

Better Homes and Gardens Special Interest Publications®

do it YOURSELF

52
Projects
Under
\$20

Revamp, Reuse,
Refresh
96 Ways to Update
Your Home

**SMART
STORAGE**
for Small
Spaces

**BUDGET
FURNITURE
MAKEOVERS**

Holiday Gifts,
Ornaments &
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Winter 2014
Vol. 21 / Issue 4
BHG.com/DIY

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do it YOURSELF winter 2014

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on the cover Get tips for revamping your creative work space. See page 60. photograph CAMERON SADEGHPOUR

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Handmade & happy

We all have challenging giftees on our holiday list. There's the person who either seems to have everything or wants nothing. Or there's the one you procrastinate buying for until the last second, then wind up with a sweater you hope fits the recipient (*hello*, gift receipt!) or a gift card that seems impersonal.

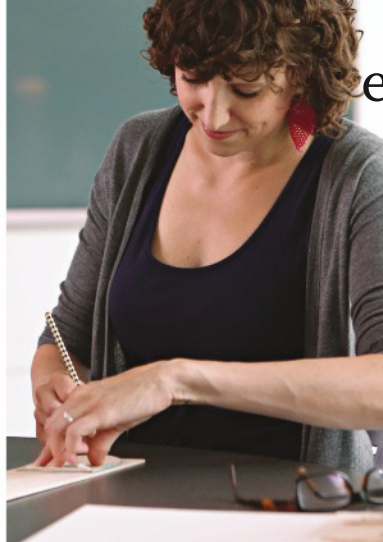
We're here for you. I'm confident this issue of *Do It Yourself* will help you avoid crowded mall parking lots and long checkout lines, and instead immerse you in a season of crafting gifts and other seasonal pretties for your loved ones and your home.

Start with our gift guide on *page 46*. Find goods (some under \$15) perfect for everyone on your list—seriously, everyone. Does your baker pal already have every cupcake liner ever created? I bet she doesn't have a Cake Box. Your artist friend? Try the color-wheel necklace. You'll also find our best bets for dudes and kiddos, too. And the best part? Almost everything you see is made by small companies or independent makers, ensuring your gift is truly special.

With gift shopping completed, you might even have time to make something for your own space. These pages are brimming with tabletop, ornament, and other decor ideas. We'd love to see what you're working on: Share the projects that make your season meaningful at facebook.com/DIYideas.

Bethany

Bethany Kohoutek,
Do It Yourself™ editor



Trim your tree in style with ornaments made from simple materials—drinking straws, string, glitter, and balsa wood. When we saw the ornaments designer Leslie Poyzer crafted for our story on *page 39*, we had to give them a try. I hope you love the look as much as we do!



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try it

lost & found

Vintage book pages, playing cards, correspondence, and other bits of ephemera become scene-stealing party accents.

projects **JODI MENSING HARRIS**
photographs **STEVEN MCDONALD**
words **KELLY ROBERSON**





For a dessert topper, wrap a paper pennant around a straw and secure with hot glue.

in love
I...to fall in love with

Life of the party Taped to a wall, overlapped book pages serve as textured, temporary wallpaper. Secure the pages with loops of painter's tape to avoid damaging the wall. Wrapping-paper strips dress up a cake stand or serving tray. Punch a lacy border and secure with double-stick tape. Distinctive images from vintage posters, magazines, or catalogs make a fun one-of-a-kind welcome sign: Cut out around the silhouette with a crafts knife and attach to a chalkboard or mini easel using double-stick tape.

try it

Scan and print handwritten postcards and letters so you can scale them to size and use the images without damaging the originals.



1 Conversation starter

Vintage ephemera can often be found for pennies at garage sales, thrift stores, online shops, or eBay. Sift through the offerings for old postcards; pick a few choice messages or interesting scenes and use double-stick tape to cover bottle labels or attach to containers.

2 On the boards

With a bit of sewing, retro bingo cards disguise ordinary vessels. Sew the long edges of three or four bingo cards together by hand or with a sewing machine using a zigzag stitch. Slide the covers over jars, vases, or other containers.



3 Sell and serve

Kitsch meets clever with the reuse of vintage advertisements. Colorful magazine pages add pizzazz to clear glass serving bowls and platters with flat bottoms. Trace the bottom of the dish and trim the page to size. Use a small foam brush and decoupage medium (a) to adhere the paper to the underside of the dish. Smooth out any bubbles, beginning from the center and working toward the edges.

try it



4 Eye level Rosettes made from sheet music or book pages become a stunning overhead focal point. (See page 15 for rosette assembly instructions.) Vary page and fold sizes and number of sheets to create different looks. Hang on fishing line at varying heights.

5 New is nice This vintage-look table runner is actually new gift wrap printed with a retro pattern. Tape several sheets together to cover a table.

6 Raid your stash Board games with missing pieces, toy packaging, and other items around your house can become free party decor. On this tabletop, play money from a game adds pattern to glass votives.



7 Take a seat Graphic and colorful, vintage playing cards are easily personalized to become place cards. Write each person's name on one side of a card. Hot-glue lollipop sticks or straws to card backs; insert the straws or sticks into the holes of wood spools of thread in hues that match your palette (a).



Create cohesion by repeating shapes—here, a circle for the rosettes, plates, and place mats.



8 A place at the table Neutral tabletop accents such as linen napkins work with a variety of party and decorative themes. To accent them, create miniature versions of the large hanging rosettes on page 12. Accordion-fold three book pages (or three small strips cut from book pages), then fold in half, hot-gluing the edges together to make a fan (a). Glue the edges of three fans together to create a rosette. Attach a bottle cap to the center of the rosette using a dab of hot glue, and trim the rosette if desired. Wrap a length of wired burlap ribbon around the center of the napkins; hot-glue or tape the rosette to the ribbon. Adorn with rosemary sprigs and faux or fresh berries.

For Resources see page 110.



