

# VINTAGE NOTIONS GATHERING GUIDE ~ JANUARY

**NEW YEAR BEGINNINGS:** The following are project ideas that coordinate with **Amy Barickman's Vintage Notions: An Inspirational Guide to Needlework, Cooking, Sewing, Fashion & Fun.**

**SEWING JOURNAL:** Read Opening Essay & Inspiration Department (page 17-19) to get in the mood for your first project. Start the year by creating a unique and fun sewing journal. Use a standard composition notebook and label the first four pages as follows: What you want to LEARN; What you want to MAKE; What you want to SHARE or TEACH; and What you want to GIVE. This gives one PURPOSE for the year! This is a great project that can be used all year. **ALTERNATE:** Write each "What you want to..." idea on a piece of paper and put into an envelope. Open at the end of the year to see your progress. It's a time capsule to track your creative processes throughout the year.

**Suggested Cross-sell Options:**

- Use IJ882, Composition Covers to create covers for your journals. Perfect for selling fleece, fat quarters, trims (piping, rick-rack, ribbon, etc) and is a great palette for machine embroidery.

**REPURPOSE A MANS DRESS SHIRT:** See Magic Pattern: Men's Shirts Put to Feminine Use (pages 30-31) in Vintage Notions for instructions to create an apron from a man's shirt. This is a perfect one evening class for beginner sewing!

**Suggested Cross-sell Options:**

- Suggest variations like coordinating fabric trim or pockets. Showcase store trims for edging: bias, rick-rack, lace, ruffling. Demo techniques for lower edge variation: ruffle, pleating, ball fringe, etc.
- Demo embroidery on the apron yoke using machine embroidery or hand stitching.
- Add a monogram - showcase any applique or other monogramming techniques/products
- Variation: Create a child's apron using the sample instructions.

**DESIGN A HAT:** See Department of Millinery (page 20) in Vintage Notions for ideas to embellish & create a hat. Have everyone bring a vintage hat to share. Discuss the trend of wearing hats and how that has changed over the years.

**Suggested Cross-sell Options:**

- Try IJ893, Yo-Yo Blooms, IJ894, My Garden Zips or IJ895, Zipper Jewels for fun embellishments. Can be used with Z100 or Z101 - Zipper Accents - zipper trim yardage from Indygo Junction.

**HOW TO REMODEL PAST FROCKS:** See Sewing Department (page 28-29) in Vintage Notions for ideas to remodel old clothes by adding new fabrics. Have everyone bring their favorite garment or accessory that they no longer wear (too big, too small, outdated, etc.). Brainstorm with your group how to remodel, repurpose or upcycle this item to make it wearable or useable today.

**Suggested Cross-sell Options:**

- Use IJ1068, Denim Redesign, IJ1076, Hankie Style or IJ795, Restyled Shirts to show options for adding new fun fabrics to recycled denim or restyled button shirts to create a whole new look.

**REPURPOSE MENSWARE:** Have everyone bring in their favorite man's tie to create two fun projects - IJ879, Turn-a-Tie Flower (uses the small end of the tie) & IJ881, Tie Pocket Pouch (uses the large end).

**Suggested Cross-sell Options:**

- Use IJ879, Turn-a-Tie Flowers & IJ881, Tie Pocket Pouch

# VINTAGE NOTIONS GATHERING GUIDE ~ FEBRUARY

**A THIMBLEFUL OF LOVE:** The following are project ideas that coordinate with **Amy Barickman's Vintage Notions: An Inspirational Guide to Needlework, Cooking, Sewing, Fashion & Fun** for the month of February.

**THE UNDERSTANDING HEART:** Read Opening Essay (page 37-38) to get in the mood for your first project. Plan for a discussion on how someone's love has influenced your well being and share this with the group. Plan to exchange handmade Valentine's with your VN Gathering Group. These can be made of fabric or paper. This could be done ahead of time (one for each member) or as a make-and-take project the night of the Gathering (create a single Valentine per member).

**Suggested Cross-sell Options:**

- Show techniques for stitching on paper to create Valentine cards - by hand or by machine. Showcase any embellishments - ie buttons, trims, appliques, ribbons, etc that can be used to make Valentine cards.
- Share a "shop" Valentine with each member that gives a discount coupon or code.

**A MAGIC LINGERIE SET:** See Magic Pattern: A Magic Lingerie Set (pages 48-49) in Vintage Notions for instructions to create a handmade lingerie set.

