

HOME DÉCOR

By Elaine Peek for Marion Shadlock As this is a broad category comments are general.

KITCHEN

All things kitchen - microwave bowls, dryer balls, dish cloths, scrubbies, potato/vegetable steamer bags, etc - continue to generate strong sales, and requests for microwave bowls (post sale) continue to come in. Darker coloured fabrics were preferred for microwave bowls, to resist staining; same for dishcloths and pot holders.

CRAFTS

Rose Besler did a bang up job with all things crafty; shoe bags, thread catchers, and wine bags continue to be strong sellers. Rose is very good at 'styling' her table, and it definitively helps with sales.

The 'miscellaneous' category has some items that have been in storage for a second year of potential sale. The 'decor' colour of the year is 'Blueprint' (paint companies) and blue items seemed to be particularly strong sellers (as well as the neutrals that go with blue; grey, charcoal).

There are almost 50 small mug rugs and 60 medium mug rugs remaining, but a lot were sold!

Tea cosies sold well (not so well on the older print fabrics) as did wine bags of home decor fabrics (autumn shades, luxurious fabrics, etc- a \$5 - \$8 item).

Place mats, larger table toppers, lap quilts wall hangings were much slower to sell, and we have a number remaining. Crisp, bright colours (black contrast) sold well.

There were a number of felted bowls, corded bowls, and fabric boxes that did not enjoy strong sales. Perhaps a bit due to the colour choices, but in general, few shoppers even picked them up to handle them.

There were only two casserole carriers (both sold - \$35) and a further request received, so a few more for future sales would be welcome. Again, colours that resist staining should be chosen.

Chef/butcher style aprons of heavier weight fabric such as denim, twill sold ok, however florals seem to be less popular currently.

CHRISTMAS

By Donna Russell

Christmas had more stock turned in this year than last year and therefore there was more left at the end of the sale. About 40% of inventory was sold. Most items were well made.

Good Sellers – Stockings, Aprons, Runners, Tree Skirts, Placemats, Gift Bags, Coasters, Table and Mug Mats, Wool Ornaments, Pillows, and Halloween Ornaments

Less Successful – Gift Tags, Xmas Microwave Bowls, Kimono Ornaments (too many made), Plastic Ornaments, Crocheted Snowman, Wreaths

If you are making a new product line – make just a few (6 maybe) to see how they sell.

For the items that are carried over prices may be reduce for 2019. Other items that are 2 or 3 years old were donated to other non-profit organizations.