

BONUS PROJECT!



photos/Steve Gerig

At the break of dawn a frosty farm hand bundles up to feed a barnyard trio.

Maxine Thomas

The beauty of painting in a whimsical folk art style is that you can be as imaginative and wonderfully unrealistic as you want to be!

SURFACE

The hanging bin (item no. PL175) is available from Smooth Cut Wood, P.O. Box 507, Aurora, OR 97002, (888) 982-9663.

PALETTE

DECOART AMERICANA ACRYLICS

Antique Rose (TCS RO-8-3-7)
 Antique White (TCS WH-7-3-4)
 Burnt Orange (TCS RO-5-4-5)
 Burnt Sienna (TCS BR-6-2-6)
 Dark Chocolate (TCS BR-7-6-8)
 Deep Midnight Blue (TCS BL-5-2-8)
 French Grey Blue (TCS BL-5-7-4)
 Graphite (TCS BK-6-2-9)
 Heritage Brick (TCS RE-4-6-7)
 Honey Brown (TCS BR-1-2-4)

Hot Shots Fiery Red

(TCS number not assigned)

Khaki Tan (TCS WH-6-4-9)
 Lamp Black (TCS BK-5-1-9)
 Light Buttermilk (TCS WH-8-2-2)
 Marigold (TCS YE-6-2-6)
 Mississippi Mud (TCS BR-8-6-5)
 Neutral Gray (TCS BK-5-5-5)
 Payne's Grey (TCS BL-5-2-9)
 Primary Yellow (TCS YE-5-1-7)
 Silver Sage Green (TCS BG-8-8-3)
 Slate Grey (TCS BK-7-2-3)
 Snow White (TCS WH-5-1-1)
 Soft Black (TCS BR-8-6-8)

BRUSHES

LOEW-CORNELL INC.

Series DM $\frac{3}{8}$ - and $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch stiplers
 Series 270 $\frac{1}{2}$ - and $\frac{3}{4}$ -inch
 Maxine's Mops for blending
 Series 272 "M" Dome Round
 (for scrubbing)
 Series 7050 no. 6 script liner
 (for stroking fence)
 Series 7300 no. 12 and $\frac{3}{4}$ -inch
 flats (for floating shades and
 highlights)

Series 7350 no. 10/0 liner

(for linework) and no. 6 liner
 (for strokework)

Series 7500 nos. 6 and 12
 filberts (for basecoating)

SUPPLIES

(2) 2-inch poly foam brushes
 DecoArt Matte Finishing Spray
 DecoArt Multi-Purpose Sealer
 Martin/F. Weber Permabla burnt
 umber oil paint (for antiquing)
 Scotch Brand Magic Tape
 Scottie's Patina (antiquing thinner)
 Stylus
 Tracing paper
 Transfer paper

PAINTING TIPS

When I paint, I glisten the surface with water and softly "pet" my floats on, then I use my mop brush (from water line into paint) to blend.

I often use two shade colors. The first shade color is used on every object. The second shade is used only in deeper areas.



ONE FROSTY MORN



When basecoating the design, start with just one coat. Base your second coat when you return to that part of the design. This saves fixing as you go.

PREPARATION

Sand and seal the wood piece. Basecoat the entire surface *French Grey Blue*. Using a foam brush and starting at the top, streak *Deep Midnight Blue* across the sky. As you work down, add *Silver Sage Green* until it's very light where the mountains begin. Transfer the design lines for the mountains and ground line. Stipple in mountains with *Payne's Grey*, leaving the center a bit lighter. (The brush should have a bit of moisture in it so you get a mottled look rather than fur). Using a foam brush, streak *Light Buttermilk* back and forth all the way to the bottom. This application shouldn't be opaque. The ½-inch frame around the design is *French Grey Blue*. The ⅜-inch bands next to the design and on front of the box are *Payne's Grey*.

BASECOAT

Transfer the main design lines and basecoat the following:

Slate Grey: snowcaps

Soft Black: Transparently stroke in fence posts and cross pieces.

Light Buttermilk: Stipple snowman and basecoat chicken (feathers are one-strokes).

Antique White: goose

Burnt Orange: goose beak and legs
Neutral Grey: Undercoat sheep and sled runner.

Graphite: sheep face and legs
Heritage Brick: snowman (hat, scarf), rooster (comb, waddle, face, wing feathers), chicken (comb, waddle), sled top

Mississippi Mud: bag (Leave off strap until scarf is finished.)