**Suggested Cross-sell Options:**

- Use IJ806, Asian Night PJ's or IJ841, Boudoir Basics to show different options for creating your own pajamas. Try IJ840, Modern Housecoat or IJ887, Klassic Kimono for a robe option.
- Discuss using different types of fabrics that can be used to create pajamas.
- Refer to Department of Fashion (pg 46) to discuss embellishments for undergarments.

**SWEET TREATS:** See Instruction Department and Department of Cookery (pages 43-45) in Vintage Notions for sweet treat ideas for Valentine's Day. Have all the members of your Gathering group bring their favorite dessert recipe. Compile all the recipes into a PDF and email to the group.

**Suggested Cross-sell Options:**

- Share patterns you carry that will help in the kitchen - ie hot pads, oven mitts, casserole carriers, etc. Demo different types of interfacing that are insulated to protect hands from the heat.
- Use IJ1041, Postcards from the Past for a Valentine's Day table runner.

**HER HOME, HER CASTLE:** See Department of Inspiration (page 39) in Vintage Notions for inspiration on how a warm and welcoming home helps us measure our lives not in "how much we have or don't have" but in terms of what gives us joy. Discuss how the current economic hardship has allowed us to see the true joy found in our homes and family.

**Suggested Cross-sell Options:**

- Use IJ843, Pillow Party or IJ844, Changing Seasons to introduce members to creating their own home decor pillows. Pillow Party features techniques on different types of treatments (box pleating, button flaps, etc) while Changing Seasons features wool applique.

**UNDERGARMENTS:** See Amy B's Vintage Advice (page 40) for a comical article on the undergarments of the past - corsets! While this may be a difficult topic to approach, a properly fitting bra is a very important topic for many women. Share with the group the different products you may have - bra extenders, underwires, stretch lace - along with tips/techniques to help a bra fit better.

# VINTAGE NOTIONS GATHERING GUIDE ~ MARCH

**A THIMBLEFUL OF CHEERFULNESS:** The following are project ideas that coordinate with **Amy Barickman's Vintage Notions: An Inspirational Guide to Needlework, Cooking, Sewing, Fashion & Fun** for the month of March.

**HONEST PURPOSE:** Read Opening Essay (page 55-56) to get in the mood for new spring projects. Plan for a discussion on how honest purpose drives the creative force of inner happiness. Discuss the new spring fabrics that have arrived in your shop and how the new colors/textures can itself be motivation to start a new project to "keep your heart young and free and happy"(pg 56).

**Suggested Cross-sell Options:**

- Have a display of your new fabric selections in the store
- Discuss how customers can get the latest updates from your store via email or newsletter.

**THE SLIP-OVER APRON:** See Magic Pattern: The Slip-Over Apron (pages 64-65) in Vintage Notions for instructions to create an apron. Have a staff member create this apron ahead of time using new shop fabrics and contrasting bias tape.

**Suggested Cross-sell Options:**

- IJ873, All-Day Apron or IJ872, Rick Rack Apron are alternative vintage style aprons available.
- Demonstrate creating handmade bias tape using the tools your shop carrying (ie. Simplicity Bias Tape Cutter and Maker, Clover bias tape tools and/or show how to make continuous bias by hand. Note many of Indygo Junction apron patterns featuring bias tape include instructions for this.
- This pattern also refers to using a French Seam. Demo this for customers.

**PLANNING MEALS WITHOUT MEAT:** See Department of Cookery (pages 62-63) in Vintage Notions for meatless meal ideas and tips. While these meals were originally created due to short meat supplies, vegetarian meals are created mostly by choice today. Discuss how healthy vegetarian cooking can be created today.

**Suggested Cross-sell Options:**

- Share favorite meals and how they can be enhanced/alterd to become vegetarian. Compile these recipes into an email to send to your group.
- Urban gardens and local farmers markets are all the rage. Discuss how to grow vegetables and herbs indoors for urban cooking. Share with each other the best local farmers markets.

**MONOGRAMS:** See Department of Sewing (page 60-619) in Vintage Notions for discussion of monograms and their uses. Monograms are very much in vogue. Discuss where to use monograms and proper letter arrangement. For example, does letter size or marital status determine monograms today (3 letter vs 2 letter)? Discuss the different patterns you carry that are perfect for monograms - linens, clothing, baby gift items, quilts, etc.

