

# HANGING GARDENS

A Quilted Counterpane

PATTERN No. 115 OF THE MOUNTAIN MIST SERIES

Many years ago when quilting was first known and the competition among women to do the needlework was an important part of their lives, many lovely Counterpanes were made. This type of bed covering is distinguished by elaborate and fine quilting. There is no pieced or appliqued work—the entire coverlet is quilted with flowers, fruit and leaves; padded in "Trapunto Quilting" to emphasize the beauty of the quilting. Made of plain pastel colors or white, these counterpanes are lovely and yours is certain to be a true heirloom to be handed down for generations. Many are found in Antique Shops and are very valuable. "Hanging Gardens" is an exact copy of a quilt made over one hundred years ago.

## DIRECTIONS

**MAKING THE COUNTERPANE TOP**—There being no Part for "piecing" or "patching" to be cut from the material, first cut or salvage edges from your material. Join two widths  $90\frac{1}{2}$ " long and then add two strips  $5\frac{1}{2}$ " wide to either side. These narrow strips may be pieced to  $90\frac{1}{2}$ " in length. This will give you a top which is slightly wider than your cotton but may be trimmed when the quilting is finished. The seams will be lost in the quilting. Two of these  $90\frac{1}{2}$ " x  $81\frac{1}{2}$ " sheets will be needed—one for the top and one for the back of the Counterpane. If your local Department Store handles a good 30-square percale in a quilt width (81"), it would

be more satisfactory. However do not try to use sheeting material since the thread count is too high and it would be more difficult to quilt. After the seams are made press them flat for a smooth finish.

**MARK YOUR COUNTERPANE TOP**—When you have your Counterpane top and back entirely sewed and pressed you are ready to mark the top for quilting. With a soft lead pencil, first rule the outline of the central panel in which the small "Vines" and the "Pineapples" appear—See Diagram. This is done with a yard stick and a compass following the measurements on the Diagram.

We have given you the "Spray" for the border designs and the "Pineapple" for the corners in actual size. The "Vines" are a duplication of the same leaf, a section of each "Vine" is given on the pattern. We suggest that you mark the "Vines" first. Use the measurements we have given you on the Diagram and fit the outlines to complete the "Vines." If this proves to be too difficult, you could draw the curves of the "Vines" with these same measurements. Next

make a Marking Pattern for each different shaped leaf by putting onto firm cardboard or the smooth side of sandpaper. (Sandpaper patterns will not slip when placed rough side down on the material.) Cut out exactly on the lines of the pattern. It would be well to make two or three patterns since there are so many leaves to be marked, and the edges of the pattern may become worn and inaccurate. Now mark the center "Concupisita", "Sprays" in the border and the corner "Pineapples." We suggest that you use the actual size patterns as given for marking your Counterpane. This may be done by tracing or by making a perforated pattern. (See Below) If your material is light enough to see through it, it is possible to trace through the material after placing each design underneath it in the correct position. You will note the outer "Sprays" are reversed.

**MAKE A PERFORATED PATTERN**—This is best done with an unthreaded needle on a sewing machine, or by hand with a heavy needle—simply punching holes along the lines of the pattern. These

will be projections of paper on the underside of these perforations which may be smoothed off with sandpaper. For marking powder, procure some powdered chalk (blue or white) from a Hardware Store—ask for the kind used by carpenters for their chalk lines. It comes in two ounce cans. Place the perforated pattern in position on the top of the Counterpane. Put the powdered chalk through the perforations with a small wad of cotton. Remove the pattern and strengthen the design lightly with a well sharpened soft pencil. The powdered chalk may rub off, but heavy pencil lines are difficult to remove.