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X.
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order in the house

stow and go

Keeping bathroom essentials tidy is a stress-free way to start the day.

styling + words **PAMELA PORTER** | photographs **KING AU & JAY WILDE**





Team DIY
Pamela Porter

If you're building or remodeling a bathroom, plan built-in cubbies and cabinets between wall studs. Maximize vertical storage by letting shelving, towel bars, and other units climb the walls. Put pretty bath items like soaps and towels on display; tuck the rest away or in stylish containers.

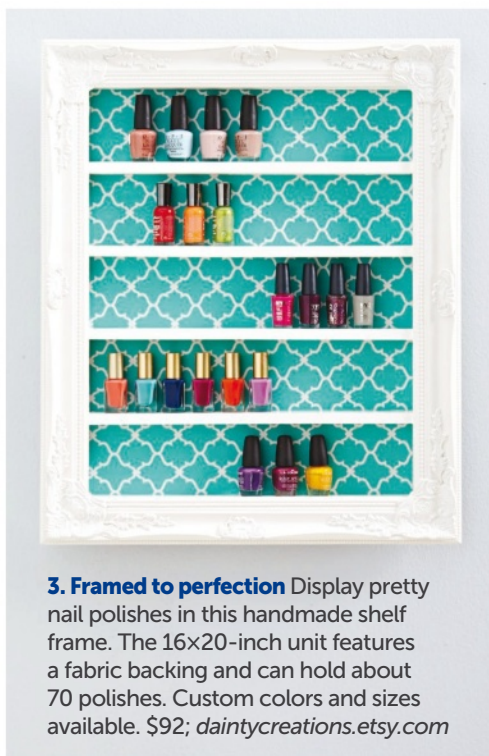
Though typically small, bathrooms can pack an impressive storage punch. Utilize a petite, freestanding unit, *opposite*, and stock it with basic wares. We painted the back of the cabinet blue so white textiles and pretty glass containers would shine.



2. Bathing beauty The Hannah Hair Accessories Organizer Shelf saves space and keeps bathrooms tidy. The shelf features multiple cubbies to stow your stuff as well as a convenient towel bar. \$70; pbteen.com



1. A rainbow of color Hand-painted with durable glass paint, these Mason jars make colorful countertop clutter busters. Available in a variety of colors and combinations. \$25 this set; gammassoapandstuff.etsy.com



3. Framed to perfection Display pretty nail polishes in this handmade shelf frame. The 16x20-inch unit features a fabric backing and can hold about 70 polishes. Custom colors and sizes available. \$92; daintycreations.etsy.com

4. To have and to hold This compact, mildew-resistant Good Grips Silicone Razor Holder stretches to fit most shaving cream cans to hold razors off surfaces for quick drying and less clutter. \$3; oxo.com



order in the house

5. The fairest of them all Fashioned from powder-coated steel, the Gunnern Mirrored Cabinets and Pedestal Table from IKEA are sturdy and storage savvy, as is the Silveran Sink Cabinet. \$30–\$79; ikea.com



6. Home sweet home This playful house-shape Casa tissue box cover uses tissues to complete its homey silhouette—forming “smoke” as they pull through the chimney. \$5; umbra.com

7. A cut above As the name suggests, the wall-mount Style & Go Hair Care Valet by Marcy McKenna helps tame your morning routine. It features an integrated power source, safe spot for hot irons, and a hidden cord system. \$132; qvc.com



Scan here to learn more.



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on our radar

Welcome the wintry season with these indoor-friendly crafts, tools, and holiday decorating ideas.

photographs **MARTY BALDWIN & JACOB FOX** | styling **BRIAN KRAMER** | words **CHELSEA EVERS**



Freshen up

Bid bye-bye to winter blues when you construct this pretty paper wreath. Curl precut succulent shapes, attach to the provided wreath form, and hang. No green thumb necessary! \$23; papersource.com

1

2

3

4

1. Panel play

Take on woodworking projects without buying and hauling giant slabs of plywood. PureBond project panels are available in easy-to-handle sizes (2x2, 2x4, 2x8, and 4x4 feet), three thicknesses, and 12 veneer-bonded wood species. \$5–\$60; homedepot.com

2. Handy sand

Sand spaces large and small with 3M SandBlaster tools. The large sander is ideal for flat surfaces, while the detail version glides into corners. Rotating ergonomic handles make work less grueling. \$8 for a detail sander, \$10 for a large sander; 3Mdiy.com for retailers

3. Dually noted

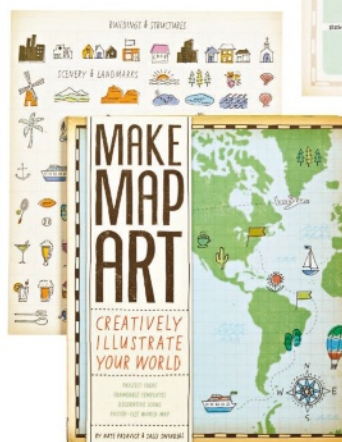
Digitize handwritten lists in a snap. Jot on a Post-it note, snap a photo through the free Photernote app, and sync. The app sorts notes by color, schedules reminders, and searches your own handwriting. Starting at \$7 (includes notes and one-month premium subscription); post-it.com for retailers

4. Fab greetings

These quirky twists on classic cards will make holiday mailings fun again. Gold foil accents, stand-up photo cards, garlands, interactive elements, and mini photo booklets are just a few ways to deliver loads of holiday cheer. Starting at \$1.25; peartreegreetings.com

5. Clean scene

Remove paint, adhesive, oil, caulk, and even permanent marker with oversize tear-resistant Dow Great Stuff Work Wipes. A scrubber surface on one side gets down and dirty with tough messes, while the gentler reverse is ideal for cleaning grease and grime off hands. \$6; lowes.com



6. Paper stitch

Impress friends with elaborate greeting cards you embellish with We R Memory Keepers' SewEasy Starter Kit. Use one of five patterned rotary piercers to poke evenly spaced holes, then stitch them with embroidery floss. \$30; veronthenet.com

7. Cuddly critter

Even novice crafters can stitch an adorable animal. Available in several styles, this pillow kit includes fleece, fiberfill stuffing, and buttons for the eyes and nose. Included paper templates make cutting and sewing simple. \$26; fluffedanimals.etsy.com

