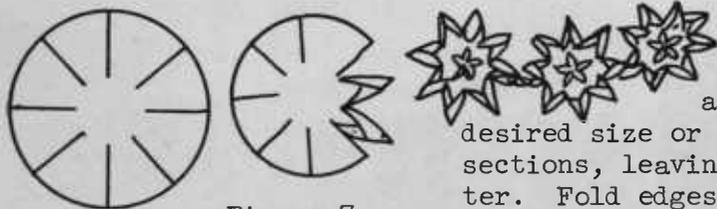


Figure 7.

From foil papers, base metal, or aluminum foil, cut circles of any desired size or sizes. Slash circles into 8 equal sections, leaving a substantial uncut section in center. Fold edges of 8 sections in toward back in cone shape, and paste or staple. This results in a star-shaped doo-dad. Paste two of these back-to-back for a tree ornament, or string by the dozens for garlands. For a striking package decoration, cut 5 or more of varying sizes and fasten together, one on top of another running a pipe cleaner, topped with a tiny Christmas ball, down through all the centers. See picture 2 in figure 18.

Snowball Variation of 3-D Star



Cut 28 tissue-paper circles--4-1/2 inches in diameter. Slash in 8 sections as above. Lay the top end of a lead pencil with a rubber eraser tip in the middle of a tissue section, 1/2 inch from the outside edge of circle. Roll both sides of the section around the pencil and twist extending tissue. See figure 8. Slip pencil out and proceed to next section until all sections of the 28 tissue circles have been prepared. Fasten a small

square of rubber (cut from an old jar ring or inner tube) to the end of a strong thread with needle attached. String all circles through center and push together tightly. Add another small square of rubber and knot thread securely. Leave a 6- or 8-inch length of thread for fastening snowball to tree.

CHRISTMAS TREE

Suggested materials: Base metal, metallic foil or suede papers, copper or aluminum foil.

Directions: To prepare the tree standard, set a 15-inch knitting needle in a small tin can, such as a deviled ham can. Hold in place, and fill can with a thick mixture of plaster of paris. See page 6 for instructions on mixing plaster of paris. Hold the knitting needle quite still until the plaster has "set." This will take only a few minutes. Then allow plaster to really harden while preparing tree.

Using a compass, draw 19 circles, the largest circle having a 6-inch radius. Decrease the size of each circle by 1/4-inch radius. That is to say: the 2d circle should have a 5-3/4-inch radius, the 3d a 5-1/2-inch radius, and so on down to the smallest circle, which will have a 1-1/2-inch radius.

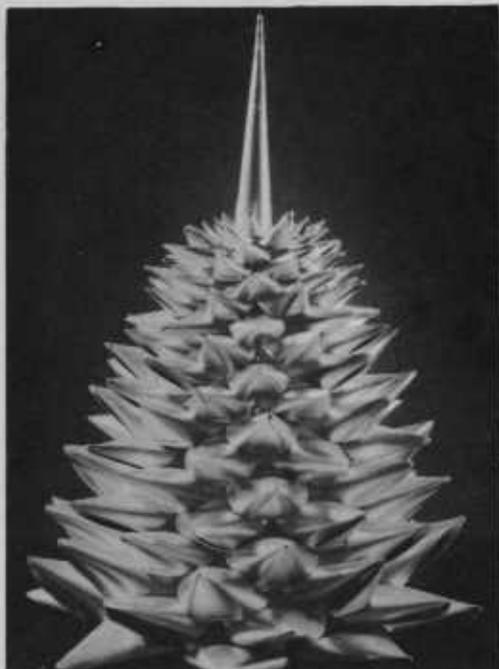


Figure 9.

Slash each circle toward the center and follow directions given above for making "3-D Stars." See figure 7. When all circles have been thus prepared, they may be threaded onto the knitting needle standard. Top with a tall, thin cone made of the same paper, or a regular commercial type "tree top," if one can be found not more than 7 or 8 inches tall. See figure 9.

PERFORATED RIBBON TREE

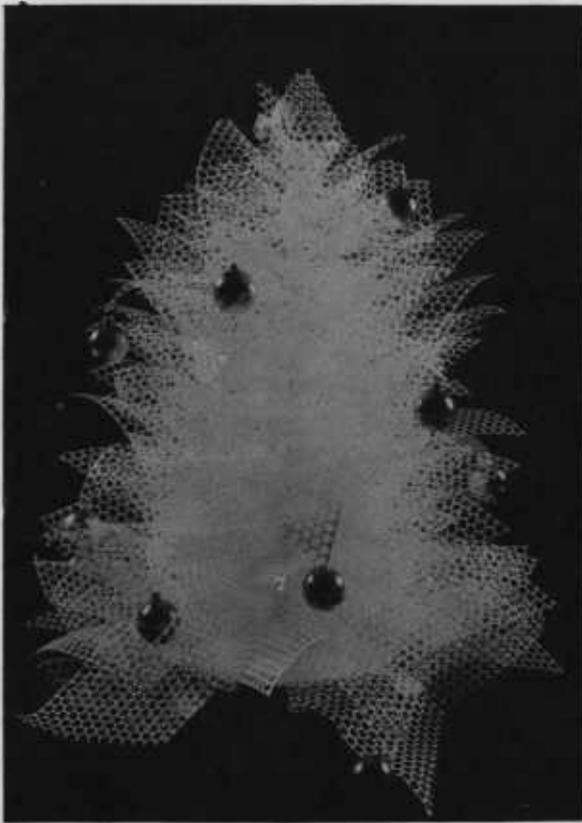
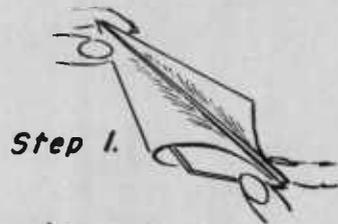
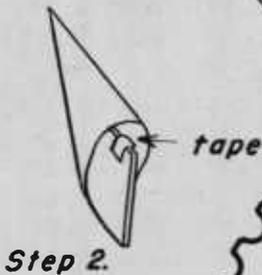


Figure 10.

The material required to make this lacy tree is a cellulose acetate perforated ribbon, 3-1/4 inches wide; 15 yards are required. Before assembling tree, cut all ribbon into proper lengths and shapes as shown in full-scale diagram on these two pages. Prepare knitting needle base as described in "Christmas Tree" directions on page 7. Starting with longest strips, lay a piece of ribbon on the table in front of you with shortest edge at the top. Bring A to B, turning ribbon points A and B completely in so that under side of ribbon point A is lying face to face with under side of ribbon point B. Holding A and B together firmly, pull, forming a cone at center of short edge. See diagram of step 1. Fasten the two halves of the short edge with short strips of clear cellulose tape. Press tape firmly so that the gummed sides stick to themselves through the holes in the ribbon. A cone is thus formed. Release points A and B. See diagram of step 2. Keep the opening of cone facing down, and thread the cone point over the knitting needle standard. Form all strips through A - I as above, and arrange around "needle trunk."