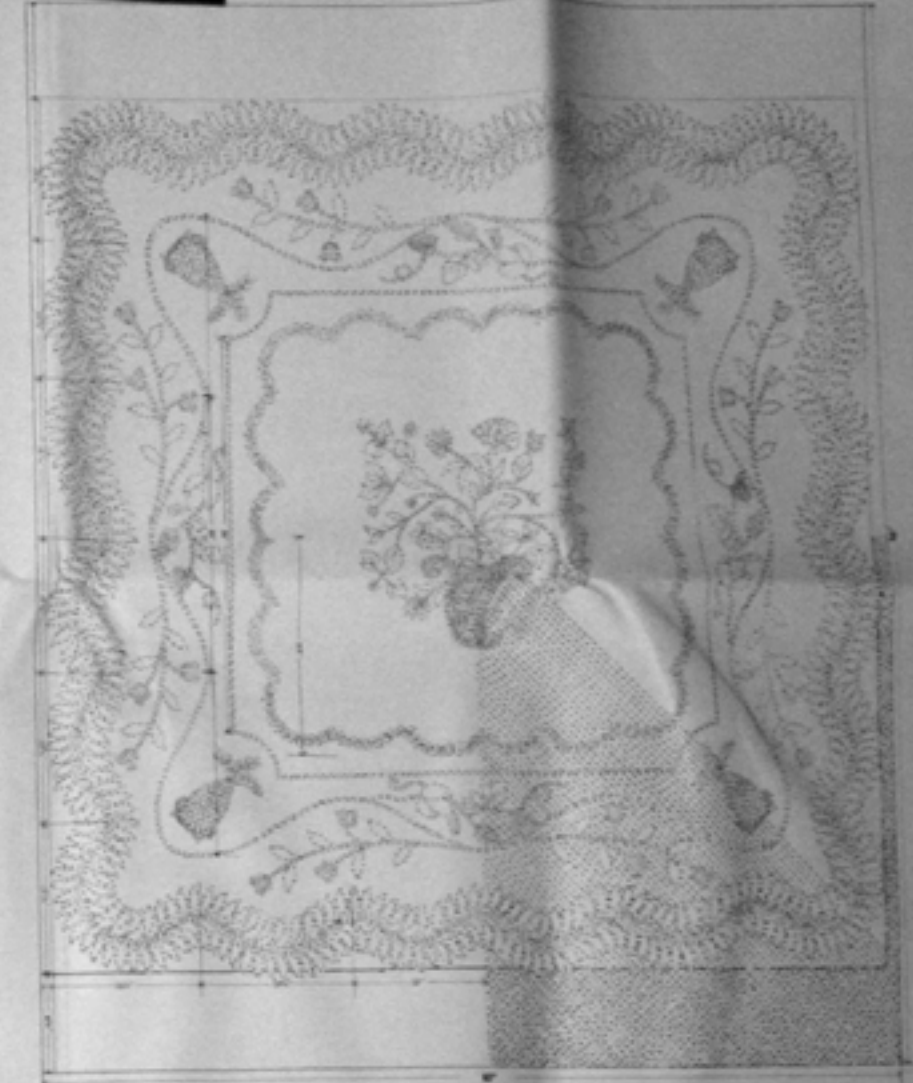
When your Counterpane top has been completely marked with the fancy design, use a yard stick to rule in the background lines which should be no more than  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch apart. The ends and narrow sides are marked with diagonal lines both ways, giving a diamond effect. The center part of the Counterpane is marked with diagonal lines all one way to bring out the effect of the design.

**START TO QUILT**—You are now ready to start your quilting. We recommend that a Counterpane of this type should be quilted in a quilting frame. Place the back, then the Mountain Mist Cotton on clean paper on the floor or on a bed. Cover with the marked top and secure each end to the main covers of each rail of the

frame. Roll up one end and fit into your frame. Your markings may become faint due to the handling of your top, but the lines may be strengthened with pencil as you go along.

**THE EXTRA TRAPUNTA QUILTING**—When the entire Counterpane has been quilted, the "Design" is padded with extra cotton (Trapunta Quilting). To do this, part the threads of the back of your Counterpane and, with a small steel biting needle, force extra cotton into the Leaf, Flower or Fruit to be padded. Use enough cotton to secure firm padding without being lumpy. The padded threads may be pushed back into place when the padding is done. Be very careful in doing this padding so to break any of the threads of the back, thus making it appear ragged.