**Suggested Cross-sell Options:**

- Use IJ843, Pillow Party (monogram a pillow) or IJ1076, Hankie Style (monogram a tote bag) to show "canvases" perfect for monogramming.
- Demo the different types of thread you have available for machine or hand sewing a monogram. Demo your embroidery machines showing different font options, sizes, etc. For those who prefer hand sewing, show some samples of this technique as well.
- Demo transfer methods for monograms you carry (pencils, chalks, transfer papers) along with fabric stabilizers for embroidery.

# VINTAGE NOTIONS GATHERING GUIDE ~ APRIL

**A THIMBLEFUL OF YOUTHFULNESS:** The following are project ideas that coordinate with **Amy Barickman's Vintage Notions: An Inspirational Guide to Needlework, Cooking, Sewing, Fashion & Fun** for the month of April.

**JUST AMONG OURSELVES:** Read testimonials (page 87) to get inspired to become creative this year. Plan for a discussion on the quote "If a woman wants her own money badly enough, she'll find a way to earn it" (pg. 87). Discuss in your group different avenues members have found to sell their handmade goods - from online stores to consignment.

**Suggested Cross-sell Options:**

- Share with the members any sewing or consignment opportunities you may have in your store
- Consider offering a discount on supplies to members willing to make samples for the store or teach classes.

**THE FABRIC FLOWER:** See Magic Pattern: The Fabric Flower (pages 84-85) in Vintage Notions for instructions to create this darling accessory item. Have a staff member create the flower ahead of time using specialty fabrics the store carries.

**Suggested Cross-sell Options:**

- Share with the members new types of fabric they might not be familiar with using ie. voile, chiffon, georgette or other delicate fabrics.
- Offer other accessory patterns: My Garden Zips - IJ984; Zipper Jewelry - IJ895; or Yo-Yo Blooms - IJ893.

**WHEN BIRTHDAYS COME AROUND:** See Department of Cookery (pages 78-79) in Vintage Notions for birthday celebration ideas and cake baking tips. Have staff member create the cake and icing to celebrate members birthdays.

**Suggested Cross-sell Options:**

- Share favorite birthday stories. Did someone have an unusual cake or special recipe prepared every year? Compile favorite cake recipes and email to the group.
- Compile everyone's birthday and have a monthly card exchange. Members each agree to send a postcard or birthday card to members on the list.

**PATCHWORK & APPLIQUE:** See Department of Sewing (page 76-77) in Vintage Notions for discussion of patchwork and quilting. Discuss the article and possibly a bit of the history of quilting with your group. Ask members to bring in their favorite quilt or appliqued item to share with the group.

**Suggested Cross-sell Options:**

- Use IJ896, Whirlygig Quilt to show a quilt that shows off fabric.
- Demo the different types of applique methods including the 5 stitch types in the book. Demo other methods your store provides - wonder-under, heat-n-bond, etc.
- Provide members with your class schedule (if applicable) of any quilting classes you may provide
- Discuss creating a quilting bee - group that meets one a week to once a month to work on hand quilting or piecing together.
- Showcase your different types of patterns that using quilting or applique: IJ805, Grids & Grommets (quilted purse); IJIJ871, Cozy Quilted Coat (pieced and quilted jacket); IJ888, Petal Blossom Bag (quilted and appliqued purse).

# VINTAGE NOTIONS GATHERING GUIDE ~ MAY

**A THIMBLEFUL OF FAITH:** The following are project ideas that coordinate with **Amy Barickman's Vintage Notions: An Inspirational Guide to Needlework, Cooking, Sewing, Fashion & Fun** for the month of May.

**CHILD FAITH:** Read Mary's essay (page 91) to get inspired to be more thoughtful in differentiating our needs from our wants and learning the peace of spirit and stillness of thoughts that comes with this "child faith".

**Suggested Cross-sell Options:**

- Create a work journal to prioritize the "projects" you want to make.
- Discuss having a stash swap night where members bring in fabric they want to trade or donate.

**THE MAGIC SCARF:** See Magic Pattern: A Magic Scarf for Every Mood (pages 98-99) in Vintage Notions for instructions to create the perfect accessory. Scarves have been and continue to be an important accessory item. This one can easily be created in a night.

**Suggested Cross-sell Options:**

- Share with the members fabrics you carry that are perfect for this project including coordinating light cottons, batiks, knits, silks, etc.
- Demo different types of edging for the scarf: serging, bias binding, decorative trims, etc that you have in the store. Also, show off the tools - ie cutting tools, etc - you use to create the scarf.

**COOKING WITH COLD:** See Department of Cookery (pages 94-95) in Vintage Notions for tasty cooking with cold recipes. In 1932, the new "ice box" was just starting to be found in kitchens across the US. Now they are a staple in almost every kitchen. Share with your group some favorite cold dishes or ways you use your "ice box" to help prepare a meal.

