

Three Sukkah Adornments

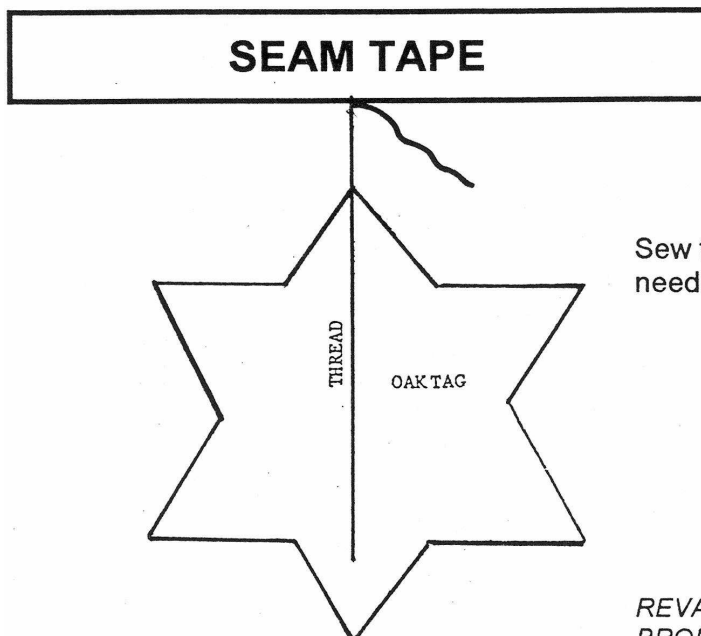
Reva Berman, Bronxville, NY
Elsa Natowitz, New York City,
Elka Zibman, Philadelphia, PA

I. Magen David Mobile by Reva Berman, Bronxville, NY

Materials: oak tag / poster board (any color)
Mylar (available in some stationery stores, in gift-wrapping departments)
thread
seam tape (available in fabric stores)
Duco cement, glue, scissors, needle

Method: 1. Cut 2 oaktag Stars of David
2. Cut 2 Mylar stars.
3. Using Duco cement, glue a Mylar star on one side of each oak tag star.
4. Thread the needle (double thread) and glue it to the oak tag (as shown below).
5. Glue the other oak tag star on top.
6. Sew the thread into the seam tape, remove the needle and tie the thread to the tape, making several knots. The distance between the stars should be approximately 3 inches.

NOTE: If Mylar is not available, follow the same directions and glue glitter on the oaktag stars, or use foil gift wrapping.



Sew through tape with
needle and tie several knots

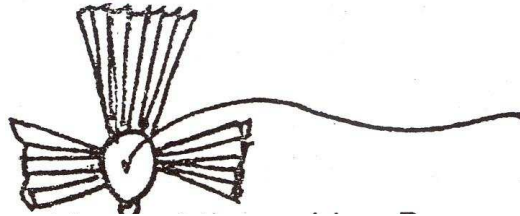
REVA BERMAN
BRONXVILLE NY

II. Bird Mobile by Elsa Natowitz, New York City

Materials: large egg (uncooked)
Aluminum foil
Colored foil, colored construction paper or stiff colored wrapping paper
Heavy thread for hanging

Method: 1. Poke a small hole in each end of the egg and blow out the inside. Be careful!
2. Make an additional hole at either side for the wings
3. Make a *head* of aluminum foil and insert at one end
4. Fold the colored foil or construction paper into a fan for the wings and tail.
Insert in the holes.
5. Scotch tape a long piece of thread to the center top of the egg for hanging

NOTE: If you use foil, only one side need to be in color. Since the bird hangs from the roof of the sukkah, insert the foil so that the colored side is underneath.



III. Miniature Sukkah by Elka Zibman, Philadelphia, PA

Since the days of the first Temple, *sukkot* have been made from all manner of found materials: stone, rocks, trees, wood, cloth and animal hides. As time went on, they became more and more sophisticated and in some cases exquisitely decorated. However, they maintained the principal of a *sukkah*: a temporary hut, easily knocked down, easily transported, and with the stars seen through the roof.

You may have your favorite *sukkah*, but mine is an early 19th century German one in the Israel Museum. So let us copy that one, reduced in size, one foot to equal one inch. The size is approximately 8" x 10" x 7½". The one measurement we won't have is the thickness.