Honey Brown: rooster neck, tail and feathers

Marigold: sun, beaks and legs of rooster and chicken

Payne's Grey: rooster body, goose scarf (detail lines are *Silver Sage Green*)

SKY

Float soft *Antique Rose* behind the sun and on each side of the mountains. Shade the sun at the bottom with *Burnt Orange*. Highlight the top with *Primary Yellow* then *Light Buttermilk*. Scrub in rays with *Primary Yellow*.

MOUNTAINS

Softly shade snowcaps at the bottom with *Payne's Grey*. Highlight the tops with *Light Buttermilk*. Glaze a bit of *Primary Yellow* on the snowcaps on each side of the sun. Shade mountains under the snowcaps and where the mountains overlap with strong *Payne's Grey* (add a little *Lamp Black* if needed). Add a soft highlight of *Slate Grey* on the right of the front mountain. Stroke in trees with a liner brush and *Slate Grey*. Shade along the bot-

tom next to the ground with *Payne's Grey*.

FENCE

Shade the fence with strong *Soft Black* on posts under the cross pieces. Dry-brush *Slate Grey* here and there to make the fence look frosty. Grain lines are *Lamp Black*.

SNOWMAN

With *Slate Grey* then soft *Deep Midnight Blue*, shade under the hat and down the left side of the head, under the scarf, down the sides (wider on the left) and across the bottom, on each side of the waist and in the armhole. With *Snow White*, highlight the center of the face, the lower body and a few touches on the left edge of the body. Cheeks are *Antique Rose*. Eyes and mouth rocks are *Lamp Black* with tiny highlight dots of *Light Buttermilk*. The nose is *Burnt Orange*. Shade nose next to the face and along the bottom with *Heritage Brick*. Highlight the center with *Marigold*. Carrot lines are *Lamp Black*. Add soft shading under the nose with *Slate Grey*.

HAT AND SCARF

Shade the hat and scarf with *Soft Black* then *Payne's Grey*. On the hat, shade behind the brim, along the bottom of the brim next to the face, on the backside, on top of the left flap and next to the face on the right flap. On the scarf, shade each side of the neck, each side of the overlap piece, down the crease in the overlap, up each side (back to back) of the billow at the bottom of the overlap, on top of the left part next to the wrap and behind the bag. With *Hot Shots Fiery Red*, highlight the top of the hat, the top of the brim, the front of the hat flaps, the center of the scarf wrap, each side of the scarf crease, the center of the scarf billow at the bottom and the right side of the left part. Fine detail lines are *Lamp Black*. Stick arms are *Dark Chocolate*. Shade next to the body with *Soft Black* and add a dash high-

Color Step by Step



light of *Honey Brown* across the center. Grain lines are *Lamp Black*.

BAG

Basecoat the strap with *Mississippi Mud*. With *Dark Chocolate* then *Soft Black*, shade on the strap where it attaches to the bag, under the stick arm and where it goes behind the snowman, down the sides of the bag (wider on left), next to the front on the bottom and on the right side. Highlight the center of the bag and strap with *Khaki Tan*. Stitches are *Antique White*. Add a bit of shadow under the scarf strap with *Payne's Grey*.

ROOSTER

With *Lamp Black*, shade the rooster next to the feathers, on each side of the front leg and at the top of the back leg next to the chest. Highlight the centers of the chest and legs with *French Grey Blue*. Dots on the chest