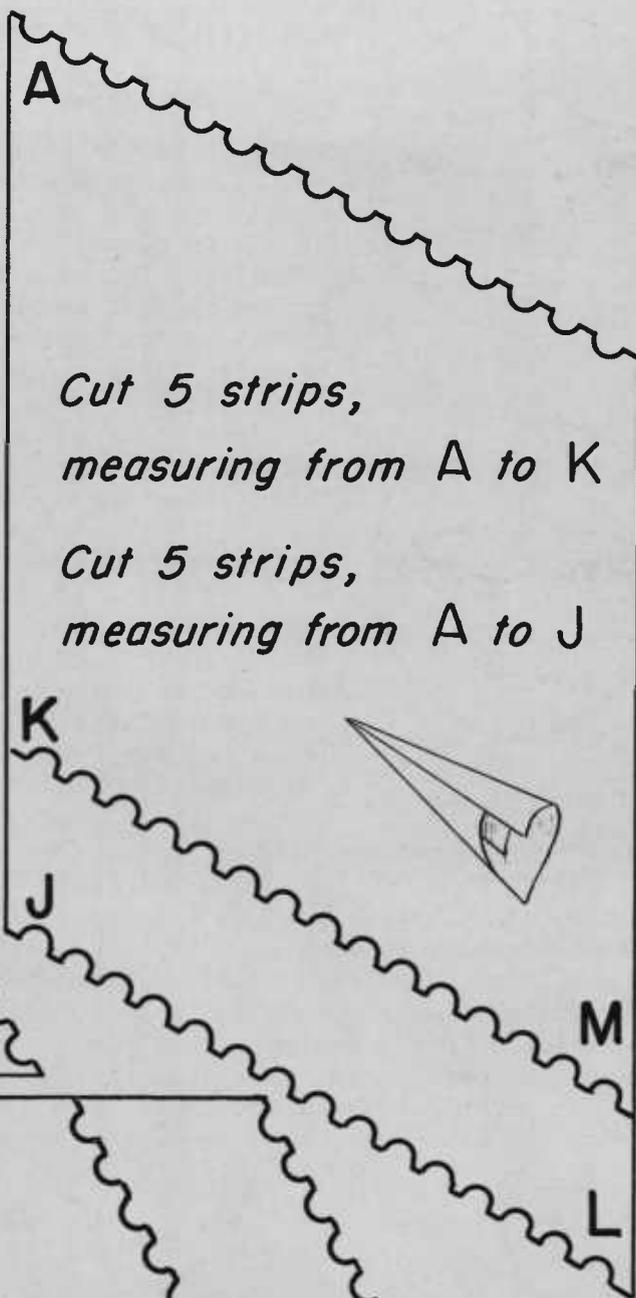
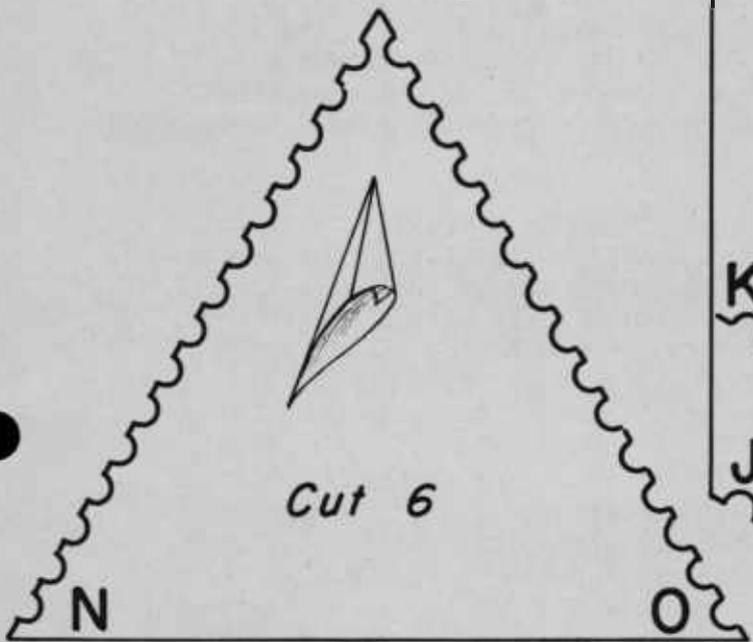
Step 1.



Step 2.

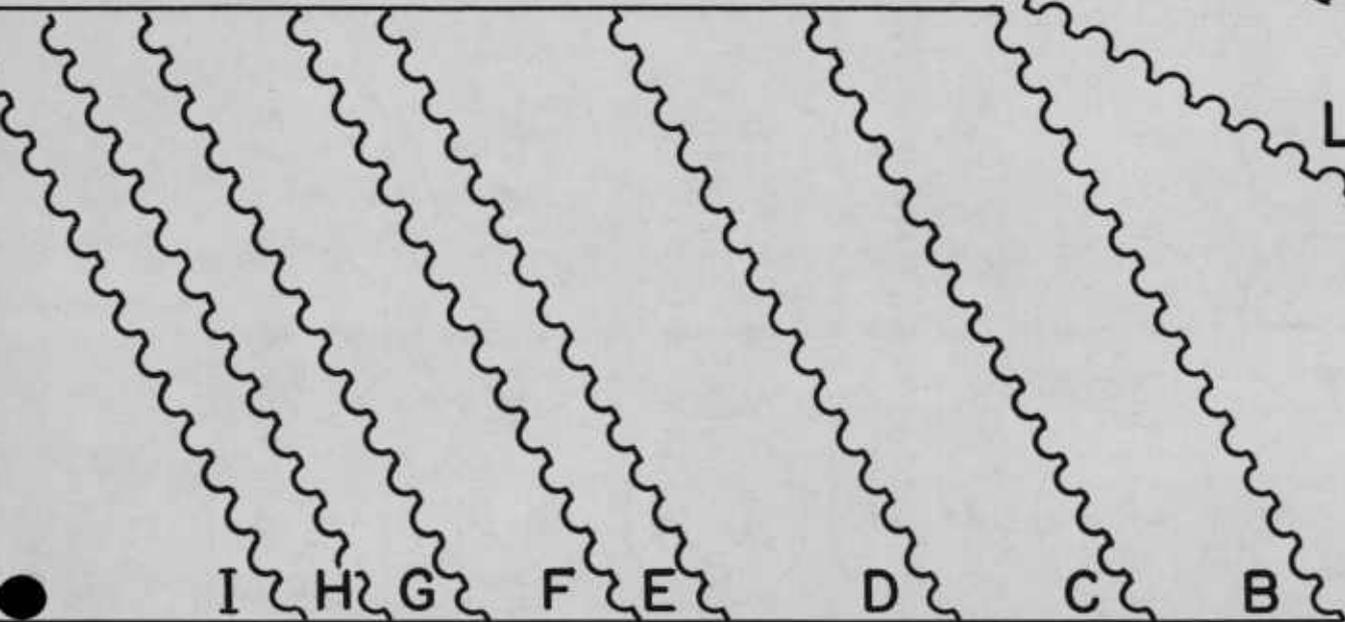
- Cut 5 strips, measuring from A to I*
- Cut 5 strips, measuring from A to H*
- Cut 5 strips, measuring from A to G*
- Cut 15 strips, measuring from A to F*
- Cut 5 strips, measuring from A to E*
- Cut 5 strips, measuring from A to D*
- Cut 6 strips, measuring from A to C*
- Cut 6 strips, measuring from A to*

