1961

Alii Nui Provides Last-Minute Gift Idea

Anne Collison
Iowa State University

Follow this and additional works at: http://lib.dr.iastate.edu/homemaker
Part of the Home Economics Commons

Recommended Citation
Available at: http://lib.dr.iastate.edu/homemaker/vol41/iss5/13

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Student Publications at Iowa State University Digital Repository. It has been accepted for inclusion in The Iowa Homemaker by an authorized editor of Iowa State University Digital Repository. For more information, please contact digirep@iastate.edu.
From the land of coconut palms and coral reefs emerges the muu-muu. The contribution of our 50th state is quickly becoming a college classic lounge and study uniform.

The muu-muu extends back into Hawaiian history to the coming of white missionaries to the islands. One story of its origin concerns two women—a very large native, who was the Alii Nui (religious and economic leader), and the wife of a missionary.

The Alii Nui, wanting to be civilized, demanded a dress like the white woman was wearing. Since the native woman weighed nearly 300 pounds, the missionary's wife made her a long, billowing, shapeless gown with a yoke and sleeves. Other women on the islands copied this style, and it became a traditional dress.

Another reason for the muu-muu's popularity in Hawaii is its comfort and coolness. The long tent-like garment is not binding and allows air to circulate under it.

The muu-muu spread to the United States and other countries, but until recently it was regarded as proper only for maternity wear.

The muu-muu rage hit several years ago in California. Women started wearing the muu-muu as a lounge dress, and some were worn on the street. The fad was picked up by college girls; and, overnight, brightly colored muu-muus bloomed in every dorm and sorority house across the nation.

Looking for a quick way to make a muu-muu without a pattern? This design requires four bath-size, printed, turkish towels. Your job will be easier if the towels are fringed at the edges since this eliminates hemming.

(Directions on p. 18)
There's still time to send Cheddar, Swiss Edam, and Blue cheeses. They'll be shipped prepaid anyplace in the U.S. by the DI department. And be sure to take home

IOWA STATE CHEESE

Dairy Industry salesroom in the DI Building

(Continued from p. 17)

1. Cut two towels lengthwise to obtain a 3/5 section of each towel.
2. Join these to form the back.
3. From the two thirds remaining, cut two lengthwise strips, 6 inches wide at the bottom decreasing to 3 inches wide below the sleeves to 1 inch wide at the neck. Keep the left side of one and the right side of the other piece on straight grain. (These will be the muu-muu sides.)
4. Cut 14 inches from each end of a towel and stitch each piece together to form the sleeves.
5. Join the edges of the sides cut on straight grain to one whole towel for the front. Join the edges of the sides cut on the bias to the back, and insert sleeves.
6. From the remaining scraps cut a yoke and facing 2 inches deep and wide enough to go over your head.
7. Gather the muu-muu onto the yoke, and hem the neck facing.

Now go back and study comfortably.

---

Reflections of firelight
Dance in her golden hair
As she bends to examine
The gifts of adoration,
The gifts we have given
To Him
Through her.

—JKW—

---

From the sky,
Cloudy white with pending blizzard,
Drift small clusters of pears and diamonds
Dropping silently upon the frozen earth.

Over the boughs,
Murky black with winter sleep,
Rest comforters of softest down
Sheltering the branches in their slumber.

Atop the roofs
Is spread a fluffy frosting,
An icing of most delicate flavor
To cover the spicy warmth within.

—JKW—

THE IOWA HOMEMAKER