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# motto samplers

## WHAT ARE THEY?

Stitched motto samplers are distant cousins of educational samplers, traced back to the mid-1600s (see below, right). Later motto samplers came as kits with supplies and directions, and were made by homemakers from about 1927 until 1939. Today, collectors often look for a stitcher's first sampler, in such categories as friendship, black-and-white, welcome home, guest, and more.

## WHERE DO I FIND THEM?

Start at flea markets and antiques shows. Brand-new kits are still being sold and made, so avoid reproductions by buying from a trusted dealer, like Joan Carter from New Hampshire's Wiswall House Antiques, who has more than 300 examples. An authentic vintage motto sampler is rarely signed and dated, so look for signs of age and a tightly woven linen without any sheen.

## HOW MUCH WILL I PAY?

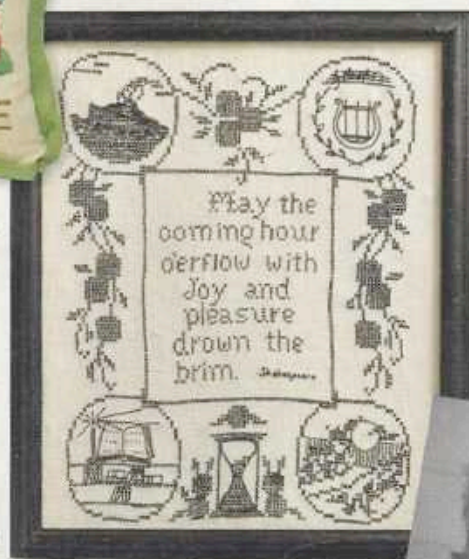
Carter sells her motto samplers from \$60 to \$150. The quality of linen, scarcity of motto or pattern, and intricacy of stitching affect the value of samplers. Look out for spots, stains, and yellowing, although samplers can be cleaned. Carter removes her samplers from the frame, soaks them in soap and water overnight, then rinses and lightly irons.



1 "Home Sweet Home" was often the first motto a person stitched. This 1931-32 pillow's background came preprinted, then the crafter stitched the outline and motto. Valued at \$75.



4 This newly framed linen sampler's \$135 price tag is justified by the rare motto, signature, date, and intact directions. That's a bargain given its many hard-to-find characteristics.



2 This \$135 black-and-white Shakespearean verse, from 1930-33, is rare. Its intricate images showing the passage of time increase its desirability.

3 This 1928-29 sampler has a very common verse; however, the carriage and horse, rather than an expected cottage scene, places it at \$110.



## a bit of history

Learn about original sampler needlework from our antiques expert, Kathryn Precourt.

The earliest American samplers date back to the Plymouth colony in the mid 17th century and followed the style of 14th-century English pieces. Since they were both an educational tool and a chance for school-age girls to refine the craft, the most common stitches on early samplers were the alphabet and numbers. Today, most very early pieces are found in museum collections only, but you can buy late-18th- and 19th-century examples, starting around \$1,000, from dealers specializing in American needlework.

For more information, turn to Sources on page 176.



## SOURCES

Paint colors depicted in the magazine may vary slightly from manufacturers' colors. Use paint color names or numbers as a starting point. For exact color match, take the page to a paint retailer for matching.

PRICES AND DIMENSIONS ARE APPROXIMATE.



### 23 Nest

#### 24 HANDS-ON STYLE: MEMORY BOXES

See Index, page 176.

**PAGE 24.** Paint #032-4 Hamilton Green, Ace Royal Paint—Ace Hardware.

**PAGE 26.** Paint #1515 Ivy Leaf Interior-Exterior—Krylon.

#### 54 CHECK IT OUT FALL THREADS

See Index, page 176.

Pasha Coat, \$235—Twiltwentytwo. Available at Nordstrom. Wool Military Jacket, moss, \$118—Boden. #13411 3-Tier Jacket—Eye. Available at Julian Gold and Tootsies.

#### 62 CHECK IT OUT PENDANT LIGHTS

See Index, page 176.

1. #43436 Inkwell Pendant Lamp, 7 inches, \$150 (on back-order until October)—Sundance.  
2. #FP131 Hector Large Pleat Pendant; slip-coast bone china with cotton cable cord, 8x8 inches, \$260—Sweet Bella.  
3. Sara One Light, 7 inches, \$285—Canopy Designs Ltd.  
4. The Globe Pendant, green, 9 inches, \$265—Sparkle.  
5. St. Charles Small Pendant, glass with faux-mercury finish, 9x7 inches, \$125—Jamie Young Co.  
Wallpaper: #T1958 Linen Texture, brown, \$53/single roll—Thibaut.



### 83 Collect

#### 83 WHAT'S HOT NOW

See Index, page 176.

Frames—Larsen Juhl. Framing—Brentano's Custom Picture Framing. Wall covering #1992 Elianna Embroidery—Philip Jeffries Ltd.