With strips A J, lap side A J well over side of J L forming a cone -- tape and add to tree. With strips A K, lap side A K over side K M, tape, and add to tree. In smallest triangular strips, lap point N over point O forming cone, tape and add to tree. Wrap small rubber band many times around needle point to prevent cones slipping off. Bring points of last three cones added up together to form tree top and staple together. See figure 10. Hang 3 dozen tiny Christmas balls from tree points.

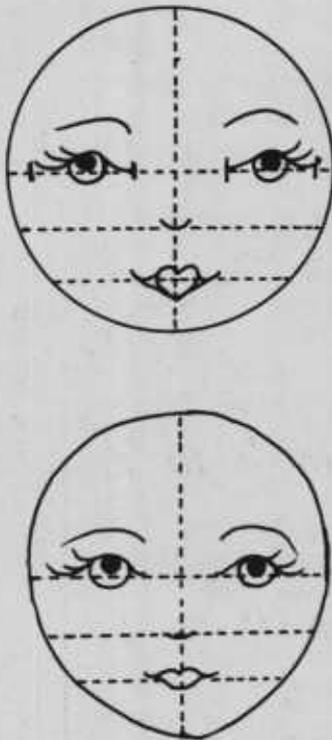


*Cut 5 strips,
measuring from A to K*

*Cut 5 strips,
measuring from A to J*



FEATURES FOR ANGELS AND OTHER FIGURES



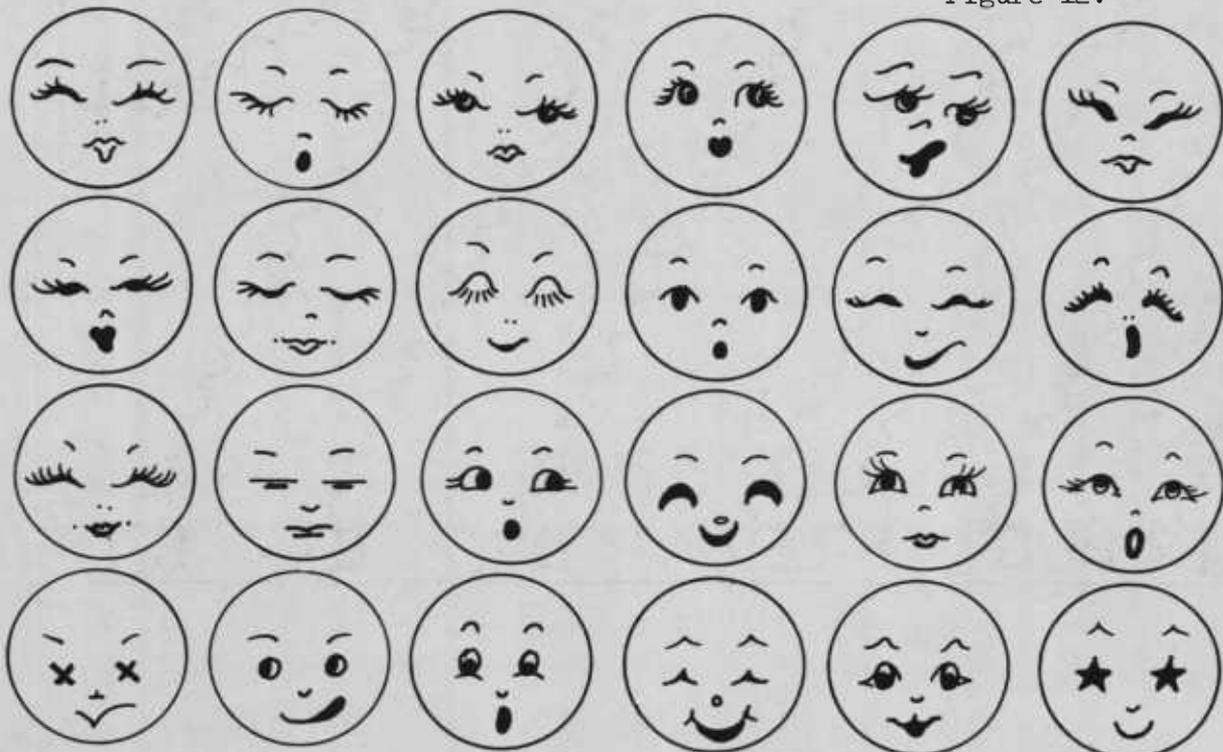
No attempt should be made to paint lifelike features on craft angels or dolls. Only the simplest type of features is desirable. However, correct placement is of the utmost importance. Any head, large or small, round or oval, should be divided in half. The eyes should be placed on this line--never above it, or below it. The size of the eye should be determined by the size of the head. Distance between the eyes should be the same as the length of the entire eye itself. Placing the eyes too close together gives the figure a mean, even cruel expression. The upper half of head should be mentally divided in fourths, and the eyebrows drawn in a gentle arch, one-fourth the distance above the eyes, and theoretically matching in length the eye, from corner to corner. The eyebrow length, however, may vary greatly to produce a variety of expressions as shown below.

The lower half of head should be divided into thirds. The nose is placed on the first one-third line below the eye, and the mouth on the second one-third line below the eye. For a mouth, start with a small heart, then draw upward curves from each side. See figure 11.

Figure 11.

Features may be painted on ping-pong balls with thin lacquer paints or India ink. A very fine 0000 or 00000 red sable brush should be used. The brush should be constantly dipped in thinner while painting fine features. Put the cheek color on by rubbing on a dry rouge with a bit of cotton. Plastic foam and cork balls may have features of sequins stuck on with pins. Wooden balls may be painted with any enamel-type paint or lacquer. Features also may be punched out of gummed "passe partout" with paper punches and glued in place. Hair may be made from curly angel hair, pot cleaners, ribbon, crepe paper, "crepe wool," yarn, embroidery floss, etc.

Figure 12.



GLASS-SIP ANGEL



Figure 13.