**Suggested Cross-sell Options:**

- Create a fabric cook book. Demo using printable fabrics to "write" recipes. Then sew them together into a booklet. Maybe each member could create multiples of their recipe and then trade with group members to make a unique cookbook.
- Discuss how other modern appliances have changed the way we do things around the house including the sewing machine, serger, embroidery machine, etc. Show off your latest sewing tools and demo how they will make life easier for the group members.

**EVERY WOMANS HOUSE - HER CASTLE:** See Amy B's Vintage Advice (page 96) in Vintage Notions for discussion of how to have a peaceful home. Discuss the article and brainstorm ways you could get more peace in your home. Discuss how decorating a room can make your home a "shrine to womanliness". Even something as simple as adding pillows can change a room's feel. Remember to take time for yourself to relax - try sewing, knitting, crafting, etc.

**Suggested Cross-sell Options:**

- Showcase patterns your store carries that are home decor: IJ843, Pillow Party; IJ844, Everyday Dish Towels; IJ861, PJ Pet Pillows (for children).
- Show or discuss the different types of pillow forms or stuffing you may have or that is best to use.
- Create a make-n-take project for a relaxation pillow or heatable wrap.
- Suggest other crafts members might not have tried but you might carry supplies for - knitting, crocheting, tatting, embroidery, etc. Give a discount to members who would like to try something new or create a starter kit.

# VINTAGE NOTIONS GATHERING GUIDE ~ JUNE

**A THIMBLEFUL OF FRIENDSHIP:** The following are project ideas that coordinate with **Amy Barickman's Vintage Notions: An Inspirational Guide to Needlework, Cooking, Sewing, Fashion & Fun** for the month of June.

**WHAT KIND OF NEIGHBOR ARE YOU?:** Read Mary's essay (page 109) to learn more on the benefits of being friendly with your neighbors both to them and to yourself.

**Suggested Cross-sell Options:**

- Have a "Neighbors" night at your "Vintage Notions Gathering". Provide group members with invitations to pass out to their neighbors along with suggestions on "show-and-tell" items they can bring to share with the group.
- Discuss neighborhood needs any group members might have - ie. home-bound neighbors, single parents, elderly, etc. Brainstorm sewing projects members can work on together to donate to these neighbors - ie. lap quilts, journal covers, etc.

**THE MAGIC SUMMER PURSE:** See Magic Pattern: Making a Summer Purse (pages 120-121) in Vintage Notions for instructions to create the perfect summer clutch & matching coin purse.

**Suggested Cross-sell Options:**

- Share with the members different stabilizers you have. Pattern calls for buckram - offer a substitute or tutorial on the "A, B, C's of stabilizers".
- Demo different types of embellishments and/or closures you could use. Add embroidery details, pockets or dimensional flowers. Show magnetic closures, velcro and button/loop closures.

**DEPARTMENT OF INSPIRATION:** See article Constructive Play for Summer Days (pages 122) in Vintage Notions for tips on sewing with children. Share with your group any children's sewing classes and offer a discount on any member who's child takes a class..

**Suggested Cross-sell Options:**

- Plan a special "show-and-tell" children's session. Invite local sewing classes/home economics classes from local schools. Encourage your members to become mentors for the children.
- Contact local girls groups (Girl Scouts, Boys & Girls Clubs, etc) and pair up members with children to become mentors. Encourage them to teach/learn about sewing, knitting, crochet, crafting, etc.

**DEPARTMENT OF COOKERY:** See recipes for Dainty Summer Refreshments (pages 116-117). Serve to the members in your group for a refreshing treat.

**Suggested Cross-sell Options:**

- Encourage members to share their favorite drink recipes. Compile them in a document and share with the group.

**INSTRUCTION DEPARTMENT:** Read article Simple Embroideries for the Porch (pages 114-115). Discuss the projects listed and how you can create modern projects for your porch or outdoor space.

**Suggested Cross-sell Options:**

- Show the group all of the hand embroidery tools, patterns and supplies you have in stock. Try Indigo Junction's AB12301, A Stitch in Time with Mother Goose. This book has a coordinating fabric line from Red Rooster fabrics that includes a "cheater panel" that customers can stitch on
- Have members practice the stitches from this article. Provide them with thread, needle and needle case samples. Have a make-and-take needlecase project for the group.