8. Hands free

Made from an aluminum block, this level features rare earth magnets, freeing your hands for tracing and hanging when working on metal surfaces. With a thumb-screw clamp and V-groove for accurate readings, it's a hardworking addition to any tool kit. \$32; duluthtrading.com

9. Travel tracker

Chart new territory, sketch your hometown, and more when you try project ideas in Nate Padavick and Salli Swindell's *Make Map Art*. Templates, legends, and a bonus poster-size world map make plotting future journeys fun. \$20; chroniclebooks.com

10



12



10. Neat notions

Keep fabric and paint samples stored tidily together with this reusable swatch kit. Small enough to fit in a pocket, the kit includes 12 cards, removable labels, a protective plastic cover, and a metal ring. \$14; swatchbuddies.com



11



13

11. Knit expert

Visual learners will love Mittens and Gloves Galore, an online knitting course. Watch 12 instructional videos, ask questions in the forum, then choose from five patterns to make your own custom mittens and gloves. \$40 per class; craftsy.com

12. Shape up

Heat these moldable foam blocks with a hair dryer or heat gun, then press them into found objects, flowers, or textured surfaces to create a custom stamp. Change your mind? Reheat and stamp again. \$8 for pack of eight blocks; clearsnap.com for retailers

13. Village verve

Fold and decorate your own collection of buildings. Sold in a set of four unassembled buildings, the kit comes with bottle brush trees, vellum windows, chipboard bases, ribbon, and tinsel. \$38 for four-house kit; holidayspiritsdecor.etsy.com



14

15



16

17



18

14. Mason maker

Old jars become storage containers, decorations, or handmade gifts when you follow the steps in *DIY Mason Jars* by Melissa Averinos. The book includes 35 projects, including pendant lamps and ornaments, and an array of labels and tags. \$13; adamsmediastore.com

15. Smart steam

The Eco Intelligence Iron's patented soleplate design concentrates steam, using 25 percent less energy than other irons. Three steam settings and a scratch-resistant surface make it a smart and sustainable investment. \$150; rowentausa.com

16. Get a grip

Prevent blisters and injury with the Backsaver Grip, a universal handle you can attach to rakes, shovels, and brooms. The grip allows users to work while standing straight, increasing leverage and decreasing back strain. \$12; backsavergrip.com

17. Luxe labels

Get personal with this update on the label maker. Choose from 14 fonts and symbols to print onto a range of ribbons. \$70 for LabelWorks Printable Ribbon Kit (includes printer, case, and two ribbon cartridges); epson.com

18. A cut above

Making decals, cards, and decor has never been easier. Use free online software to design a project, then adjust the Smart Set dial on the Cricut Explore Cutting Machine to slice through paper, cardstock, fabric, or vinyl. \$300; cricut.com

what to do with pom-poms



a good



Hooray for pom-poms! Turn these small, colorful balls into accents with big style.

projects **ERICA CARNES** | styling **JESSICA MILLER** | photographs **JAY WILDE** | words **HEIDI PALKOVIC**



Have a ball Add a fun twist to a party with pom-pom accents. Create balls using pom-pom making tools and yarn: Use a large tool to make 3-inch balls for a garland (see *page 29*) and a small tool to make 1-inch balls for a cake topper. To crochet the garland's foundation, chain-stitch a row to the desired length. Double-crochet the second row. For the third row, chain five single crochet stitches, attaching to every fifth stitch from the previous row using a slip stitch to form scallops. (Visit BHG.com/Crochet to watch videos on how to make the stitches.) Chain-stitch hanging strings to the center of each third-row scallop, then, using a large-eye needle, thread pom-poms onto the strings and sew a pom-pom to each end. To make the cake topper, thread small pom-poms onto baker's twine and tie the ends to skewers.



Panel perfect Give plain curtains a cheery boost by attaching rows of colorful pom-pom trim. Measure and mark parallel lines 6 inches apart across each panel using a fabric-marking pencil and measuring tape. To prevent puckering, glue 1-inch pom-pom trim to half of each drawn line at a time, allowing it to dry before gluing the other half. (We used Fabri-Tac, a permanent fabric glue.) To achieve a fuller effect, add additional strands of trim. (We used three strands—two light and one dark—for each row.)





Warm welcome Perk up your front door with a ring of pom-poms. Choose yarn in shades of white, cream, and light tan and make the pom-poms in a variety of sizes. Hot-glue the balls to a wire wreath form, positioning tightly together until the base is covered. Glue an artificial bird to the wreath. To make balls with a shaggy appearance, use a large wooden fork (see BHG.com/Pom-Pom) or the Knifty Knitter Pom-Pom Maker, available at crafts stores.

what to do with pom-poms

Under cover Make a stylish addition to a purchased throw by adding jumbo pom-poms to the edges. Use an extra-large pom-pom maker to make 4½-inch balls, leaving long tails when tying each one off. Pin the yarn tails along the edge of the throw, roll the hemmed edge to enclose the tails, and topstitch.





a



b



While there are many ways to make pom-poms, we like the uniformity a pom-pom maker achieves. Go to BHG.com/Pom-Pom to learn how to make pom-poms with a wooden fork.

HOW TO MAKE A POM-POM

WHAT YOU'LL NEED:

- Yarn
- Scissors with sharp tips
- Clover Pom-Pom Maker

step 1 Gather your materials (a).