Continue until all 60 sips have been bound in. Twist the two wires to hold firmly. Count out 12 more sips for arms. Bind tightly close to each end. Hold the group of arm-sips directly over spot where wires from binding skirt were twisted. Using the remaining ends of wire, describe "figure 8's" over arms at center until they are bound firmly in place. Cut halo, collar, and wings from gold or silver base metal. Lay wings on pad of heavy newspapers and score as shown. Staple wings to arms as close to center as possible. Use a ping-pong ball for head. Pierce a hole in ball and force over the inch of pipe cleaner. Glue on curly angel hair and halo. Paint in features with lacquers. Spray lower half of sips with a clear plastic spray, and immediately sprinkle on non-tarnish silver glitter. See figure 13.

For the main body of the angel, count out sixty 8-1/2-inch glass-sips. Bend a heavy-weight chenille wire in half. Cover with glue to within 1 inch of top (the bend). Insert the two ends of the chenille wire into two glass-sips. Cut off an 18-inch length of covered spool wire and have ready. Stack 6 sips around first 2 and secure with wire, close to top, pulling the wire as tightly as possible. Stack 12 or 14 more sips around first group and again bind tightly with wire.

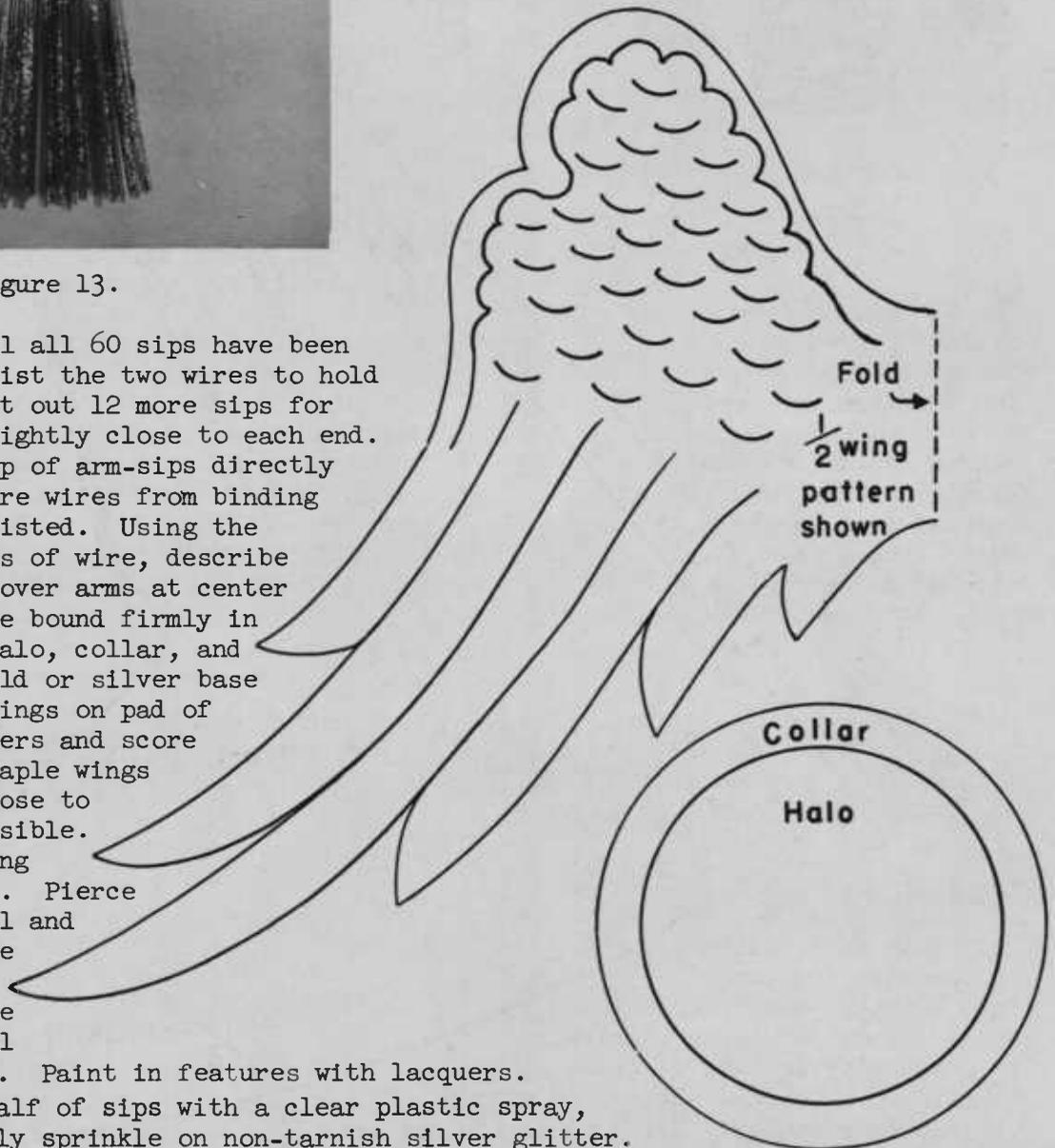


Figure 14.

TALL ACETATE AND BRAID ANGEL



Figure 15.

Cut skirt and collar from a 10-inch square of dark metallic acetate. Before fastening skirt together, decorate with twisted gold or silver cord as follows:

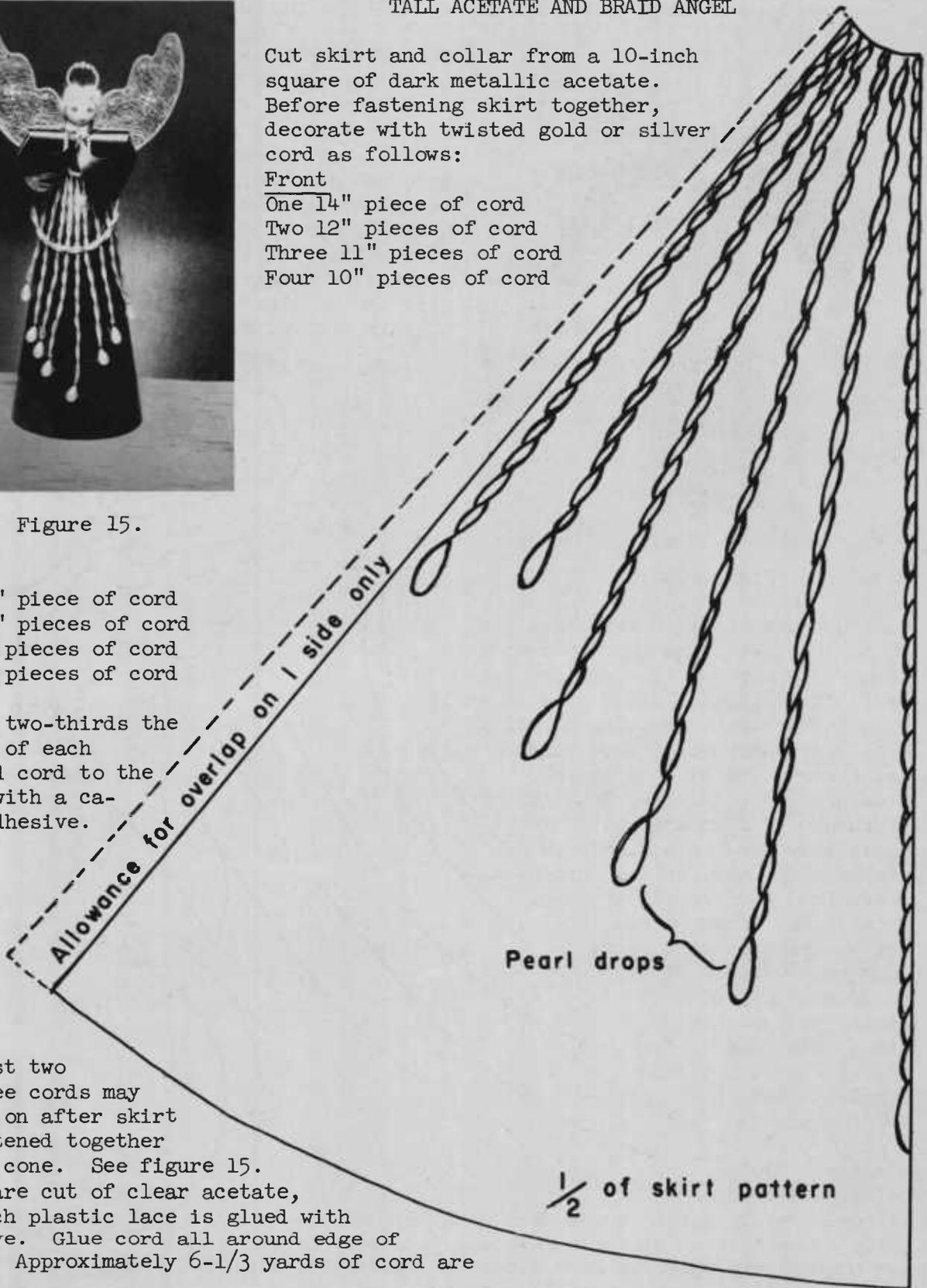
Front

- One 14" piece of cord
- Two 12" pieces of cord
- Three 11" pieces of cord
- Four 10" pieces of cord

Back

- One 14" piece of cord
- Two 12" pieces of cord
- Two 9" pieces of cord
- Two 8" pieces of cord

Fasten two-thirds the length of each twisted cord to the skirt with a casein adhesive.

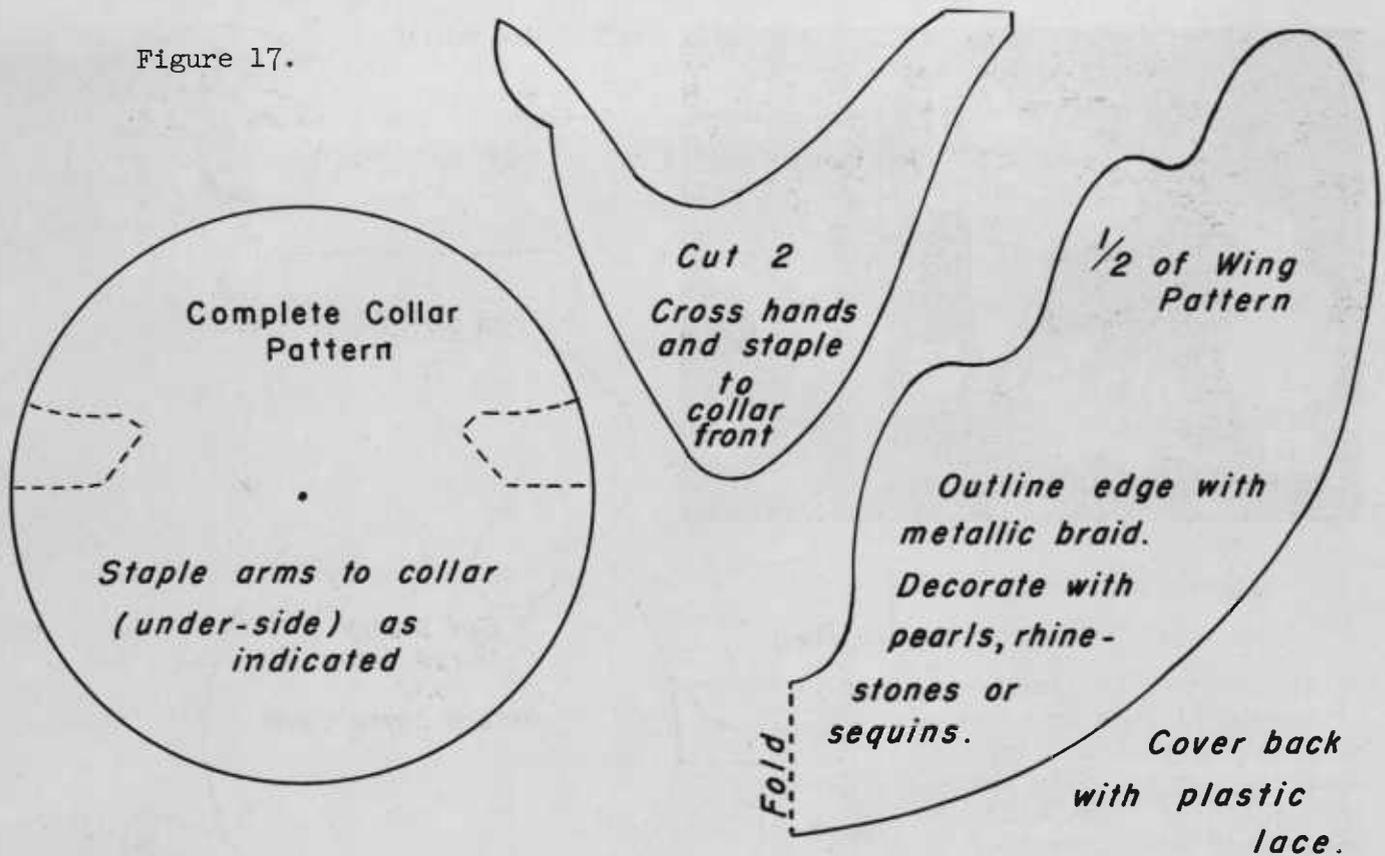


The last two or three cords may be put on after skirt is fastened together into a cone. See figure 15.

Wings are cut of clear acetate, to which plastic lace is glued with adhesive. Glue cord all around edge of wings. Approximately 6-1/3 yards of cord are needed.