For more information on stitched motto samplers, contact Joan Carter at Wiswall House Antiques, 603/659-6106; wiswallhouseantiques.com.



### 103 Shopgirl

See Index, page 176.

Kitchen designer—Erica Smith, CKD, CBD.

**PAGE 103.** Flooring Century Farm Collection, #GCM452ACLG, maple in antique cashew, and #GCM452SDLG, maple in sand dune, \$10/sq. ft. uninstalled—Armstrong Hardwood Flooring. Walls #179563 Plywood, \$16/4x8-ft. sheet, by Arauco Wood Products Inc.—The Home Depot. Plate rack Putnam Maple, bisque glaze, semicustom—KraftMaid Cabinetry. Swedish chest, antique, from \$2,000; Swedish chair, antique, from \$1,000—A. Tyner Antiques. #MM-3001WS Melissa Sconces, pewter, with silk box pleat shades, sugar, \$395—The Urban Electric Co. Blue Fluted Mega tableware: #2384-604 Rim Soup Bowls, \$110; #2385-622 and #2381-622 Salad Plates, \$85;

#2385-627 and #2381-627 Dinner Plates, \$110—Royal Copenhagen. #10332 Candle Snuffer, \$13; in bathroom #1397 Linen Basket with Lining, large, \$59—Comptoir de Famille. #23027-0 Votive Cachepot, clear, \$18/pair—Aero. #V88 Gabriella Large Carafe, clear, \$158—Juliska.

**PAGE 104.** Left: Fireplace #65174 Chimo (ethanol), \$1,260—Blomus SKS USA. Surround tile #AS9479 Bali Standing Pebble, white timor—Ann Sacks. #39-811478 Baroque Mirror-Top Table, \$179—West Elm. #B119 Tessa Oval Pitcher, clear, \$122; #B133 Fiorella4 Medium Goblet, clear, \$52—Juliska. Round Nickel-Plated Table, Small, \$84—Vagabond Vintage Furnishings. #28302-0 Laguna Hurricane, medium, \$80; #20901 Matchboxes, \$3/each—Aero.

**Right:** Wendell's Sofa, \$1,669 plus fabric; Elizabeth's Ottomans, \$399 plus fabric; Andrew's Dining Chairs, Nantucket finish, \$939 plus fabric; upholstery, side pillow fabrics Trax OD, spa and celadon, by Sunbrella, \$40/yd.; throw pillow fabric New Leaf OD, celadon, by Joe Ruggiero for Sunbrella, \$40/yd.; chair slipcover fabric Mist, snow, by Sunbrella, \$25/yd.—Calico Corners. Rug Manchester Plaid, tan, \$549/6x9 ft.—Karastan Carpets. Woven armchair #MB7602AW, \$1,300—Mainly Baskets. Stackable Nickel-Plated Bruxelles Table, Medium, \$218; Glass Candy Dish, Large, \$14—Vagabond Vintage Furnishings. #39-8522906 Trumpet Table Lamp, \$89; #39-7910425 Oval Thin Box Frame, \$24—West Elm. #11864 Cuckoo Clock, white, \$199—The Conran Shop. Botanical sketches—Meredith Hladik. #200.877.87 Strips Wall Shelf, white, \$7—Ikea. Frames from Classic and Custom collections—Larsen Juhl. Frosted Glass Hurricanes, \$3/each; #4Z8200.92 Blossom Klippan Blanket, turquoise, merino/lambswool, handmade, \$135—Rasmussen Import Co. Pillow; slipcover fabrication—Gloriosa.

**PAGE 106.** Countertops DuPont Corian solid surfaces Private Collection Verde; shelves with brackets DuPont Corian solid surfaces Rice Paper, \$45-\$75/sq. ft. installed—DuPont Corian. Cabinetry Putnam Maple, bisque glaze; hardware #3011 Satin Nickel Plaza Knob; island, custom; lighting #LVLK Low Voltage Light Kit—KraftMaid Cabinetry. #KGS89075