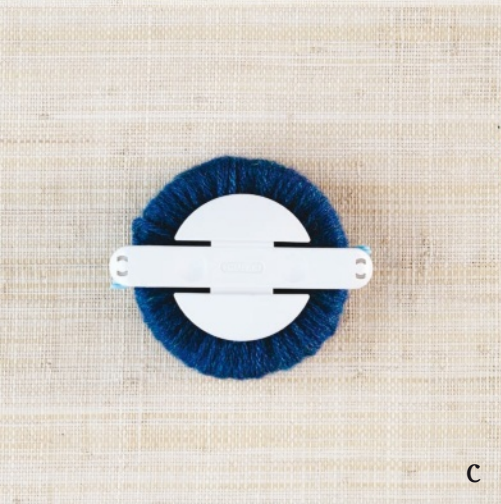
step 2 Open both arms of the pom-pom maker. Beginning at the end of one arm, wind yarn around the arm toward the hinge. Continue winding yarn onto second arm, working from the hinge to the end of the arm (b). Trim yarn to separate from ball.

step 3 Close the pom-pom maker (c). Hold the pom-pom maker firmly in one hand. Using the tips of the scissors, snip through the side of the yarn wraps. Use the groove in the side of the tool as a guide for the scissors (d).

step 4 Cut a length of yarn. If your pom-pom will be attached with a hanging string, cut a generous length. Wrap the yarn around the pom-pom maker, inserting it into the groove in the side of the tool. Tie the yarn in a single knot. Pull the yarn ends firmly to tighten the knot (e). Tie again to secure. Open the pom-pom maker arms (f).

step 5 Pull the center of the tool apart and remove the pom-pom (g). Trim yarn tails with scissors, unless you plan to use the tails for attaching (h). If needed, shape the pom-pom with scissors.

For Resources see page 110.



c



d



e



f



g



h

stick to it

No matter the situation, this roundup of adhesives has got you covered.

words **BRITTANY BUNGERT** | photographs **MARTY BALDWIN**



1 **Loctite GO2 Glue**
loctiteproducts.com
 \$5

WHAT IT DOES Perfect for DIY projects and repairs, the adhesive sets with no clamping needed.

WHY WE LIKE IT The all-purpose formula dries clear and has a flexible bond.

2 **Elmer's ProBond Advanced**
elmers.com
 \$5–\$11

WHAT IT DOES Adhere porous to nonporous surfaces with this weatherproof glue.

WHY WE LIKE IT The foam-free formula is extra strong and has a translucent, paintable finish.

3 **Rockler Woodworking and Hardware Nexabond Instant Wood Adhesive**
rockler.com
 \$8–\$17

WHAT IT DOES Get a bond that is stronger than wood by applying glue to just one side of the pieces you're adhering.

WHY WE LIKE IT The formula skips solvents, which means no worrying about wood swelling. And the short (1–3 minutes) and medium (3–5 minutes) bonding times keep clamps from being tied up for long periods.

4 **Therm O Web HeatnBond EZ-Print Lite**
thermoweboonline.com
 \$8

WHAT IT DOES Easily bond fabric appliques with this iron-on permanent adhesive.

WHY WE LIKE IT Ink-jet print patterns directly on paper-backed sheets before ironing on the adhesive and cutting out shapes.

5 **Tombow Xtreme Adhesive**
tombowusa.com
 \$9 (tape runner); \$7.50 (refills)

WHAT IT DOES This extra-strength adhesive bonds permanently on surfaces, including cork, wood, fabric, and rubber.

WHY WE LIKE IT The tape runner is refillable and although it bonds instantly, the adhesive continues to strengthen for 24 hours. Bonus: Since it's a dry adhesive, you don't have to worry about it showing through materials like fabric.

6 **Xyron 3-inch Sticker Maker**
xyron.com
 \$13

WHAT IT DOES Run an object (up to 3 inches wide and $\frac{1}{16}$ inch thick) through the Sticker Maker to apply permanent adhesive to the back.

WHY WE LIKE IT Fast and mess-free, it makes it easy to achieve all-over adhesive coverage.

7 **Scotch Outdoor and Extreme Fasteners**
fasteners.scotchbrand.com
 \$4–\$30

WHAT IT DOES Hold items up to 5 or 10 pounds in place indoors or out with hook-and-loop adhesive tape, allowing for easy removal.

WHY WE LIKE IT A variety of sizes are available and both formulas are effective in outdoor conditions.

8 **Gorilla Clear Repair Tape**
gorillatough.com
 \$7

WHAT IT DOES Fix items ranging from a smartphone screen to pool covers with this transparent tape.

WHY WE LIKE IT After it's applied, the clear finish of the tape won't be noticeable—and won't yellow.

9 **DAP SmartBond Heavy Duty Construction Adhesive**
dap.com
 \$17

WHAT IT DOES The adhesive applies as a foam and transforms into a fast-curing gel that bonds building materials.

WHY WE LIKE IT Speed up your project with the easy-to-use aerosol can that provides eight times the coverage of traditional construction adhesive cartridges.

10 **Krazy Glue Craft Brush-On with SkinGuard**
krazyglue.com
 \$3

WHAT IT DOES Cover both large areas and hard-to-reach spots using the brush applicator.

WHY WE LIKE IT With SkinGuard, you get the strength of Krazy Glue without the worry of sticking your fingers together.

11 **Scotch Restickable Designer Dots and Strips**
scotchbrand.com
 \$3.50–\$7

WHAT IT DOES Temporarily attach lightweight items to stainless steel, plastic, concrete, walls, and other flat surfaces.

WHY WE LIKE IT Remove and restick them more than 10 times.

12 **Glue Dots Double-Sided Sheets**
gluedots.com
 \$4

WHAT IT DOES Each pack comes with five $2\frac{3}{4} \times 3\frac{3}{8}$ -inch sheets that can be cut to size and used to hold down a rug corner, hang items weighing up to 8 pounds, and more.

WHY WE LIKE IT Three available formulas—repositionable, multipurpose, and advanced strength—mean there's an option for nearly every project.



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Lighting Your Life, an American Lighting Association publication, shows you how to use lighting to add beauty and drama to a room, as well as save energy and create a functional environment. With images of the latest lighting designs throughout, this brochure offers up-to-date home lighting information, including the latest trends in lighting and energy-efficiency tips.

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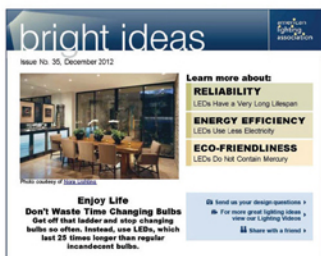
Find the perfect fan for your room at www.montecarlofans.com.



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American Lighting Association

Bright Ideas, an e-newsletter from the American Lighting Association, offers interesting home lighting tips, interior design ideas and other timely information to help you light your home.