# VINTAGE NOTIONS GATHERING GUIDE ~ JULY

**A THIMBLEFUL OF BEAUTY:** The following are project ideas that coordinate with **Amy Barickman's Vintage Notions: An Inspirational Guide to Needlework, Cooking, Sewing, Fashion & Fun** for the month of July.

**DEPARTMENT OF INSTRUCTION:** Read *Profiting from the Pajama Mode* (pages 132-133). PJ's were a fashion statement in the 1920's and they continue to be today. Have a pajama party in your store. Everyone wears PJ's and sews all night!

**Suggested Cross-sell Options:**

- Discuss with the group fabrics you carry that are perfect for pajamas including flannels, silks/satins, cottons, etc. Try Indygo Junction patterns: IJ841, Boudoir Basics, IJ887, Klassic Kimono or IJ842, Jack & Jill Jammies.

**THE MAGIC SUMMER FROCK:** See *Magic Pattern: Magic Bias Slip for Summer Frocks* (pages 138-139) in *Vintage Notions* for instructions to create this bias slip.

**Suggested Cross-sell Options:**

- Discuss with group ways to embellish this frock.
- Demo different types of embellishments and/or closures you could use. Add embroidery details, pockets or dimensional flowers. Show magnetic closures, velcro and button/loop closures.

**JUST AMONG OURSELVES:** Read testimonials (pages 141) in *Vintage Notions* for inspiring stories of how women in the past have turned their domestic arts skills into money for their family. Share with your group patterns and classes that can help them start a sewing business.

**Suggested Cross-sell Options:**

- Discuss patterns you sell that grant permission for people to make-and-sell the items. Upon request, Indygo Junction grants permission for most of our patterns (up to ten items) to be made to sell for profit. Forms are available on our website under Copyrights & Terms of Use.
- Plan a "craft sale" hosted at your store. Invite local crafters to participate.

**DEPARTMENT OF COOKERY:** See recipes for *Frozen Dessert for Warm Weather* (pages 130-131). Have an ice cream social at your store. Make homemade ice cream using the recipes in the book or a recipe shared in your group. Have everyone bring a topping to mix in.

**Suggested Cross-sell Options:**

- Encourage members to share their favorite cold dessert recipes. Compile them in a document and share with the group.
- Create an "ice cream cone" applique. Provide it as a make and take project. Share with the group any applique products you have available at the store such as Heat-n-Bond or other stabilizers.

**INSPIRATION DEPARTMENT:** Read article *Beauty Spots* (pages 127-128). Discuss the challenges we face today to find our own "beauty spots" and how your group has helped you with this.

**Suggested Cross-sell Options:**

- Find beauty in fabric. Share your current favorite fabrics and have the members do the same. Make up a list of these "favs". Provide a discount for those who want to purchase off the favs list.
- Do the same with patterns in the store. Which patterns bring you a spot of beauty? Fashion accessories (*Mixed Metal Zips* - IJ906), garments (*Chic Cowl Neck Shift* - IJ908) or toys (*Miniature Menagerie* - IJ902)

# VINTAGE NOTIONS GATHERING GUIDE - AUGUST

**A THIMBLEFUL OF FUN:** The following are project ideas that coordinate with **Amy Barickman's Vintage Notions: An Inspirational Guide to Needlework, Cooking, Sewing, Fashion & Fun** for the month of August

**DEPARTMENT OF INSPIRATION:** Mary Brooks Picken said "Play makes for better work and easier work, for in reality, healthy playing is cooperating with oneself toward a better expression of life and love." Discuss how with your members how you add play to your daily life. Read article on Importance of Play (page 147).

**Suggested Cross-sell Options:**

- Share with the group fun tools & supplies you have available that are fun to "play" with. For example, Clover yo-yo makers (Yo-Yo Monkey - IJ862); Zipper Accents (My Garden Zips - IJ894).

**DEPARTMENT OF COOKERY:** Read the Picnic Lunch (page 148-149). Take your members on a field trip to have a picnic lunch. Have a picnic potluck at your store and share favorite recipes. Compile these into a newsletter to share with all your store's mailing list along with favorite summertime patterns.

**Suggested Cross-sell Options:**

- Share with them patterns created for food or lunch (Lunch Bunch - IJ897). Discuss food safety products like PUL. Share samples with the group if you carry this product.
- Demo different types of kitchen related products you have like PUL, insulated fleece or batting.

**DEPARTMENT OF MILLINERY:** Read Hats for Vacation Needs (pages 153). Discuss with your members how hats are making a comeback. Since the "royal wedding" hats seem to be coming back into fashion for women. How do your members feel about the trend?