Materials: sheet of balsa wood
6 miniature hinges (see below*)
18 to 20 thin miniature dowels or slats
miniature leaves, flowers, fruits
oil or poster colors
brushes
exacto knife

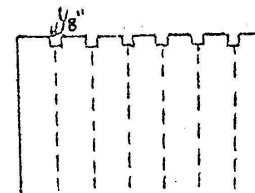
Balsa wood is light weight and easily cut with an exacto knife. Prepare two pieces of wood $7\frac{1}{2}$ " x 8", either one or two pieces $7\frac{1}{2}$ " x 10", and one piece 8" x 10" which will be the floor, marking off 1" boards on each side of each piece. The 8" x 10" piece for the floor needs marking on only one side. Paint the boards with dark brown paint mixed with a drop of black so they look like 12" boards put together. Remember we are working on a scale of 1" to 1'. Try to mark knot holes in the boards here and there with the paint. Let dry.

On the $7\frac{1}{2}$ " x 10" sides, cut out 2" windows, centered from the sides but above the halfway point in height.

* If you want to, you may close the fourth side with a curtain. If not, cut a double door, which will need four more sets of hinges. (The side corners will need three more sets, which will mean a total of thirteen sets of hinges.) Cut four strips of balsa wood $\frac{3}{16}$ " x 8". Cut eight strips $7\frac{1}{2}$ " x $\frac{3}{16}$ ". At each side, on the outside, glue the $7\frac{1}{2}$ " strips about $\frac{1}{4}$ " away from the side, vertically. On the inside, about $\frac{1}{4}$ " down from the top and $\frac{1}{4}$ " up from the bottom, do the same horizontally.

There are two ways to arrange the leaves to be held on top.

1. With three sides and a curtain: cut $\frac{1}{8}$ " notches on the top edge of the board lines on all three sides. When the *sukkah* is put together, make sure to put dowels lengthwise as far forward as possible to cover the front edge of the *sukkah*.
2. With four sides and doors: It will only be necessary to make sure of the notches on all the boards.

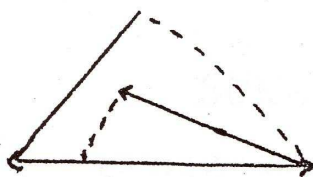


With pale green paint, put a thin wash over the front and back of all the pieces except the floor, which can be painted a light or medium tan.

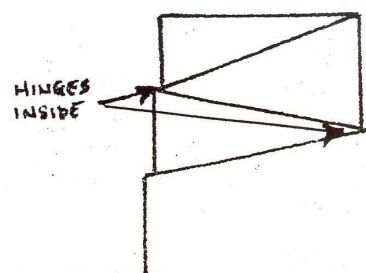
This *sukkah* is particularly charming because of its decorations. The inside has scenes of Jerusalem, and the outside scenes are of the German countryside. You can let your imagination run wild and, after depicting scenes in Israel, use your own home town or special places in America for the outside. From ports of entry to national symbols to your own home and synagogue, you can decorate as you please. Some scenes can be framed with painted frames.

When this is all dry, attach hinges to the outside, three to a side. If it is possible, on a *sukkah* with four sides, put three hinges between the second and third wall on the inside rather than the outside. Keep one corner free of hinges, use masking tape to seal, so that the *sukkah* can be folded for storage. But keep the floor separate.

A SUKKAH WITH 3 SIDES FOLDS SO:



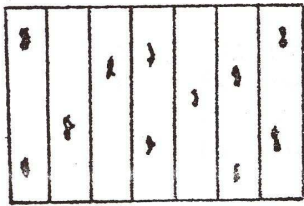
A SUKKAH WITH 4 SIDES FOLDS SO:



Once your hinges are on and your *sukkah* is standing, put your dowels across the roof making a grid, crossing over from both directions.

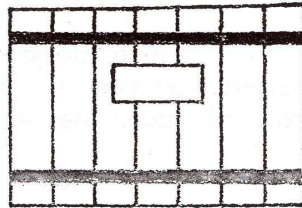
If you cannot make fruit from found items, cut the shapes from colored paper and hang with thread from the leaves and bits of greenery you put across the top. Or use other material such as cardboard from cartons and make your own favorites.

STEP ONE: BOTH SIDES



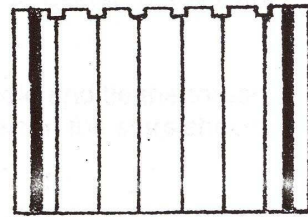
paint boards
and knot holes

STEPS TWO AND THREE:



reverse side has
vertical pieces

STEP FOUR:



cut notches

STEP FIVE – paint; STEP SIX – hinges; STEP SEVEN – dowels; STEP EIGHT – decorate roof.