Visit americanlightingassoc.com.



30 Most Innovative Products

Looking for products that showcase contemporary design and smart features? Thinking about a kitchen and/or bath remodel or refresh? The '30 Most Innovative Products' showcases the top picks of the 30 most innovative kitchen and bath products of the year.

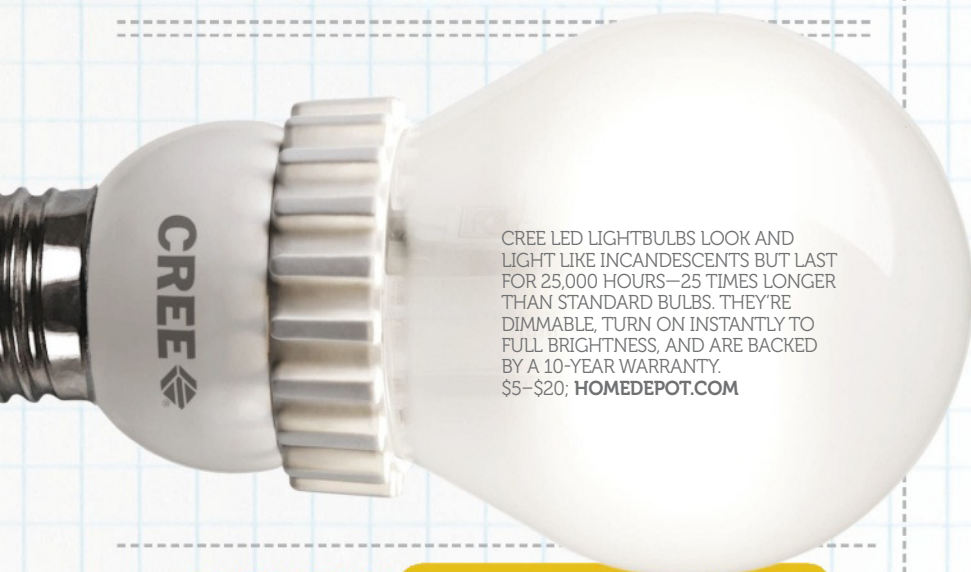
To learn more about these products, go to www.BHG.com/CoolProducts

DIY Q&A

handy girl

Our DIY diva dishes on lighting and heating technology, weather stripping, and more so you can ready your home for winter without calling a pro.

words **JENNIFER WILSON**



CREE LED LIGHTBULBS LOOK AND LIGHT LIKE INCANDESCENTS BUT LAST FOR 25,000 HOURS—25 TIMES LONGER THAN STANDARD BULBS. THEY'RE DIMMABLE, TURN ON INSTANTLY TO FULL BRIGHTNESS, AND ARE BACKED BY A 10-YEAR WARRANTY. \$5–\$20; HOMEDEPOT.COM

THE AVERAGE HOME HAS ABOUT 50 LIGHTBULBS.

SEE HOW EACH BULB YOU CHOOSE CAN IMPACT YOUR WALLET.

BULB TYPE // LIFE SPAN (All approximately 800 lumens)	COST OVER 10 YEARS*
STANDARD INCANDESCENT 60W // 1 YEAR LIFE SPAN	\$85.15
HALOGEN INCANDESCENT 43W // 1 YEAR LIFE SPAN	\$72.44
COMPACT FLUORESCENT LIGHT (CFL) 13W // 9 YEAR LIFE SPAN	\$23.37
LIGHT-EMITTING DIODE (LED) 10W // 23 YEAR LIFE SPAN	\$26.40

SOURCE: Natural Resources Defense Council
*Includes purchasing and powering costs

DEAR HANDY GIRL,

The lightbulb in my living room lamp burned out. I know I should find an energy-efficient replacement, but I'm confused by all the new lingo. Help!

DEAR READER,

You're smart to replace the standard and halogen incandescent bulbs in your home with energy-efficient options. While CFLs (compact fluorescent lightbulbs) and LEDs (light-emitting diodes) have gotten a bad rap in the past for having poor light quality and high price tags, they're getting better (and more affordable) all the time and provide more savings in the long run. See the chart, *below left*, to compare the overall cost to purchase and power each kind over 10 years.

What's the difference? CFLs—the goofy-looking pigtails—last up to 10 years and cost a few bucks in a multipack. LEDs look more like a bulb, last 15–25 years, and cost \$10 and up. CFLs and LEDs use 25–80 percent less energy than incandescent bulbs.

Read each bulb's consumer information on the newly required Energy Star labels. To select a suitable replacement for your current fixture, compare lumens, the measure of light given off by the bulb, instead of watts. For a standard incandescent, 40 watts = 450 lumens; 60 watts = 800 lumens; and 75 watts = 1,100 lumens.

The Kelvin (K) number, which measures the light color, is also important. If you prefer the warm yellow light of an incandescent bulb, look for warm white or soft white CFL or LED bulbs (about 2700K). If you prefer a cool, white light, look for daylight bulbs with at least 5000K. (The higher the number, the brighter and whiter the light.)

DEAR HANDY GIRL,

What's up with new thermostats on the market? Some of them actually look cool! Is it easy to replace my old thing with something higher tech?

DEAR READER,

Absolutely. Programmable thermostats reduce energy costs—good for both your budget and the environment. See my picks, *right*, to find a high-tech model that's right for your home.

First, ask your energy provider about an energy audit—several do it for free and might install a reduced-price thermostat for you.

To do this yourself, shut off the power at the main fuse box and grab a screwdriver and level. Remove the housing from the old model, then remove the old thermostat. Tuck the wires safely to the side—I like to fold a piece of labeled tape around each wire to keep them from slipping inside the wall. Pull the wires through the new wall plate, mount the plate securely to the wall, and check that it's level.

Hook up the wires clockwise around the terminals and push any excess back into the wall, according to manufacturer's instructions. Attach the body to the cover plate and follow the programming instructions.

ENERGY-MINDED SMARTPHONE APPS

KILL-UR-WATTS (free). Using your self-reported energy consumption data, this provides customizable graphs and shows your carbon footprint.