**Suggested Cross-sell Options:**

- Discuss any hat patterns you may have at the store including any pins/brooches patterns you may use to embellish hats (Floribunda - IJ736 or Petaluma - IJ737). Be sure to demo any coordinating products - bias trim details, needlefelting, using Zipper Accents trim.
- Discuss the history of millinery work. Start a group to make hats for cancer survivors.

**MAGIC PATTERN:** Read the instructions for making the Indispensable Kimono (pages 154-155). This kimono is easy to make. Create a sample and discuss what over uses it might have with your group - what about a swimsuit cover-up? Shorten it for a great jacket perfect for embellishing.

**Suggested Cross-sell Options:**

- Encourage members to think about embellishments. Share with them trims, lace and other notions that would accompany this jacket. Share pajama patterns as a companion (Boudoir Basics - IJ841 or Asian Night PJs - IJ806).

**INSTRUCTION DEPARTMENT:** This month contains many articles for the traveler. Discuss the articles focusing on clothing and beauty care. What fabrics are best for travel? What types of clothing?

**Suggested Cross-sell Options:**

- Demo fabrics that are travel ready. Discuss how to spot treat a stain - share any products your store may care.
- Share any patterns you may carry for travel (Accessory Case - IJK134, Ideal Duffel - IJ900 and Gypsy Hobo - IJ911). Discuss the features of each that make them perfect for travel - size, easy of use, function.

# VINTAGE NOTIONS GATHERING GUIDE - SEPTEMBER

**A THIMBLEFUL OF KNOWLEDGE:** The following are project ideas that coordinate with **Amy Barickman's Vintage Notions: An Inspirational Guide to Needlework, Cooking, Sewing, Fashion & Fun** for the month of September

**DEPARTMENT OF INSPIRATION:** In September, we are inspired to learn something new. Have the group write down something new they would like to learn and commit to it.

**Suggested Cross-sell Options:**

- Discuss any classes the shop may have that will help members reach their "learning" goals - offer a VN Club discount. Discuss other options like creating a new class, sewing circle or monthly get together to share everyone's skills: knitting, crochet, cross-stitch, embroidery, etc.

**AMY BS FAVORITE VINTAGE ADVICE:** Read Nourishing Lunches (page 168). Many stitchers would rather work with fabric than with food. Fortunately we now have many conveniences which allow us to be successful at both. Share with the group ways we can be healthy AND have more time to sew like Farmer's Markets, Organic Food delivery, preparing meals ahead, etc.

**Suggested Cross-sell Options:**

- Have a make-n-take project or event to create your own shopping bags using simple tote bag patterns such as The Shopper (IJ830), Bella Bag (IJ792) or Country Tote (IJK106). Supply kits with pattern and fabric that can be started in class and finished at home.
- Demo different products that can be used with these projects such as batting, fleece (Shopper Bag), needlefelting supplies (Bella Bag) or fat quarter/charm packs (Country Tote).

**DEPARTMENT OF GOOD LOOKS:** Read Looking our Charming Best (pages 169). Colors change with the seasons. Present the new fall fabrics in your store. Coordinate the colors and designs for quilts or clothing. Suggest interesting combinations and have the members make some suggestions as well.

**Suggested Cross-sell Options:**

- Provide a special discount if new fabrics are purchased in combinations created by members. Or have a program called "Vintage Notions" coordination suggestions - have members pick fabrics and patterns that are perfect combinations for the season.
- Have a color palette show & tell. Have members bring in their favorite quilt or other handmade craft with interesting color stories.

**MAGIC PATTERN:** Read the instructions for making the Economical Apron (pages 172-173). Discuss the importance of aprons in the past and today. Share memories that revolve around aprons/kitchen.

**Suggested Cross-sell Options:**

- Demo for members what embellishments/trims the store has to use with this apron - rick-rack, bias, lace, embroidery options. Watch the Vintage Aprons Trunk Show video from Indygo Junction for other vintage-inspired apron designs.

**DEPARTMENT OF SEWING:** Cross-stitch, a form of embroidery, is a real favorite among sewers. Embroidery used to be the manner in which children were first taught sewing and letters. It was a very important part of a girl's education. Perhaps someone in the group would like to share a family heirloom or give a brief history of early samplers. Try Sew-It Book (IJ1074) for basic cross-stitch designs.

**Suggested Cross-sell Options:**

- Share any cross-stitch or embroidery kits/products your store may carry with the group.