Figure 16.

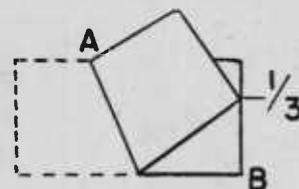
Figure 17.



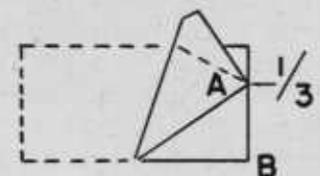
— How to cut a 5-pointed star —

1. Square of paper. Fold in $\frac{1}{2}$ & crease. Keep crease at bottom thruout folding.

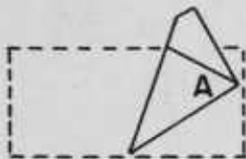
2. On right edge of fold mark $\frac{1}{3}$ from top.



3. Bring lower left corner to meet $\frac{1}{3}$ mark & crease.



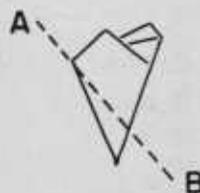
4. Next, fold A to $\frac{1}{3}$ mark also.



5. Fold "B" underneath A

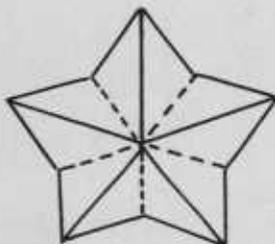


6. Completed folding



7. Turn folded form over and cut from B to A.

The slant of line A-B will determine the sharpness of the star points.



Dimensional star: Crease all dotted lines downward and all straight lines upward. Run a pipe-cleaner, to which has been attached a small Christmas ball, down thru center of star to form flower

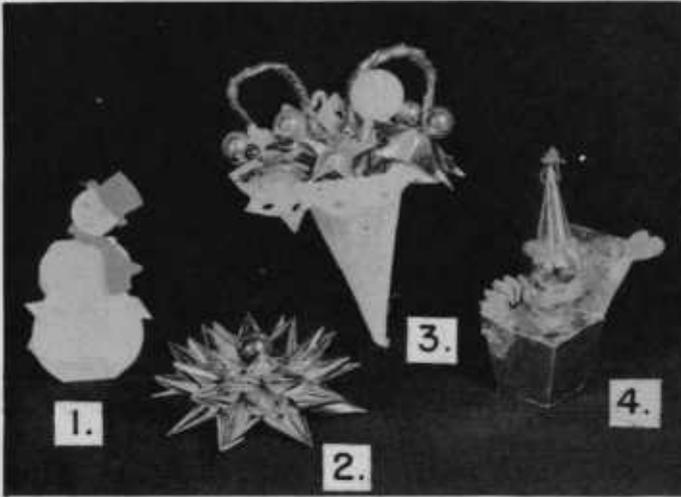
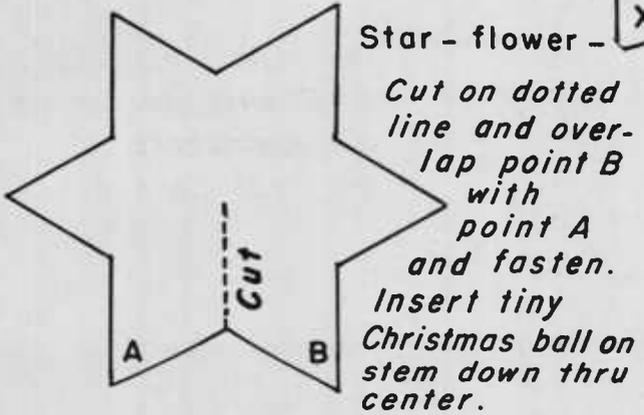
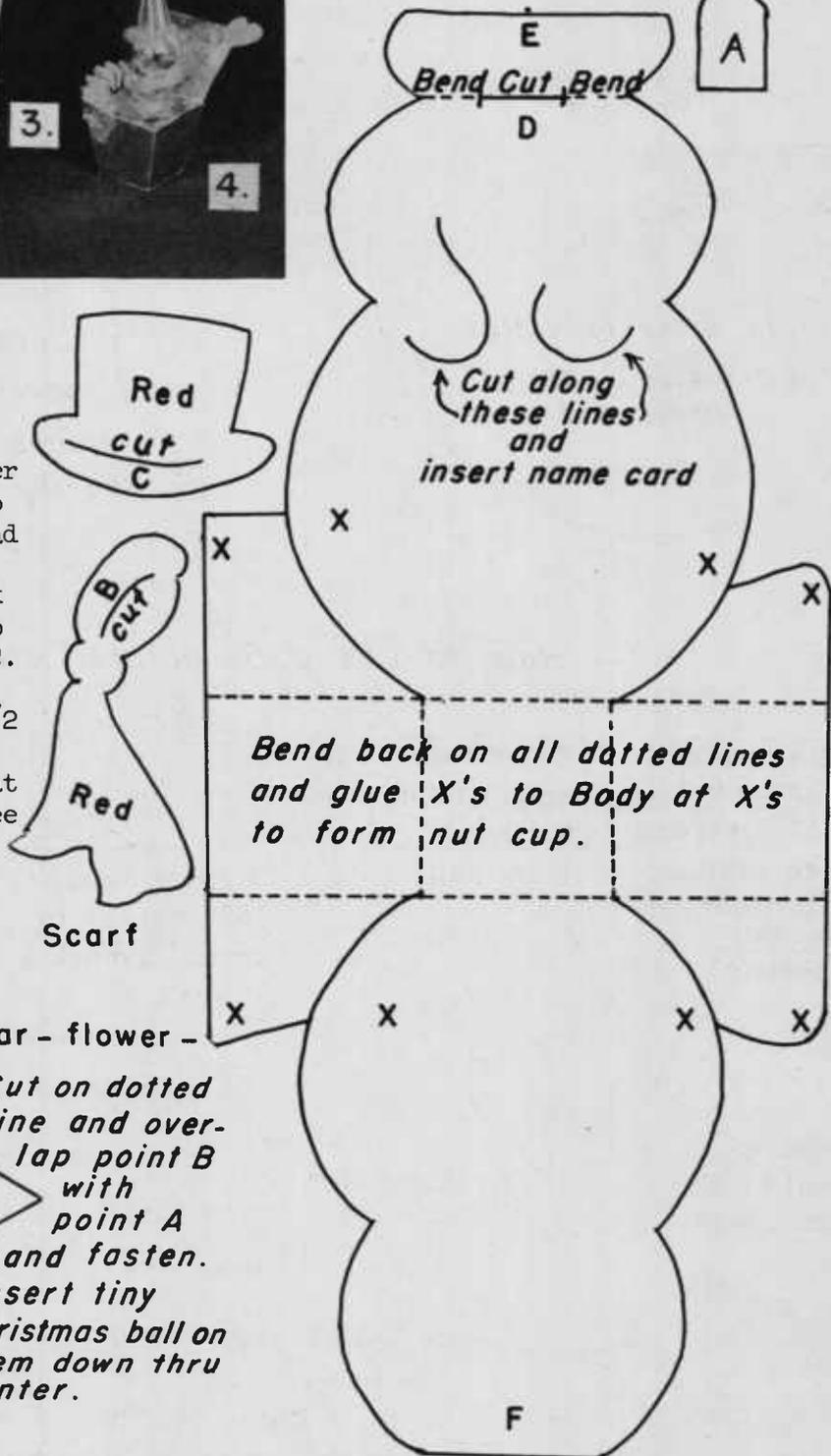


Figure 18.

