



Here is a sample of Gorlic's Trading hats made of muskrat, beaver and raccoon furs.  
HATS, EARMUFFS, VESTS, MITTENS, ETC.

## They Turn Animal Skins Into Clothing

Would you like to have a stylish "Davy Crockett" hat made out of that pesky raccoon in your back yard? How about turning some muskrat pelts into a vest, or a coyote's fur into mittens?

A New York company will turn nearly any animal skin into a hat, headband, earmuffs, vest, mittens, etc. Gorlic's Trading, Inc., of Warwick, N.Y., has been working with fur for 35 years, mostly for retail stores. The company recently began selling direct to consumers.

"We have customers in every state," says Willie Knobloch. "Just tell us what you want us to make and what size you want it. It takes six to eight months for us to make a finished product and return it to the customer. The best end products are made from good quality, professionally tanned skins that have no or minor damage. If the skins have bald spots or several cuts, it increases the time it takes to make the product and we also add a 10 percent surcharge. We don't accept low grade skins.

"It takes five to seven muskrats to make a hat and 1 1/2 coyotes. The raccoon hat includes face and tail. We also make a special 'mountain man' hat from a coyote. Earmuffs can be made with fur or velvet bands. Attractive key rings can be made out of foxes, mink, and raccoons. Our coyote mittens reach almost to the elbow and come in handy for snowmobiling, ice fishing, etc. All



Muskrat vests, coyote mittens will keep you warm in coldest weather.

furs can be died or sheared, if desired."

Prices range from \$7 to 10 for earmuffs, \$35 to \$45 for mittens, and up to \$195 for a muskrat vest. A raccoon hat sells for \$65 to \$85 depending on skin quality. A color brochure is available for \$3, with the cost deductible from the first order.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Gorlic's Trading Inc., Box 50, Warwick, N.Y. 10990 (ph 914 986-8484).



### The only parts ever replaced on the '48 thresher are a few teeth on the concave. McCormick-Deering Thresher Going Strong

If Alan McLean were to name his "best buy", it would undoubtedly be the 1948 McCormick-Deering thresher he uses every year to thresh grain.

Since McLean's father and four other farmers purchased the machine together in 1948 for \$800, it's been used every year to thresh about 15,000 bu. of oats, barley, wheat and sometimes peas. The long life has been accomplished by giving it a lot of TLM (Tender Loving Maintenance) which has kept repairs to virtually nothing.

"It still has the original drive belts," says McLean of Blind River, Ontario. "The

only thing we ever replaced were a few of the iron teeth on the concave. That was in 1950, as I recall."

McLean, who powers the thresher with a 1957 Super W4 International tractor, says he figures parts for the thresher would be hard to find if he ever needs them. But he doesn't think he'll need them for a while, at least.

"It runs like a top," he says. "I couldn't be more impressed."

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Alan McLean, Box 45, Blind River, Ontario, Canada P0R 1B0 (ph 705 356-7336).



Jim Loudon turned a 1986 Chevy pickup into a giant fence post. "I just crank the starter to tighten the fence," jokes Loudon.

MAKES A GREAT CORNER POST

## Old Pickup Becomes Farm "Monument"

Jim Loudon put more than 160,000 miles on his 1986 Chevy S-10 4-WD pickup before it finally wore out.

The Sceptre, Sask., rancher knew the pickup didn't have much resale value. So instead of giving it away, he decided to turn it into a giant corner post on a pasture south of his homestead. In the process he created a memorable, eye-catching farm monument.

He dug a 4-ft. deep hole and backed the pickup into it, then used a front-end loader to raise the pickup straight up. Then he back-filled the hole and tied the fence wire onto the driveshaft. He also painted "Loudon Ranch" on top of the cab which is visible to

passersby on a nearby gravel road.

"It doubles as a fence-tightener. I just crank the starter a couple times to tighten the fence wire," jokes Loudon, who actually removed the battery from the truck before burying it. "People drive from miles away to see it. It was a good truck in its day and had a lot of hard miles on it. It chased a lot of cows and moved a lot of snow. The drive train was still good when I retired it, but the body was beat up."

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After a cottonwood grew up through this 1920's Farmall Regular, Ralph Oliver cut it off to make a unique exhibit. Note face carved into trunk.

TREE GREW UP THROUGH TRACTOR PARKED IN THE WOODS

## "Tree Tractor" Sports A Built-In Sculpture

There are a lot of unique antique tractors around but not too many come with their own built-in wood sculpture like this 1920's Farmall Regular that was forgotten years ago in a grove near Sioux Falls, S. Dak.

The tractor sat for so long a cottonwood tree grew up through it, even growing around the gear shift lever which extends right through the trunk. When the present owner of the farm decided to clear out the grove, he came across the firmly anchored tractor. Nearby farmer Ralph Oliver offered to buy the tractor. He cut the tree trunk off above and below the tractor and hauled it

away with the chunk of trunk still in place.

It wasn't long before Oliver started taking it to antique tractor shows to give showgoers something to admire and wonder about. During a show near Grant, Iowa, Oliver brought in a wood carver to carve a face onto the chunk of wood. Farmers passing by were heard to comment: "I remember getting sore arms turning that steering wheel" and "That spring seat sure was stiff", or "The one we had sure used a lot of fuel".

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