

Spec/Text Sheet

Hand and machine stitched bed coverings. Machine embroidered text.

Antique collapsible wood doll bed with chicken wire mattress support
11” (W) x 20” (L) x 13 1/2” (H)

Pillow Case (*vintage cotton sheet with ink jet printed image, antique lace trim*)
7” (W) x 5” (L)

Pillow (*digitally printed cotton, cotton batting stuffing*)
6 1/2” (W) x 4 1/2” (L)

Bedspread with embroidered sheet music image
(*vintage cotton comforter cover with antique lace trim*)
22” (W) 31 1/2” (L)
with lace trim: 26” (W) x 33 1/2” (L)

Quilt (*vintage patterned flour sack fabric and antique GLF Mills flour sack bag, size 38*)
21” (W) x 22 1/4” (L)

Blanket (*vintage green wool blanket with polyester satin blanket trim*)
26 1/2” (W) x 25 1/2” (L)

Top sheet (*vintage white cotton bed sheet*)
23 1/2” (W) x 25 1/4” (L)

Bottom sheet (*vintage white cotton bed sheet*)
23 1/4” (W) x 25” (L)

Mattress (*cotton fabric with digitally printed patterned image of two girls making a bed, stuffed with cotton batting, hand tied*)
10 1/2” (W) x 17 1/2” (L) x 1 1/4” (H)

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The Well-Dressed Woman: A Study in the Practical Application to Dress of the Laws of Health, Art and Morals. Helen Gilbert Ecob, 1892

The Young Lady's Friend, By a Lady. Mrs. John Farrar, 1837

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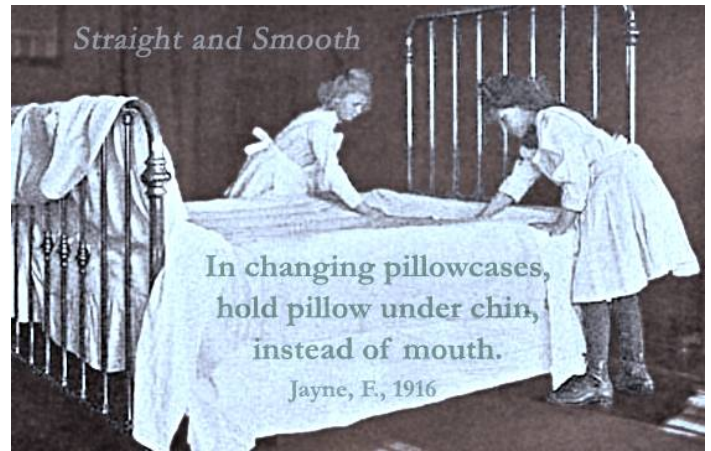
Pillowcase front

[printed image of girls with text]



Pillowcase back

[printed image of girls with embroidered text]



Pillow front

Training the Little Home Maker
Making a bed is an art worth knowing

Pillow back

Things girls like to do

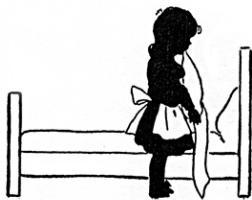
Tamar Stone © 2010

Bedsread top side

[embroidered image and text of sheet music with trim]

Bed Making Song

Open the windows, Spread covers wide –
Where the air enters health will abide;
Turn over mattress, Spread under sheet,
Now place the upper – Now right sides meet.”



Bedsread back side

Suppose you make up your mind to be a good housekeeper, and say to yourself

“I am going to learn to make a bed as well as my mother does.”

Your mother will be glad to teach you so that you can learn it in one morning.

On the other hand, if you underrate the importance of this knowledge, and fancy that you can pick it up some way, going on carelessly and indifferently, with your work, you will never acquire the habit of keeping your house tidy, comfortable and with economy.

J.F. Willing, 1886

Quilt top side [*patterned flour sack w/brown piping*]

When a little girl begins to sew,
her mother can promise her
a small bed and pillow;
as soon as she has
sewed a patch quilt for them,
and then a bedstead,
as soon as she has sewed
the sheets and cases for pillows;
and then a large doll to dress,
as soon as she has
made the undergarments;
and thus go on till the whole contents
of the babyhouse are earned
by the needle and
the skill of its little owner.
Thus, the task of learning to sew
will become a pleasure,
and every new toy will be earned
by useful exertion.

Catherine B., 1869

Quilt back side [*flour sack with GLF Mills logo*]

We learned to sew patchwork at school,
while we were learning the
alphabet and almost every girl,
large or small, had a bed – quilt
of her own begun, with an
eye to future house furnishings.
I was not over fond of sewing, but
I thought it best to begin
mine early.
So I collected a few squares
of calico, and undertook to put
them together in my usual
independent way, without asking direction.
I liked assorting those little figure bits
of cotton cloth, for they were scraps
of gowns I had seen worn, and
they reminded me of the persons
who wore them.

Lucy L., 1889

Blanket top side [*vintage green wool blanket*]

The gymnastics of bed-making, which even
a society girl can indulge in,
exercise the muscles of the arms, side, and back.
Sweeping the parlor carpet or shaking the rugs
will start the circulation as well as a chest-weight,
and has the advantage of being useful.