Paint features on face with colored inks or water colors. Slip neck A into scarf at cut B. Slip head into cut D of front body. Bend tab E down over back body at F and glue. Slip hat over head along cut C. Cut yellow crepe paper about 1 inch wide by 1-1/2 inches long into pointed fringe. Tuck up under hat at one side and glue. See picture 1 in figure 18 above.

SNOWMAN NUTCUP
AND
PLACE CARD

Figure 19.

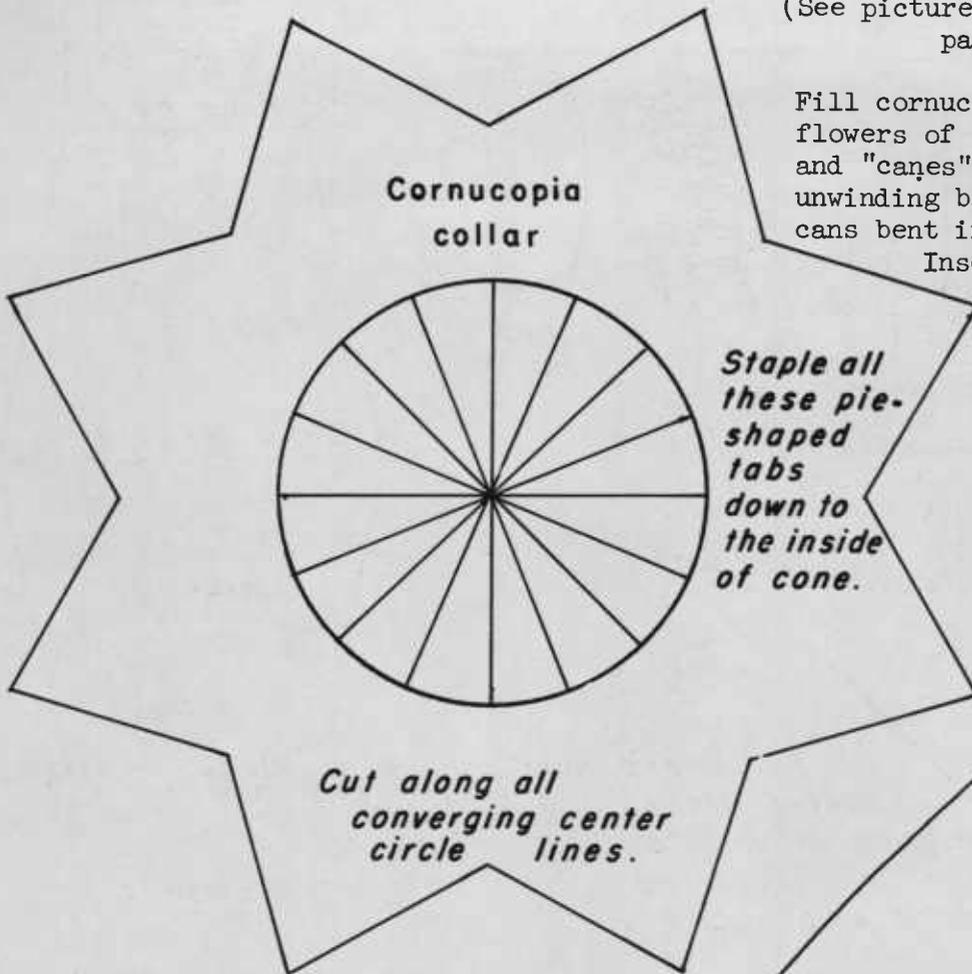


CORNUCOPIA

(See picture 3, figure 18, on page 14)

Fill cornucopia with star flowers of various sizes, and "canes" made from the unwinding bands from coffee cans bent into cane shape.

Insert a fuzzy pipe stem in each cane for more color.



Staple all these pie-shaped tabs down to the inside of cone.

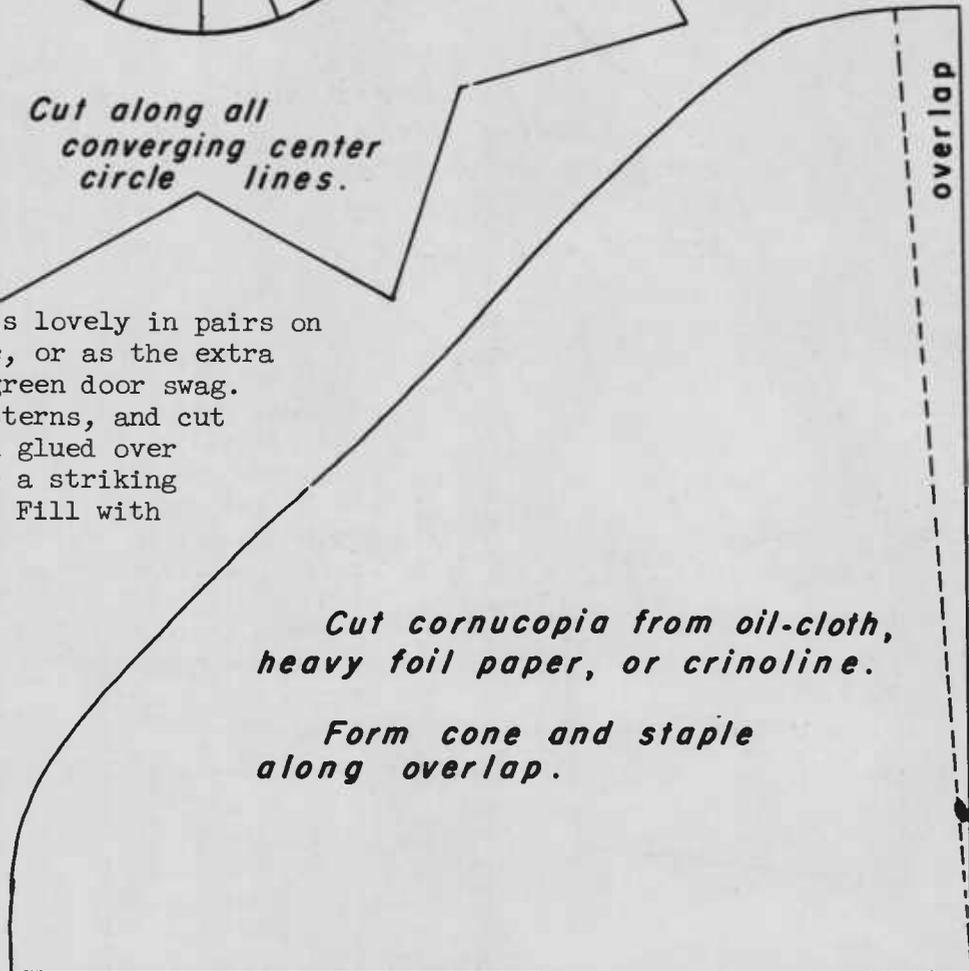
Cut along all converging center circle lines.