# VINTAGE NOTIONS GATHERING GUIDE ~ OCTOBER

**A THIMBLEFUL OF CHARACTER:** The following are project ideas that coordinate with **Amy Barickman's Vintage Notions: An Inspirational Guide to Needlework, Cooking, Sewing, Fashion & Fun** for the month of October.

**DEPARTMENT OF INSPIRATION:** Read *Carrying Your Problems Cheerfully* (Page 181). The article speaks of how success is for those who can smile and be cheerful even when carrying a load for someone else. Discuss ways your group can be successful at helping others - ie Linus Project, One Million Pillowcase Challenge - or start your own creative way to help others.

**Suggested Cross-sell Options:**

- Discuss with your group any projects they might already be involved in that your group can contribute to. Get others at the store or in the community involved.

**DEPARTMENT OF FASHION:** Read *The Costume's the Thing* (page 184). This is a great time to allow your imagination to go wild with ideas! Share new ideas for fun and easy costumes for kids and adults.

**Suggested Cross-sell Options:**

- Share with the group any costume patterns (along with all the extras) that your store may carry.
- Share other ways to show your spirit in your home or in your wearables - *Bewitched Wardrobe* (IJ816), *Humble Spirits* (IJ1008), *Changing Seasons* (IJ844), *Yo-Yo Halloween* (IJ811).

**DEPARTMENT OF COOKERY:** Have a Halloween party in which everyone brings a treat and the recipe to share. The recipes could be then compiled into a holiday cookbook. Host could make some of the treats from page 186-187 of *Vintage Notions*. Play some of the games on page 185

**Suggested Cross-sell Options:**

- Share your holiday fabrics or kit projects such as *Yo-Yo Halloween* (IJ811) or *Freaky Friends* (IJ879).
- Have a make-n-take project for a treat bag (member's children or grandchildren could use). Demo a decorative element such as glow-in-the-dark trim or a candy-corn applique.

**MAGIC PATTERN:** Read the instructions for making the *Practical Nightgown* (pages 188-189). This simple house dress is perfect for lounging. Share a sample created using some fun reproduction vintage-feel fabrics trimmed with bias tape.

**Suggested Cross-sell Options:**

- Demo making bias tape using both the *Bias Tape Making How-to Video* from *Indygo Junction* along with the accompanying PDF. Share the pre-made bias tape and other helpful tools such as *Clover's* or *Simplicity's* bias tape makers.

**DEPARTMENT OF SEWING:** Read *Colorful Effects from Bias Tape* (page 190). Dive deeper into bias tape. Discuss old and new ways to use bias tape in handmade projects or the embellish ready-made items. Review the *How-to video* on making bias tape from *Indygo Junction*.

**Suggested Cross-sell Options:**

- Demo any bias tape makers (*Clover*, *Simplicity*, etc) your store might carry along with sharing your stock of ready-made bias.
- Create bias tape flowers using templates provided by *Indygo Junction*.

# VINTAGE NOTIONS GATHERING GUIDE ~ NOVEMBER

**A THIMBLEFUL OF GRATITUDE:** The following are project ideas that coordinate with **Amy Barickman's Vintage Notions: An Inspirational Guide to Needlework, Cooking, Sewing, Fashion & Fun** for the month of November.

**DEPARTMENT OF GOOD LOOKS:** Read Tips for Calming Your Nerves (Page 204). Discuss with your group these tips to reduce stress during the holiday season. Create a pincushion (Pieced Pincushions - IJ748) filled with lavender or cedar (scents to calm nerves). Create an eye pillow filled with lavender and rice/beans to help soothe you to sleep.

**Suggested Cross-sell Options:**

- Discuss gratitude and how you can cultivate that in your group through less holiday spending and more handmade gifts. Share handmade gift ideas with your group. Plan extra group meeting to work together on some of these gifts. See Department of Sewing for more ideas.

**DEPARTMENT OF SEWING:** Read Running Start on Christmas (page 200-201). These creative projects are perfect for embellishing and quick & easy to sew. Work with your group to create these and other projects in a special "Christmas Handmade" celebration.

**Suggested Cross-sell Options:**

- Demo for the group any embroidery machines or hand embroidery tools and supplies that your store may carry. Embroidery is a simple way to add new life to ready-made clothes or home decor items. Use the embroidery design on page 202 to add to a tea towel or apron.
- Do you sell "blanks"? Unadorned tea towels, hankies, aprons, etc. Share ways to take these blanks and make them into something special - embroidery, trims, decorative stitches, iron-ons, etc.