ENERGY TRACKER (\$0.99). With just two taps on your smartphone screen, see how much energy your appliance or system has used. Take regular measurements to note trends and usage statistics.

ENERGY COST CALCULATOR (free). Calculate the operating cost and energy usage of electric equipment or machinery.

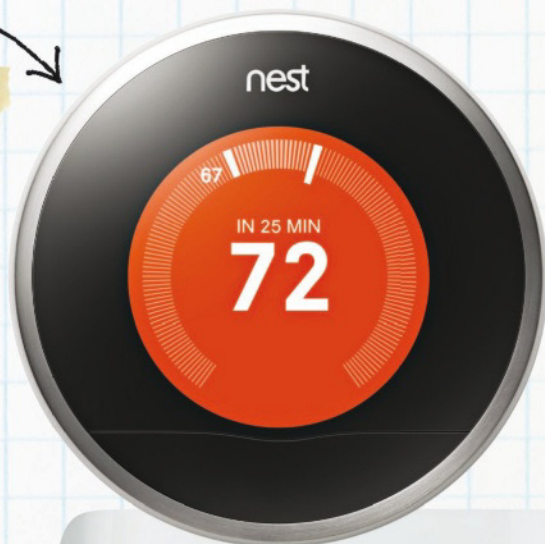
Thermostat picks

NEST got everyone thinking about thermostat design with an elegant round interface. It's Wi-Fi connected via app and "learns" your habits to program itself based on your adjustment patterns. \$249; nest.com

ECOBEE thermostats have color touch screens, smart features that track your habits, and easy-peasy prompts that help you create up to seven program schedules. The Wi-Fi connection sends alerts and energy reports—plus, we like the name. \$199; ecobee.com

The Wi-Fi Smart Thermostat with Voice Control from **HONEYWELL**, a company that gets consistently high ratings from *Consumer Reports*, offers a customizable touch screen, Wi-Fi remote access via app, and voice control. \$299; wifithermostat.com

The **VENSTAR** ColorTouch Series received praise from *Consumer Reports* for its colorful touch screen, customizable background for your own photos, and Wi-Fi access with the Skyport Wi-Fi Key. \$180 plus \$70 for Wi-Fi Key; venstar.com





Get ready for winter!
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a list of tasks to
complete before the
cold weather sets in.

DEAR HANDY GIRL,

The last two
times I've
thrown a
dinner party,
my sink has
clogged and
the plumbing
bill made the
bash twice
as expensive.
How can I
unclog this
thing myself?

**NO TOOL? IF A SOLID OBJECT
JAMS YOUR DISPOSAL, YOU
CAN ALSO TURN THE GRINDER
WITH A BROOM HANDLE.**

DEAR READER,

If your disposal motor shuts off during operation, it's probably overloaded. Wait a few minutes for the unit to cool, then push the red button to reset the motor (a). If a solid object has caused a jam, turn off the power and use a disposal turning tool (b) to turn the grinder back and forth. Remove the obstruction, replace the splash guard, turn on the cold water, and test.

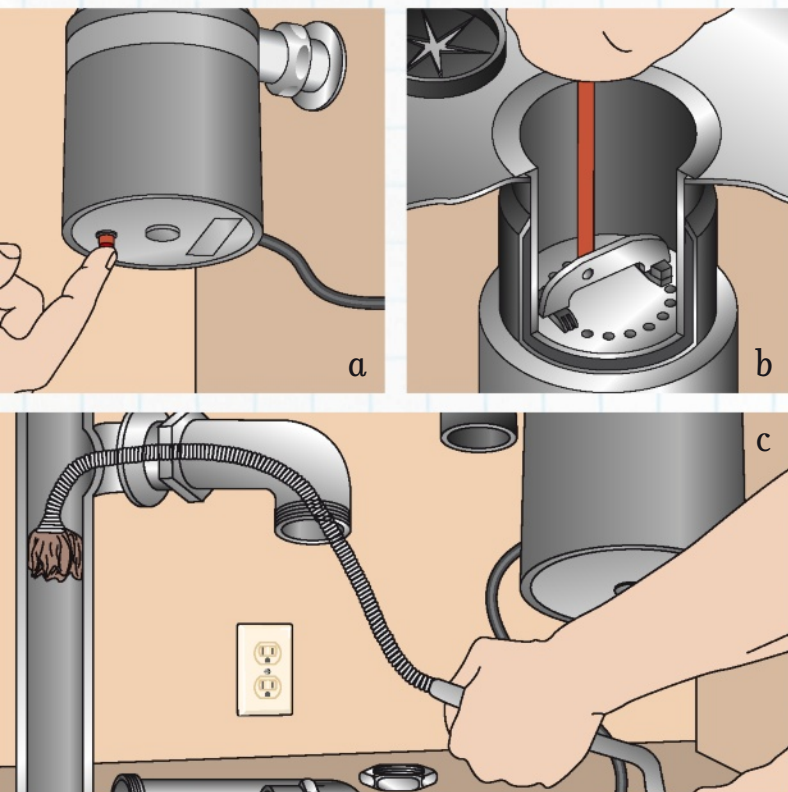
If water is draining sluggishly, there's probably an obstruction in the drain. Grab your pliers, screwdriver, wire hanger, plastic drain stick, plunger, wet rags, bucket, a pipe wrench, bottle brush, and plumbing snake. Here we go:

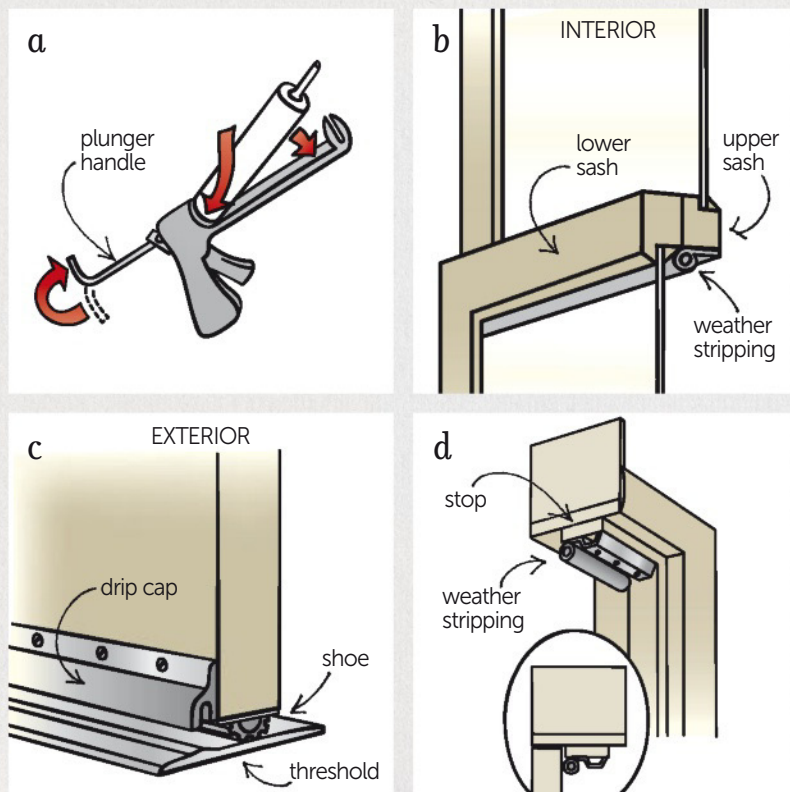
ONE Pull out the sink stopper by turning it with your fingers. Also remove the strainer or screen if you have one. Clean off both and check for a blockage at the top of the drain. Toss the yuck into a bucket as you work.

TWO Insert a plastic drain stick or a bent clothes hanger into the drain to hook and remove other clogs. Run hot water to wash away the gunk you stirred up. If the water drains well, replace all. If not, grab the plunger.

THREE Using a small sink plunger, work to shift whatever is clogging that pipe. Try it when the sink is both dry (block the overflow hole with wet rags to create a vacuum) and wet (fill the sink with a few inches of water, and plunge). Keep it up until it drains freely. No change? Steel yourself. We're going into the drainpipe.

FOUR A sink's P-trap captures debris or dropped items. Place your bucket beneath to catch water and gross stuff as you disassemble the pipes. (Newer sink traps might have a removable square or hexagon plug at the base of the U that lets you access the trap easier.) For metal traps sans plugs, use a pipe wrench to loosen the couplings, or if it's a PVC pipe you can probably just loosen it with your hands. Clean the trap and adjacent pipe using a bent wire or a bottle brush. Reassemble and flush with hot water to make sure that baby's clear. If water still isn't draining well, remove the trap and twist a plumber's snake or cable auger (c) into the pipe between the trap and wall to grab and remove that beast.





NO CAULK GUN?
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SMALL JOB, DAP
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THAT'S LITERALLY
CAULKING IN A
CAN. WATERPROOF,
EASY CLEANUP,
MOLD- AND
MILDEW-
RESISTANT. YES!

DEAR HANDY GIRL, I love my new-to-me house that was built almost 100 years ago, but it's crazy drafty. It's like a wind tunnel in here! Got any tips before winter?

DEAR READER,

Creating a tight seal at all doors, windows, and anything else that opens would help. Here's how to do it with caulk and weather stripping.

CAULKING Caulk fills gaps where materials meet (baseboards, chimney and siding, door and window frames, light canopies, pipes, service lines, etc.). You might need to fill wide gaps with closed-cell foam backer strips or foam sealant. To load your caulk gun, invert and pull the plunger handle all the way back, insert the caulk tube, and then push the plunger forward (a). Hold the gun at a 45-degree angle and pull it toward you in a smooth, steady stroke while maintaining even pressure on the trigger. At the end of a stroke, lift the tip with a twist, then quickly release the plunger. Remove excess caulk from the nozzle. Finish by smoothing the bead in one stroke with a moist fingertip. It takes a little practice, so try it in an inconspicuous area first. Save partial tubes by sealing them with a nail or a screw.

WEATHER-STRIPPING WINDOWS Rolled vinyl, foam, and other gasket-type weather-stripping products seal two surfaces that

meet each other. When a window closes, the weather stripping compresses to seal air leaks. For double-hung windows, attach a strip to the bottom of the upper sash (b). For casement windows, attach strips to the sash or to the casing and the sill, whichever provides a tighter squeeze.

WEATHER-STRIPPING DOORS Install a seal to exterior door thresholds. A door sweep (not pictured) installs at the bottom of the interior side of the door, a shoe makes a seal underneath, and a drip cap installs on the bottom of the exterior side (c). If you see gaps in the weather-stripping around the door, it's time to replace. You'll need about 30 minutes per door. To install metal-and-vinyl strips, close the door. Cut pieces to fit using tin snips or a hacksaw. Apply to the stop so it just touches the door (d). Drive the screws provided into the center of each slot so you can adjust the position if needed. You also can add spring metal (not pictured) along each side. Nail each strip to the jamb inside the stop, with the open end facing the exterior. On the latch side, notch-cut the strip to fit around the strike plate.





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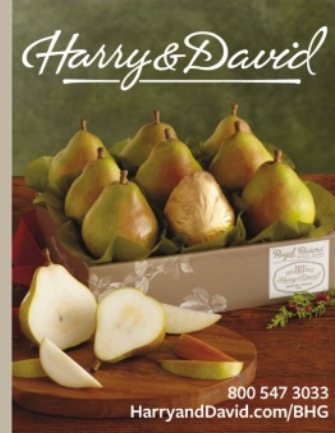
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Angular dangles

Patterned-paper straws are festive, fun, and inexpensive to buy in bulk. Turn them into custom creations to trim your tree or a pretty branch or to give as gifts. Play with shapes and scale to make the most of this geometric project. (See instructions, page 40.)

holiday

BY HAND

Trade in the tinsel this year and rely on custom-made creations to trim the trees and deck the halls.

projects **LESLIE POYZER** | photographs **CAMERON SADEGHPOUR**
how-to photographs **JAY WILDE** | words **AMY PALANJIAN**



HOW TO MAKE DRINKING-STRAW ORNAMENTS

WHAT YOU'LL NEED (A):