Figure 20.

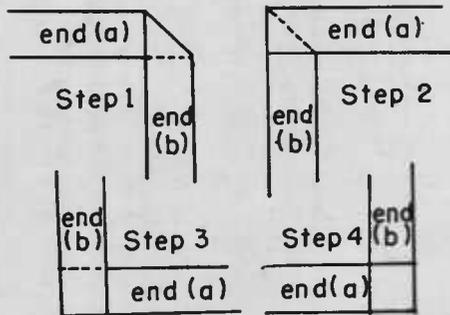
This decoration is lovely in pairs on a bare wall space, or as the extra touch to an evergreen door swag. Enlarge these patterns, and cut from red oilcloth glued over cardboard to make a striking door decoration. Fill with greens.

Cut cornucopia from oil-cloth, heavy foil paper, or crinoline.

Form cone and staple along overlap.



JACK-IN-THE-BOX FAVOR



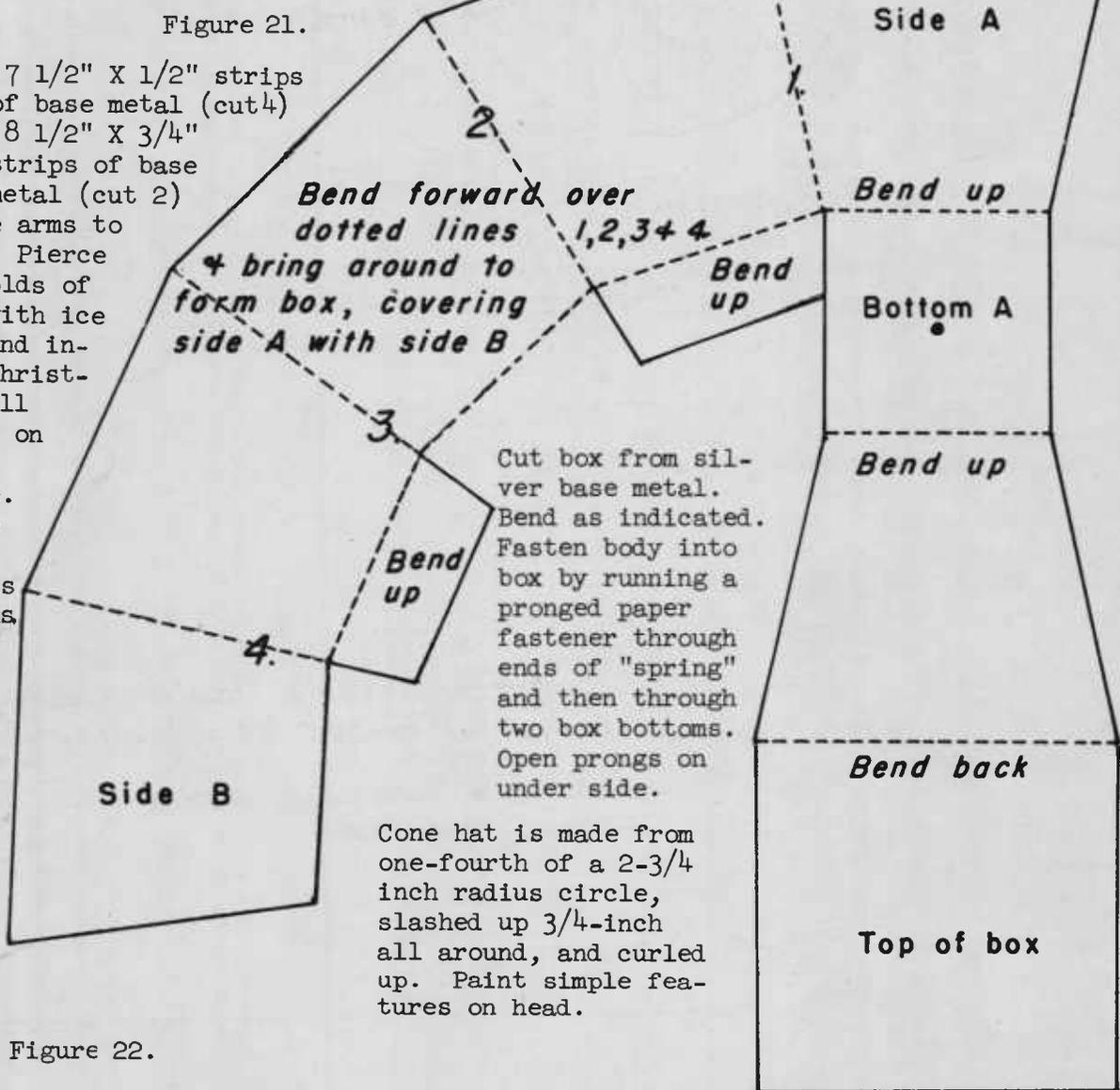
Fold in center at right angle (Step 1).
 Fold end (a) across end (b) (Step 2),
 then end (b) up over end (a), following
 Steps 3 and 4, and continue folding ends
 alternately, making gentle folds, *not*
sharp creases

Figure 21.

Arms: 7 1/2" X 1/2" strips
 of base metal (cut 4)

Body: 8 1/2" X 3/4"
 strips of base
 metal (cut 2)

Staple arms to
 body. Pierce
 top folds of
 body with ice
 pick and in-
 sert Christ-
 mas ball
 "head" on
 stem.
 Staple.
 Staple
 hands
 to ends
 of arms.



*Bend forward over
 dotted lines
 1,2,3,4 &
 bring around to
 form box, covering
 side A with side B*

Cut box from sil-
 ver base metal.
 Bend as indicated.
 Fasten body into
 box by running a
 pronged paper
 fastener through
 ends of "spring"
 and then through
 two box bottoms.
 Open prongs on
 under side.

Cone hat is made from
 one-fourth of a 2-3/4
 inch radius circle,
 slashed up 3/4-inch
 all around, and curled
 up. Paint simple fea-
 tures on head.

Figure 22.