

Happy St. Patrick's Day And Happy Easter!

Hope all of you are well and warm! Spring seems to be just around the corner, but we are getting a last blast of winter this weekend! Easter dresses and spring outfits are what everyone seems to be working on now – what fun! Keep reading, and I have some information on scissors (vs. shears) that I will share!

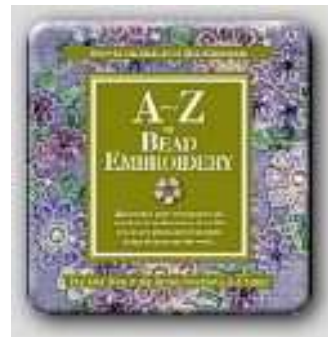
There are a couple of new books that have just arrived from the land down under!



The Embroidered
Patchwork Bear

Reg. \$27

\$20



A-Z of Bead Patchwork

Reg. \$33

\$25

Also in.....Sweet Harmony
from Kari Me Away, as shown on
the cover of the new Sew Beautiful
Magazine! Reg. \$12.00

Special **\$9.00**

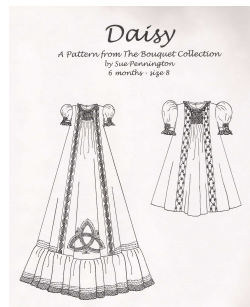
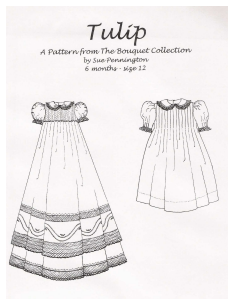


I am also offering the kit for the Baby Buds Bonnet, as seen in the current Sew Beautiful! Kit contains Ulster Linen, floche, ribbon, needles, thread, and Bonnet Box.



Reg. \$25 **Special \$20**

I have also found a wonderful new line of patterns from Sue Pennington Stewart. They are wonderful! Very Original, and not something you see everywhere else! The pattern sizes run from 6 months to about an 8 or a 12, all sizes included in the pattern. Each dress pattern also includes a Christening Gown variation!



(Too see these patterns better, increase your page size to 200%)

These patterns are regularly \$16 each – for this newsletter special, the more you buy, the more you save!

- 1 Pattern \$14 each
- 2 Patterns \$13 each
- 3 or more Patterns \$12 each

And my Fabric Find! This is a new pique' print that is wonderful for jumpers, dresses, rompers, or blouses! It is also wonderful as an accent fabric for collars, cuffs and hems, or.....as a bias binding on a blanket, burp cloth, or bib! It is 100% cotton and 60 inches wide, so it goes a long way!

Reg. \$14.00/yd

Special
\$11.00 / yd



And now on to scissors!

Scissors have been around for many years – indications are that there were cutting implements used by the Aryans, approximately in 300 BC. One of the early types of scissors were made from a single piece of metal that was bent and sharpened on each end, making it look like our modern day thread snippers. Derived from the Latin 'caedere' – to cut, 'scindere' – to cleve, and 'cisorium' – a cutting tool, the French derivation 'cisoires' – shears or the singular 'ciseau' or 'cisel' – a chisel, lead to our present day 'scissors'.

While cutting implements are generally referred to as scissors, there is a difference between scissors and shears. Scissors have blades that are less than 6 inches long and have 2 of the same size finger holes. Shears have two different size finger holes – a small hole for the thumb, and a larger hole for the fingers.

Scissors (and shears) come in a variety of sizes, styles, and materials. High carbon cutlery steel is used to make the best quality blades. This steel is strong and durable and is easy to sharpen. These type of scissors are coated with chrome and nickel, to help keep them from rusting and to add durability. If a single piece of metal is used, from the scissor tip to the finger hole, this makes a stronger pair of scissors.

While high carbon cutlery steel is great, some people prefer scissors that are lighter. In this case, stainless steel blades are used, and they are usually accompanied by a plastic handle. Stainless steel won't rust, but it is harder to sharpen them.

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Although they used to be made in Germany and Brazil, most of Gingher scissors are now made in Mexico, but finished here in the United States.

Gingher was purchased in 2005, and is now owned by Fiskar. Mundial scissors are now made in the same plant in Brazil that used to make the Gingher scissors!
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One of the most well known places in the world for manufacturing quality scissors, as well as knives, is Solingen, Germany. Known as the City of the Blades, Solingen is so famous for its quality blades that the name Solingen is a trademark for quality knives and blades.

One of my favorite pair of scissors is what I call my lace scissors. They are small, about 3 ½ inches, and manufactured by the DOVO company in Solingen, Germany. They have a little flange or a bump at the end of one blade, to keep the pointed edge of the blade from getting caught in and cutting through the lace. They are not heavy, and have a nice feel when I use them .

These Solingen lace scissors retail for \$40.



March Special \$30

But **MUST** be ordered by March 31st, as I will be sending an order to Germany!

Scissor Care

There are many steps you can take to keep your scissors in good condition!

A drop or 2 of oil on the assembly point of the scissors will help the scissors open and close smoothly.

Do not drop the scissors! This can cause the blades to be maladjusted, and they won't cut properly.

Do not cut over pins or wire. This will not only dull, but nick the blades.

Do not force the scissors if you feel resistance. This can cause the blades to be out of whack.

Wipe the blades often, to remove any lint from them.

Use the right scissors for the job.

Keep your scissors sharp!

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Gingher offers a repair / sharpening service! Just send your scissors with a check for \$7.50 for EACH PAIR! Simply pack your scissors, along with a check or money order, and send to:
Repair Dept.
Gingher, Inc.
322-D Edwardia Drive
Greensboro, NC 27409

Make sure you wrap the scissors so the point won't come through the package!
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Scissor Suggestions

There are many different types of scissors, embroidery, machine embroidery, buttonhole, appliqué, curved tip, weaver's, 5 inch, 6 inch, 7 inch, 8 inch shears, etc.

Shears are usually used for cutting out patterns, etc.

Micro-Serrated Shears have a serrated edge on one blade and are especially helpful when cutting out slippery fabric.

Pinking Shears – used to finish edges of seams to keep them from raveling, or to reduce bulk in a seam.

Nippers – hang around your neck while you are sewing to clip threads

Applique’ scissors – One blade has a big ‘bill’ which lifts the fabric to be cut.

I have several pair of scissors that I use consistently. These are a bit smaller than normal, which reduces the weight and gives me more control! Of the 3, the 5 inch knife edge are my favorites. They are strong enough to do heavy cutting (patterns, etc.), and yet they are small enough to trim seams, thread, etc.



7 inch
Bent Handle Shears
Retail \$30



6 inch
Bent Handle Shears
Retail \$28



5 inch
Knife edge scissors
Retail \$27

Special - \$22

Special - \$20

Special - \$19

I hope you enjoyed this! I always love learning new things! Hope to see some of you in Santa Barbara this June at our Stitching Serenity, or in Anaheim in September at the SAGA convention! If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call or email!

vaune@vaune.com!

Happy Stitching!

Vaune