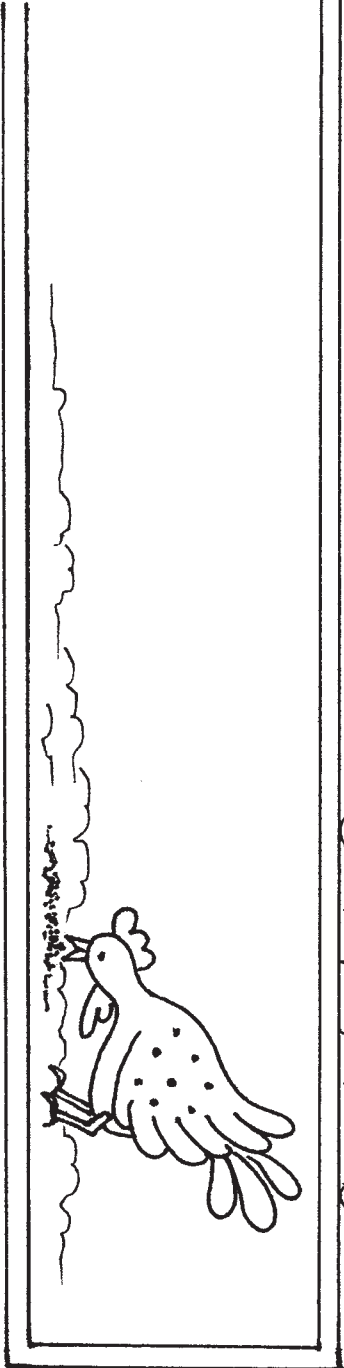
are *Slate Grey*. Shade the comb, waddle, face and wing with *Soft Black*. On the comb and waddle, shade next to the head and on the left side of the face. On the wing, shade next to and in between the neck feathers. With *Hot Shots Fiery Red*, highlight the top of the comb, the front of the face and waddle, and the tips of the wing feathers. Dot the eye and line the nostril with *Lamp Black*. Add a tiny highlight in the eye with *Light Buttermilk*. With *Burnt Sienna* then *Soft Black*, shade down each side of the neck, between the feathers, across the tail next to the body and between the feathers, on the beak next to the face and on the legs next to the body. With *Marigold*, highlight down the center of the neck and on the tips of the feathers. Add a few strokes of *Primary Yellow* to the tips of the top tail feathers, to the end of the beak and down the legs.

SLED

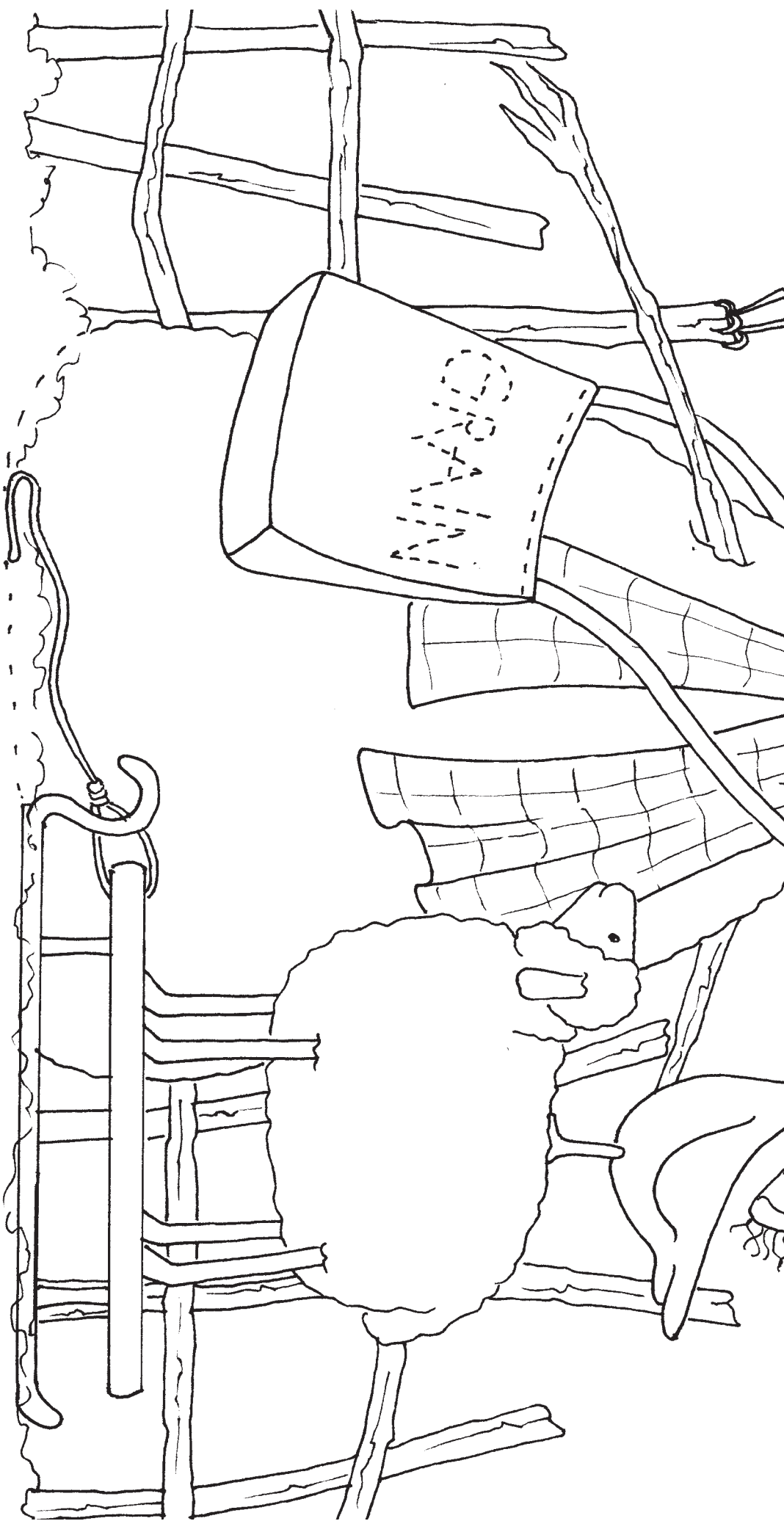
With *Graphite*, shade the top and bottom of the runner struts and along the bottom of the runner. Dash a highlight of *Light Buttermilk* down the struts, on the curve at the left and along the top. Shade the sled top with *Soft Black* along the bottom and right end. Highlight the top left with *Hot Shots Fiery Red*. Line the rope with *Mississippi Mud*. Shade with *Dark Chocolate* where the rope goes behind the runner, into the sled and on each side of the knot. Dash a highlight of *Antique White* across the knot and top of the loop.