Helen Gilbert Ecob, 1892

If two people sleep in a bed or if
the blankets are narrow, put a single blanket
on crosswise, placing one of the selvages even
with the edge of the mattress at the foot of the bed,
then the ends will hang some distance over the sides.

Some people fold double blankets evenly,
some prefer to fold them with one binding.
This preference depends on whether one likes
the upper part of the bed covering thick or thin,
and also whether the blanket is long enough
to turn under at the foot when folded evenly.

The fold, not the bindings should be at
the foot of the bed, in order that,
if too warm, one thickness of the blanket
can be easily thrown back.

Elizabeth H.G., 1917

Blanket back side

Every young lady should know
how to make a bed
in the best possible manner;
for, if she is so situated as not to be in
the good habit of making
her own bed daily,
she may be called upon
to do it for a sick friend,
and find herself incapable
of such a simple act of kindness
from ignorance and inexpertness.

Mrs. J. Farrar, 1837

Put on the blankets,
their upper edges reaching to the place
where you intend to make the
backward fold in the sheet.
Fold them under about twelve inches
at the foot not at all the sides;
smooth them carefully.

Elizabeth H.G., 1917

Top sheet *top side*

Spread the upper sheet on the bed wrong side up then when the hem is turned back at the head of the bed, it will be right side out.

Turn the sheet under at the foot twelve inches if possible.

Turn the corners at the foot but do not turn the sides under nor the corners at the head.

See that the sheet lies straight, and smooth out all wrinkles.

When all the bedclothes are on, with the exception of the spread, turn back the edge of the upper sheet over the blankets, leaving about a foot of the under sheet exposed. Then fold all the coverings neatly under the mattress at the sides, drawing them smooth and straight

Then put on the under sheet, right side up, with the hems at the top and bottom, the selvages at the sides and the middle crease in the middle of the bed...

Top sheet *back side*

Turn the sheet smoothly under the mattress at the head and foot. In the case of the under sheet, this turn should be a few inches deeper at the head than at the foot; in the upper sheet the deeper turn should be made at the foot.

The person who sleeps in the bed naturally pushes the under sheet down, and pulls the upper sheet up.

To fold the corners, stand at the foot or head of the bed. Keeping the fold even, hold the sheet straight out from the side of the bed. Put your other hand under the corner of the mattress and run it round on the fold of the sheet until the thumb is even with the upper edge of the mattress. Hold it there. Then fold smoothly under the mattress the part of the sheet you have held out and withdraw your hand which you will find is in a sort of little pocket. This is sometimes called a pie corner, and it is rather like the fold for a mitred corner in a hem.

When finished, the under sheet should be tight stretched and smooth.

Elizabeth H.G., 1917

Bottom sheet *top side*

A 12-year-old girl allegedly set fire to her mother's bed Monday morning because she had been given too many chores.

Apparently the mom had give her a lot of duties... It was too much for a 12-year-old and she snapped.

She then took her mother's car and her two siblings, a six-year-old sister and eight-year-old brother and drove south on U.S. 31....

The girl will be charged as a juvenile.

The 29-year-old mother awoke about 5 a.m. Monday after feeling heat on her feet....

No accelerant was used.

The girl set the mattress on fire and left the home.

The mother suffered minor injuries and refused medical treatment at the scene.

... the mother put the fire out and was concerned about her children when she discovered them missing and her car and called 911.

...deputies found the children unharmed...

Bottom sheet *back side*

The girl was a “very composed young lady” when asked about the story of the alleged abduction.

...the girl will be charged with an act, not a crime...

she will be charged with juvenile delinquency, on charges of attempted murder and arson if she was an adult.

There is no criminal history in the family. ...

There was no incident during the previous days that would indicate this would take place...

She was emotionally upset...after her arrest.

There was normal interaction between parent and child in the days prior to this incident.

The mother didn't ask that charges against her daughter not be filed....

There was no interaction between the two following the girl's arrest.

...the investigation is continuing and the law enforcement officials are trying to piece together what happened.

Peru, Indiana, 2006

Mattress top side

[digitally printed pattern image of girls on cotton]

What came across was this idea that
your home environment was no good
and you had to make it different....
The domestic science class taught us to
make the beds a certain way,
with “hospital corners”...
while at home you
just took the sheets and shoved them under.
At school they took the things we hated to do
at home and
sort of made them fun.
Then I would criticize my mother and
she would really get mad at me and say,
“this isn’t a fancy house.”
Now that I think back,
that’s more or less what my mother
and I fought about
all the time.
We were fighting about how life
should be in the home.

Elinor P., 1949

*(on Domestic Science classes taught
in her Bronx, New York junior high school.)*

Mattress back side

[digitally printed pattern image of girls on cotton]

If the springs or other parts
of the bedstead need dusting,
that should be done first,
then the mattress replaced.
This should be turned each day,
sometimes from end to end,
sometimes from side to side,
and given as many
thumps and punches as are
needed to make it level
and even with the springs.

*If you do not sleep
long and soundly
after reading this description
of bed making,
I am sure it isn’t my fault.*

Elizabeth H.G., 1917