1939

Let Personality Packages Trim Your Tree

Marjorie Thomas

Iowa State College

Follow this and additional works at: http://lib.dr.iastate.edu/homemaker

Part of the Home Economics Commons

Recommended Citation

Thomas, Marjorie (1939) "Let Personality Packages Trim Your Tree," The Iowa Homemaker: Vol. 19 : No. 4 , Article 3.
Available at: http://lib.dr.iastate.edu/homemaker/vol19/iss4/3

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.
Let Personality Packages Trim Your Tree

There's art in every modern wrapping, says Marjorie Thomas

Big red bows, shiny boxes and tiny sprigs of mistletoe arouse interest as mysterious packages appear beneath the Christmas tree, and wrapping gifts can just be as exciting. Make your presents individual and gay—give your imagination a workout, then don’t banish your masterpieces to the top shelf. Wrap your gifts early and put them out where everyone can admire and wonder and wish.

This year a wider variety of wrappings than ever before is available. Shops have plain and patterned cellophane, tissue and metallic papers; traditional designs appear in new colors and combinations; shaded, plaid and polka dot ribbons catch your eye; Scotch tape comes printed or in solid colors.

Tiny tinkling bells, midget sleighs, miniature wreaths and Christmas tree ornaments often give the needed “lift” to a package. Out-of-doors, one can find bittersweet, holly, mistletoe, twigs of Japanese barberry and pine cones.

For real individuality, block-print your own paper. Some women use plain wrapping paper and applique designs cut out of paper or formed with strips of Scotch tape. Many smart wrappings have resulted from a raid on the scrap bag. Odds and ends of gingham, cretonne, organdie or chintz can be used effectively. Hoarded rolls of wall paper and artificial flowers may turn out to be valuable.

When you sit down to wrap your gifts, be sure to include a ruler and a pair of scissors in your equipment. If both are within easy reach you will find much easier to resist that temptation to use a whole sheet of paper for a small package—and to fold it over and over and OVER. Measure the box carefully, cut your paper to fit, wrap and fasten securely, then add the furbelows!

Clever ways of solving the problem of the cylindrical package answer a perennial problem. For a truly glamorous effect, try encircling it with a piece of transparent wrapping several times as long as the carton. Fasten underneath with a seal, then “shir” the cellophane down on the carton. Leave about six inches above the lid to draw together with a big bow and spread the edges out in a glistening top-knot.

Many surprise wrappings can be worked out for gifts which can be rolled and tucked into a cylinder. For a truly glamorous effect, try encircling it with a piece of transparent wrapping several times as long as the carton. Fasten underneath with a seal, then “shir” the cellophane down on the carton. Leave about six inches above the lid to draw together with a big bow and spread the edges out in a glistening top-knot.

Ordinary paper bags afford an amusing solution to those hard-to-handle gifts just not intended for boxes. Tie the gifts in bags, use the top of each for hair and paste on features for “funny face” wrappings. Make a doll by using a large bag for the body and a smaller one for the head. Tie them together at the neckline. You can design all sorts of gay paper skirts for Sue—and we’ll wager kid sister will agree that you are a clever wrapper-upper.

After all the time you have spent in planning and wrapping your gifts, they deserve protection in mailing. First put the package in a sturdy box large enough to hold it and leave room for padding all around. Cut a collar of cardboard to protect the bow and pad again. With this treatment even a fragile gift should arrive unbroken, with its dress as gay and sparkling as when you sent it on its way.

Petite figures made of pipe cleaners ride this novel Christmas sleigh package of bright cellophane and banded ribbon.

December, 1939