SHEEP

Stipple the body with *Light Buttermilk*. Stipple a highlight of *Snow White* on the center of the body and head. Basecoat the ear *Graphite*. Shade softly around the body with *Graphite* and shade stronger at the neck folds, on the tail and under the ear. With *Lamp*



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Design shown at actual size.



Black, shade the face, ears and legs next to the body. With *Neutral Grey* then *Slate Grey*, highlight the front of the face, the end of the ear and down the center of the legs. Dot the eye with *Lamp Black* and add a tiny highlight dot of *Light Buttermilk*.

GOOSE

Shade with *Mississippi Mud* then *Dark Chocolate* on the front of the face, down the bottom of the body, under the wing and at the bottom of the tail feathers. With *Light Buttermilk*, high-

light the center of the head and neck, the bottom of the wing and the top of the tail. Shade the beak and legs with *Heritage Brick* next to the face and body. Highlight the end of the beak and down the legs with *Marigold*. Dot the eye and nostril with *Lamp Black*. Add a tiny highlight dot in the eye with *Light Buttermilk*. Shade the scarf with *Lamp Black* on the ties next to the wrap. With *Light Buttermilk*, dash a highlight on the center of the wrap, on the right side of the wrap and on the center of the long parts. The fringe is *Payne's Grey*.

CHICKEN

With *Soft Black*, shade softly on the front of the face, across the back and between the wing feathers, stronger under the wing, on the bottom of the tail feathers and on the comb/waddle next to the head. With *Snow White*, highlight the center of the head and the stroke end of the wing/tail feathers. Dots on the body are *Lamp Black*. Highlight and shade the comb/waddle and beak/legs the same as the rooster.

FINISHING

Background shading is *Deep Midnight Blue* mostly to the left and under objects. The snow is "smooshed in" (pushing in the paint rather than stippling it) across the bottom, next to the mountains and where wanted in the foreground. Highlight the top of the snow areas with *Snow White*. Dot in grain on the snow under the chicken

beak with *Honey Brown* and *Marigold*. Line the design where needed with *Lamp Black*.

Using a plastic lid, press out some oil paint and pour in some thinner; there's no need to mix them. Put on rubber gloves. Using a clean rag, dab into both the paint and the thinner and wipe all over the piece. The paint and thinner will blend together. Wipe on, turn your rag over and wipe off. With a clean part of the rag, wipe out the center design area to lighten, using a little thinner if necessary. Add extra oil paint to the edges and soften. Lightly mist with spray acrylic varnish. This will dry the oil almost immediately. When this light coat is dry, add one or two ample coats of spray varnish. If you prefer to use a brush-on varnish, wait a few days after antiquing to ensure the oil is completely dry. ∞

Artist's Sketch

Maxine Thomas has been painting since 1976 and enjoys sharing the secrets she has learned over the years with her students. She teaches across the



United States, as well as in Canada and Japan, and will be leading a seminar at the 2005 SDP Conference.

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