

The Penny Collection

...a series of blankets in honour of my mom

Designed by Sandy Walker

The Penny Drops is the first blanket in "The Penny Collection", named for my mother. She could knit and crochet with the precision and speed of a machine and would have loved being recognized as a fibre artist.

Her favourite compliment was "It doesn't look homemade." This was at a time when handmade was considered inferior to store bought and meant that you could not afford to shop. She almost always worked with incredibly fine yarn and I finally understood why. I can remember her putting wool on layaway at a department store because she could not afford to purchase the same dye lot all at once. Finer yarn meant that she could knit or crochet for longer periods of time. She continued creating beautiful pieces of "heART" well into her eighties.

She was a wonderfully patient and encouraging teacher, who would "fix" my mistakes and never failed to take the project a bit further along so I never got frustrated. Penny believed her greatest piece of fibre art was the wedding gown she made for me in 1976. We will celebrate our 41st anniversary on May 15, 2017. I made the matching shawls.



Fast forward 40 or so years and the idea of "stitch it forward". Purrfect aMEWSments was established to provide handcrafted "hats and toys furr cats" and "togs furr dogs" to animal rescue groups for fundraising activities.

My mission has always been to encourage other talented crafters to support animal rescue groups by using their skills "to make a difference". There is a gallery of pics and some basic patterns on purrfectamewsments.com This is NOT a business, I sell nothing, donate everything.



All proceeds support animal rescue groups.

I learned more about shaping crochet pieces doing these toys and hats than I thought possible. I look at food magazines, think "cat toy" and the result is crocheted pizza, calzones, cookies, cupcakes, and veggies.

Inspired by the Bonnie Barker Holiday Throw CAL and especially the Darla Sims books "99 Crochet Post Stitches" and "63 Crochet Cable Stitches", I designed some crochet blankets. I have always loved Tunisian crochet and have made hundreds of blankets with "bobble" designs, lettering and colour blocking. I adapted some of the crochet post stitch patterns for Tunisian and the outcome was "The Penny Drops".



The response on FB was incredibly positive and I was invited to do a CAL. This necessitated making another blanket to work out the "kinks", document what I did and have testers follow and critique the pattern so that others could complete the project. Testing is complete and the pattern is ready for the launch.

Thank you to the very patient and detail oriented "testers" who provided their own yarn and hours of time to make this CAL possible.

The next blankets in the Tunisian series are Pennywise (a great stash buster) and a baby version, Halfpenny. They are already in testing and I can hardly wait to share these designs.

Cheers to moms everywhere!
Sandy Walker 05/14/2017