

Nancy Page Club— Magic Vine Quilt

Block 7 Milkwort

One effect of the work on the magic vine quilt was to send the club members scurrying to their flower guide books and their botanies. They discovered that many a common, every-day flower seemed a stranger only when they heard of it by name. Take the milkwort, for instance. Most of them had seen this small flower, which grew low from a fleshy stem and from a base seemingly of broad, bright green leaves. These leaves turn a bronze red in the winter.

When the club members gathered for this meeting they had great tales to tell of the way in which their quilts were being admired. One member said that her sorority had asked her to make one for the sorority house in the nearby university. It was wanted to add the finishing touch to the guest room. Martha said that her church was waiting week by week for the patterns. The Ladies' Aid were planning on having the quilt for the next bazaar.

Josephine said she was making it for her guest room. Martha replied that any quilt on which she put as much work as this was going right into her own bedroom, where she could see it daily and admire her own handiwork. Lois was making her for her baby daughter Ann. She was already visioning it in their daughter's hope chest.

All of this the group chattered over as they cut out the square containing the day's pattern and pasted it to a square of light-weight cardboard or tag board. This was dried under pressure.

In the meantime the group cut their six and one-half-inch square of soft white Peter Pan gingham. It was on a square of this material that the flower was appliquéd. For the milkwort they chose a rather deep, but soft, pink piece of material. It was color fast, as were all the pieces chosen for the quilt. When the members were in doubt they washed a piece of the material to see how it laundered.

After the pattern was dry it was cut into its separate parts. There were two petals of the flower, cut in one piece, a small rounded piece, call the pouch. This terminated in antlers which are shown here as a solid pie shaped piece. They might well be made of fast color embroidery cotton in yellow.

The leaves and stem were cut from rather dark green gingham. This color is used for the stem and leaves on all of the vines in the first and third rows. The overlapping leaf which connects one block to another is cut from gingham of a lighter shade of green. In cutting, allow one-quarter inch on all sides for turning under. For the stem use a bias piece and cut it twice as wide as the pattern. Turn the raw edges back until they meet in the center. Baste in place. Baste and press all the various pieces.

Then pin in place on the six and one-half-inch square of white gingham. Baste and then appliqué with fine slanting, invisible hemming stitches. Wherever a dotted line is shown in the pattern there is an indication of a piece covered with a petal or stem.

The dotted outline of a part of a leaf shows where the overlapping leaf which connects the two blocks will eventually be placed. It is wise, the club members found, to have the leaf cut, basted and pressed. Then before stitching down the flower as shown in today's installment it is laid in place. This hides all rough edges. After the blue-eyed grass block and the milkwort block are seamed together the leaf is appliquéd.

Remember that this flower is duplicated in the third long vine so be sure to make two milkwort blocks.

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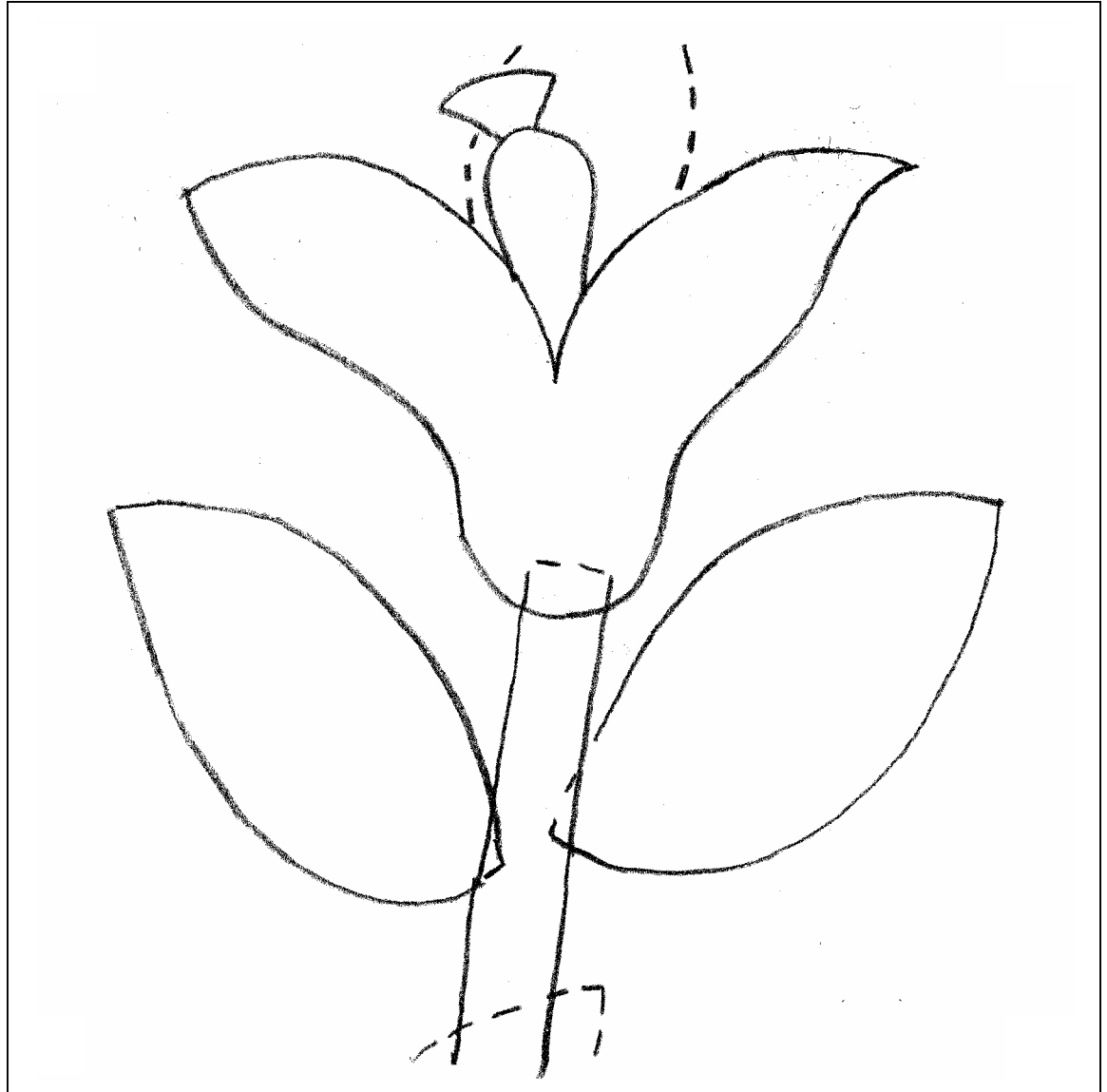
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