



BETSY McCALL DECORATES MOTHER'S SEWING BOX

Mommy saves all the greeting cards that Daddy and the twins and I give her—birthday cards, Christmas cards, Mother's Day cards. She says that she wishes she could leave them on the mantel and enjoy them forever, but there's not enough room. How could we make them last longer? My teacher at school came up with just the thing—when she showed us how to do decoupage. It's easy and lots of fun. I gathered up all the materials I would need, but I still didn't know what to decorate—until I went for the scissors in her sewing box. It's a plain old tin container that once held cookies. So I de-

cid to surprise her. I cut the pictures from the cover of each card just as neatly as I could—there were flowers, mostly—then I arranged them in a pretty design on the cover of the box. I put a little dab of glue on the back of each one, smeared it around with my finger and, holding them by their edges *very carefully*, I placed the pictures in the design I had planned. There was a little glue showing at the edges after I pressed the pictures down, so I wiped it away with a damp sponge. Then I

took my paintbrush and dipped it in a small jar of varnish and brushed it over the whole cover of the tin. When it was dry, I gave it a second coat to make it even shinier. I put the box back without saying anything—but I could hardly wait until Mommy came in. Soon enough I saw her heading for her bureau with a button in her hand. "Why, Betsy," she said. "Who made my sewing box so pretty?" "I did, Mommy," I answered. "Now you can enjoy your cards for a long time!" "I certainly can," she said, "because I'm getting a new sewing box. From now on, I'm keeping all the cards in here!"



FOR PAPER DOLLS OF BETSY AND HER COUSIN LINDA, PRINTED IN COLOR ON CARDBOARD, PLUS 25 CUTOUTS, SEND 50 CENTS IN COIN (NO STAMPS, PLEASE) TO BETSY MCCALL, 1419 WEST FIFTH, WILTON, IOWA 52778. COPYRIGHT © 1978 BY THE MCCALL PUBLISHING COMPANY.

STORY BY DIANE STILLMAN. ILLUSTRATIONS BY GINNIE HOFMANN