**DEPARTMENT OF COOKERY:** Cranberries are a must have for the holiday meal. Try the fun recipes on pages 198-199. Discuss any other family favorites with the group using cranberries.

**Suggested Cross-sell Options:**

- Share with the group any kitchen project patterns you may have in stock - casserole warmers, pot holders, etc. along with insulting fleece/batting that may work as well.
- Create a "Gratitude Journal" to share with your family at Thanksgiving. Using printable fabric & your computer, share your favorite recipes, things your thankful for (like your sewing machine & modern cooking conveniences), family photos, etc. Visit [TheVintageWorkshop.com](http://TheVintageWorkshop.com) for additional imagery for the project.

**MAGIC PATTERN:** Read the instructions for making the Hostess Gift Apron (pages 206-207). This apron could be created as the perfect hostess gift for that holiday party. With two yards of fabric and lots of bias tape, you can create this easy to embellish apron. Review PDF and video How-to on making bias tape from Indygo Junction.

**Suggested Cross-sell Options:**

- Demo making bias tape using both the Bias Tape Making How-to Video from Indygo Junction along with the accompanying PDF. Share the pre-made bias tape and other helpful tools such as Clover's or Simplicity's bias tape makers your store carries.

**DEPARTMENT OF HOUSEKEEPING:** Read Setting the Table (page 208) for table tips. Create a fun take-n-take project for creating a simple table runner for Thanksgiving. Share any gift items your shop may carry that can be used as centerpieces.

# VINTAGE NOTIONS GATHERING GUIDE ~ DECEMBER

**A THIMBLEFUL OF KINDNESS:** The following are project ideas that coordinate with **Amy Barickman's Vintage Notions: An Inspirational Guide to Needlework, Cooking, Sewing, Fashion & Fun** for the month of December.

**DEPARTMENT OF INSPIRATION:** This chapter is full of articles to inspire you this holiday season. Focus on the quote "The gift's responsibility is not to express money, but thoughtfulness. It should bring joy and tenderness to the hearts of all who are privileged to give and to receive." How are we privileged to give? To receive? Brainstorm ideas with your group on how gifts you can create that express thoughtfulness.

**Suggested Cross-sell Options:**

- Share patterns that express thoughtfulness by providing opportunity to personalize: Composition Covers (IJ882); Cleverly Stitched Cases (IJ905); Tech Pocket & Portfolio (IJ904).

**DEPARTMENT OF INSTRUCTION:** Read *Make Your Gift Wrappings Original & Artistic* (page 218). Gift wrapping is a creative and fun part of the season. Get inspired and create fun gift toppers during your meeting using the following patterns: *My Christmas Zips* (IJ915) or *Hearth & Home Holidays* (IJ914). These darling toppers are also ornaments.

**Suggested Cross-sell Options:**

- Share any wools, floss or felt you carry to create the entire 7 ornaments from *Hearth & Home Holidays*. Create a kit to create one ornament at the meeting - provide a discount to purchase the rest of the supplies and pattern. Do the same for the *My Christmas Zips*. Create a kit with the *Zipper Accents* yardage from *Indygo Junction*. Offer a special to purchase additional colors (*Classic-Z100*, *Vintage-Z101* or *Metallics-Z102*).

**DEPARTMENT OF COOKERY:** Have a cookie exchange or baking party using the recipes found on page 220-221. Share ways to exchange cookies - tins, fancy foils, red/green cellophane or create fabric wraps tied with ribbon or rick-rack.

**Suggested Cross-sell Options:**

- Share with the group your favorite cookie/candy recipe. Compile them into your holiday cookbook project started last month.

**MAGIC PATTERN:** Read the instructions for making the *Circular Cape* (pages 206-207). This cape is great for fine fabrics such as velvet. Discuss any special thoughts on working with this type of fabric and demo the types of fabrics you carry that would work with this project along with additional embellishments and trims.

**Suggested Cross-sell Options:**

- Be sure to visit the back of *Vintage Notions* for modern tips & techniques on creating this pattern along with hints on lining the cape.

**DEPARTMENT OF HOUSEKEEPING:** Read *Gift Baskets* (page 208). Gift baskets are a great way to share the holiday spirit with families, groups or individuals. Themed baskets - such as kitchen, sewing, party or games - can help you fill your basket with items your family/friends will love.

**Suggested Cross-sell Options:**

- Put together baskets (patterns, tools and supplies) for each member. Have extras available for sale.