

The Rags to Rugs Story

Inside a building of stone are the wool and burlap that are the makings of rugs. Wool fabric is cut into thin strips and then, through patience and skill, hooked into patterns to create distinctive rugs.

Linda MacDonald of the Rags to Rugs Shoppe in Pictou not only sells the wool, burlap, kits, books and other supplies needed by rug hookers, she teaches the craft.

Getting beginners hooked

My passion is getting people started. That's why I love teaching beginner classes. I'm really enthusiastic about it and I like to share that enthusiasm with other people. Basically, I try to get them hooked.



STEVE HARDER PHOTO

Linda MacDonald of Rags to Rugs

Bluenose patterns and storefront help make shop unique

Within a year of buying the business in 1993, several more set up shop in the Maritime market. To help set her business apart, she bought the stencils to the Bluenose Hooked Rug Patterns. Eighteen months ago she moved her shop into a stone building 175 years old, which makes for a unique storefront.

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I also do a lot of mail order. Often we kind of colour plan things over the phone. I've shipped to Vancouver Island, California, Florida and even England. My mother was my biggest help in getting started. She was very much a part of it.