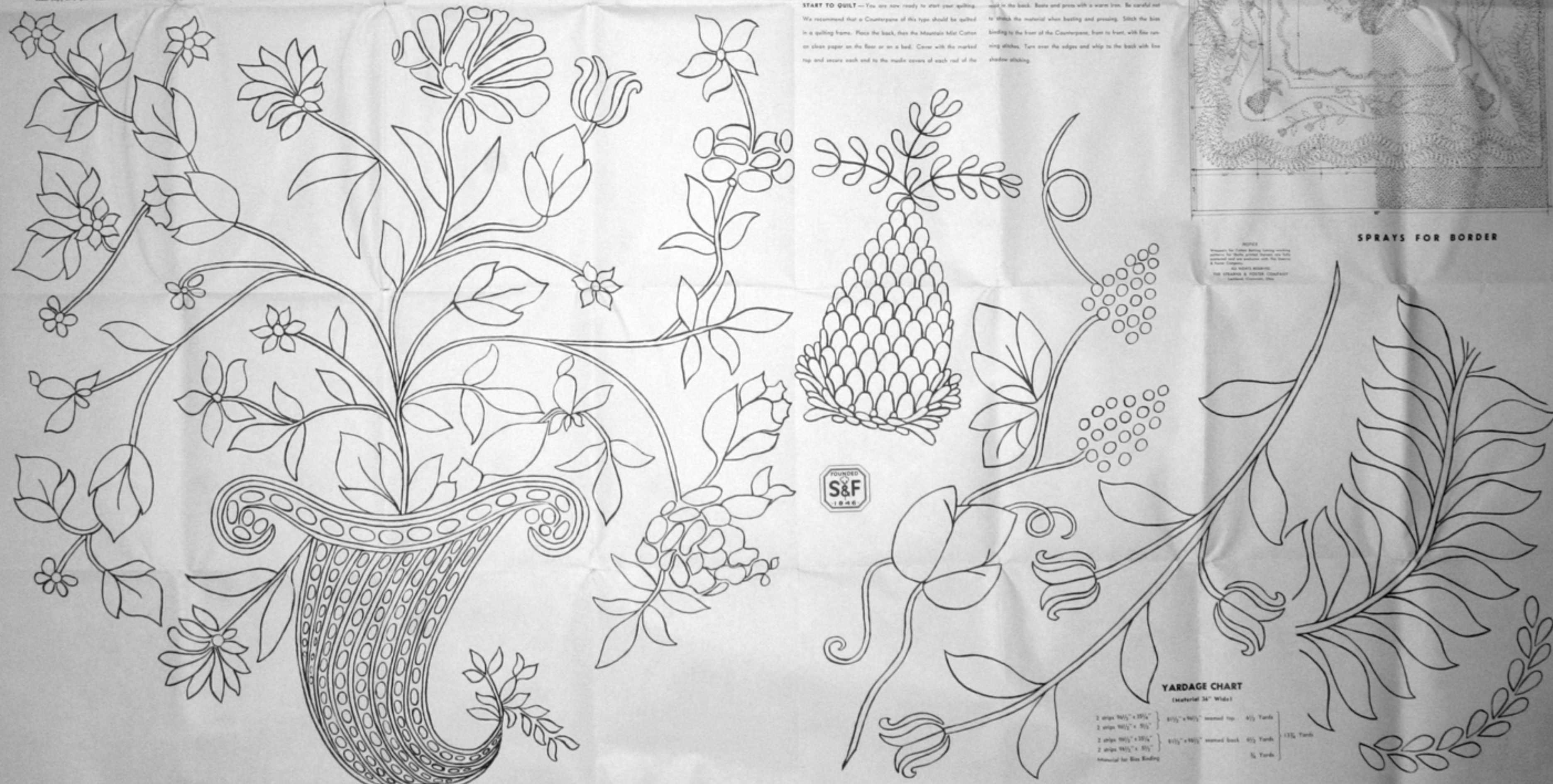
**THE FINISHING TOUCHES**—After the padding is finished, slip the edges of the Counterpane evenly and bind with bias strips of material. These bias strips should be small—about  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch when finished. Cut these bias strips 1 inch wide, then fold under until they meet in the back. Baste and press with a warm iron. Be careful not to stretch the material when basting and pressing. Stitch the bias binding to the front of the Counterpane, front to front, with fine running stitches. Turn over the edges and whip to the back with fine shadow stitching.



SPRAYS FOR BORDER

NOTICE: Weights for Cotton Sewing Machine needles for Quilting purposes are fully guaranteed and are available with this Service to Home Consumers.

ALL RIGHTS RESERVED BY STEPHENS & HODDER COMPANY, LONDON, ENGLAND, 1946.



### YARDAGE CHART

(Material 36" Wide)

2 strips $90\frac{1}{2}$ " x $39\frac{1}{2}$ "	} $81\frac{1}{2}$ " x $90\frac{1}{2}$ "	seamed top	} $8\frac{1}{2}$ Yards
2 strips $90\frac{1}{2}$ " x $9\frac{1}{2}$ "			
2 strips $90\frac{1}{2}$ " x $39\frac{1}{2}$ "	} $81\frac{1}{2}$ " x $90\frac{1}{2}$ "	seamed back	} $8\frac{1}{2}$ Yards
2 strips $90\frac{1}{2}$ " x $9\frac{1}{2}$ "			
Material for Bias Binding			$\frac{1}{4}$ Yards
			<b>13<math>\frac{1}{2}</math> Yards</b>