#### Architect Series II

Slide-In Gas Range, \$1,800; #KWCU205HSS Architect Series Canopy Wall-Mount Hood, \$1,418; #75913C 7-Piece Stainless Steel Clad Cookware Set (covered stockpot shown), \$350/set—KitchenAid. Backsplash tile Erin Adams Quilt, 12x12-inch netted sheet—Ann Sacks. Curtain, shade fabric Mist, snow and sand, by Sunbrella, \$25/yd.—Calico Corners. #73242472 Steel Cable Curtain System, brushed metal, \$34/20 ft.; Farmhouse Counter Stools, chocolate finish, \$99/each—West Elm. #10-1311 8-Arm Oval Chandelier, \$723—Hubbardton Forge. Island; Stag Cutlery; sterling silver fittings, stainless-steel blade, genuine stag-antler handle, \$420/5-piece place setting—Corbell & Co.; #B118 Fiorella3 Large Goblet, clear; #B133 Fiorella4 Medium Goblet, clear, \$52/each—Juliska. Oversized Rectangular Belgian Laundry Baskets, \$189/two; Metal Mesh Cake Covers, \$36/two; Euro Open Weave Rectangular Storage Baskets, \$62/four—Vagabond Vintage Furnishings; Round Pia Trays, \$174/three—Potluck Studios. Countertop: #184304 Large Apothecary Jar, \$72—Abigail; Anna's Swedish Pepparkakor Cookies, \$13/1lb—Rasmussen Import Co.; Round Cloth-Lined Euro Bread Basket, \$9—Vagabond Vintage Furnishings. Top shelf: Origo Bowls, beige, \$22-\$60—littala; #1344 Ironstone Gravy Boat, \$50—High Falls Mercantile. Middle shelf: #V62 Ella Large Tumblers, clear, \$49/each—Juliska; Kartio Carafes, light blue and sea blue, \$70—littala; #23027-1 Votive Cachepot, turquoise, \$16/pair—Aero. Utensils over stove: Ladle, \$25; Ice Cream Scoop, \$15; Mesh Strainer, \$34; Whisk, \$22—littala. Top shelf, right of range: Large Ceramic Terrine with Bird Finial, \$58—Vagabond Vintage Furnishings.

**PAGE 108.** Cabinetry Putnam Maple, bisque glaze—KraftMaid Cabinetry. #MG2 Murano Glass Knob, large, silver, \$32—TeMa. Wall paint Seafoam Green—Benjamin Moore & Co. Kalia Sheets, flat \$175, fitted \$125, standard pillow cases \$145; Goose Down Comforter, \$625; Goose Down Pillow, \$250/king; Luca Duvet, \$400/queen; Luca standard sham, \$115; Luca velvet tufted pillow, \$116; Luca wool button pillow, \$95, all by Charisma—WestPoint Home. #422205.03 Bubbles Klippan Blanket, blue/white, felted wool, handmade, \$220—Rasmussen Import Co. #W1778 Trumeau

Mirrors, \$159—Wateria. Aged Marta Planter, 9 inches, \$42—Campo de Fiori. Wood crown, reproduction, \$425—A. Tyner Antiques. #8977 Vendome Photo Frame, \$47—Two's Company, Inc. #MM-3200TS Melissa Table Lamps, pewter, with silk box pleat shades, pistachio, \$570—The Urban Electric Co. #164315 Cafe de Paris Apothecary Jar, \$132; #164126 Bell Jar Medium, \$43—Abigail. Bedside Carafe Set—Juliska. Large Display Dome, \$110—Vagabond Vintage Furnishings. Framing—Regal Art Gallery.

**PAGE 110. Top left:** #K-710—W-KG Iron Works Historic Bath Tub, \$5,106; #K-1103-0 Iron Works Historic Claw Feet, \$779; #K-T948-4—BN Stillness Rita-Temp Faucet, \$641; #K-10121—BN Rain Showerhead, \$542—Kohler Co. Wall tile, Couture collection—Erin Adams Design. Floor tile, custom, by Erin Adams—Ann Sacks. Paint, walls Cameo White; ceiling beams Sail Cloth—Benjamin Moore & Co. Shower curtain fabric Mist, snow and sand, by Sunbrella, \$25/yd.; Resort OD, tide, by Joe Ruggiero for Sunbrella, \$40/yd.—Calico Corners. #139978 Mysen Heavy-Duty Circular Shower Rod, chrome, 30-inch diameter, \$469—Signature Hardware. Natural sea sponge—C Company. #CB305 Candle in Glass Jar, \$40—Cote Bastide.

**Bottom left:** Countertop DuPont Corian solid surfaces Antarctica, \$45-\$75/sq. ft. installed—DuPont Corian. #K-2824-0 Serif Undercounter Lavatory, \$142; #K-942-4—BN Stillness Widespread Lavatory Faucet, \$438—Kohler Co. Sconces, Lume collection—Erin Adams Design. Hammam Hand Towels, green stripe, \$42—C Company. #LS910 Beveled Glass Mirror, \$347; #LS342 Holder with Glass Soap Dish, \$58; #LS343 Holder with Glass Tumbler, \$68; #LS344 Towel Rings, \$70, all from Loft Collection—Smedbo.

**Right, top:** Flooring Century Farm Collection, #GCM452ACLG, maple in antique cashew, and #GCM452SDLG, maple in sand dune, \$10/sq. ft. uninstalled—Armstrong Hardwood Flooring.

**Right, second from top:** Shelves with brackets DuPont Corian solid surfaces Rice Paper, \$45-\$75/sq. ft. installed—DuPont Corian. Yellowware and ironstone bowls—High Falls Mercantile. Teema Mugs, turquoise, \$16—littala. Blue Fluted Mega overware #2381-585 Souffle

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