- Patterned-paper straws
- Embroidery floss
- Crafts knife
- Embroidery needle
- Cutting mat

step 1 To make a diamond shape, cut straws into twelve 2-inch pieces using a crafts knife. Cut a 36-inch length of embroidery floss and use the needle to string on four straw pieces, leaving a long tail at the end. Pull straws tight, shape into a diamond, and knot floss (b).

step 2 String two straw pieces onto the knotted floss (c), pushing them to the bottom of your diamond. Loop the floss around the top of the diamond and pull tight to secure the straws. Add two more straws to complete the opposite side of the second diamond (d). Tie the floss at the top of the ornament (e).

step 3 Insert the needle back through one straw to the middle of one side where two straws meet (f). Thread the floss through four more straws to make a diamond around the center of the ornament, looping the floss around the corners to secure them (g). Thread the needle back through a straw to the top of the ornament and make a loop (h).

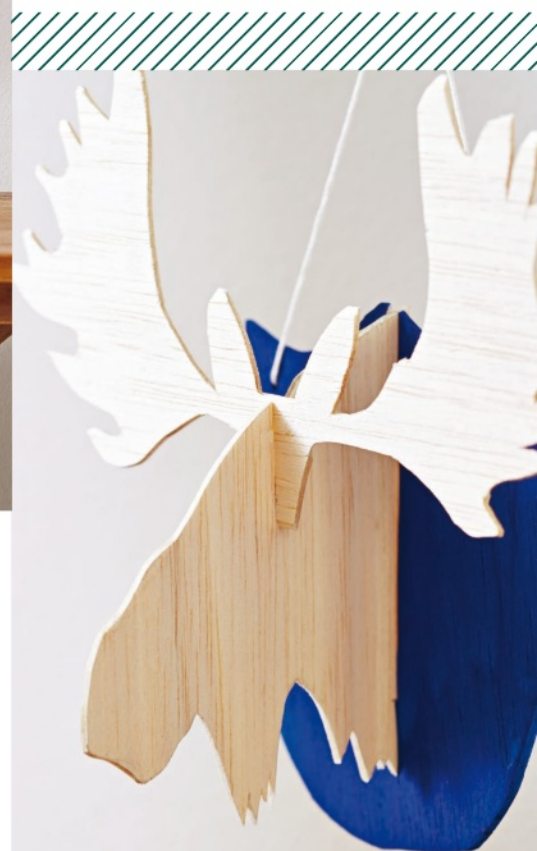


Make it fun!

Get the kids to help paint and assemble these ornaments. No glue required!

Wooden wonders

LEFT and BELOW: Balsa wood is easy to work with (we like $\frac{1}{16}$ -inch-thick sheets for this project) and makes these custom critters look oh-so-modern. Print and cut out the shield, head, and antler templates from BHG.com/DIYOrnaments. Trace the shapes onto balsa wood and cut out with a crafts knife. Paint backgrounds as desired. Use the knife to cut out holes as marked, and assemble each animal. Hang with embroidery floss.





Fringe benefits

THIS PHOTO: Turn backyard branches and simple tissue paper into a festive, modern tree. Cut small tree branches to make a triangle. Add a short branch for the trunk. Nail the sticks together using a nail gun or hammer and small finishing nails. Drill a hole into a log slice using a bit that's just slightly larger than the diameter of the stick forming the trunk. Secure the trunk with wood glue. To trim the tree, string embroidery floss back and forth across the branches. Place a 6-inch-wide length of white tissue paper over each string of floss; fold in half. Fringe with scissors. Hot-glue pom-poms onto a length of floss and hang on the tree.



Customize!
Vary the color and the size of this tree to fit any space in your home.

Seasonal stripes

BELOW: Think outside the ready-made ornament box by making a custom set in less than an hour. Pick up papier-mâché ornaments at the crafts store and paint sections in favorite colors. Hang to dry, then use on a tree or in a clear vase as a festive centerpiece. Bonus: Repaint the ornaments each year if you like to switch the color palette of your holiday decor.



Branch out

ABOVE: Use modeling clay and thread to make a set of darling decorations. Roll out white polymer clay (we used Sculpey) to $\frac{1}{4}$ inch thick. Cut out circles using a cookie cutter or the open end of a drinking glass. Punch patterns of holes into the clay with a frosting tip or lollipop stick. Bake according to package directions. Cool and finish with glaze made for polymer clay; let dry. Embroider star, square, and sunburst designs using embroidery floss and a needle. Use floss to hang the ornaments on yarn-wrapped branches. (We tucked our branches in a tall vase filled with pebbles to provide support.)

Sequin forest

RIGHT: Dress up a mantel, side table, or dining table with a set of sparkly conifers. Work in sections to cover 5x13¾-, 4x10-, and 3x7-inch papier-mâché or foam cones with hot glue; roll in sequins. Continue until the cone is covered. Vary the size of the sequins according to the size of the tree (small for small, medium for medium, etc.) if desired.



On display
Place each tree under a glass cloche for a dazzling vignette.



a



b

HOW TO PAINT MARBLED ORNAMENTS

WHAT YOU'LL NEED (A):

- Hacksaw
- Small log
- Sandpaper
- Tack cloth
- Crafts paint (We used four shades of one color and white for each ornament.)
- Balloons
- Drill and ¼-inch bit
- Ribbon

step 1 Cut ¾-inch-thick slices from a log that is about 4–6 inches in diameter. Sand flat surface until smooth, and wipe clean with tack cloth.

step 2 Starting with the darkest color of paint, squeeze a little on the center of the slice. Working outward, make rings of paint around the initial dab with other colors (b).

step 3 Blow up a balloon, press it against the wet paint, and twist to create a marbled effect (c); let dry.

step 4 Drill a ¼-inch hole (d), thread ribbon through, and hang.



c



d



Merry marbling

THIS PHOTO: These painted pretties can serve as beautiful gift toppers, a homemade ornament set, or simple decorations for doorknobs. While any range of hues in one color family will work for each ornament, we chose jewel tones that resemble agates. Test paint combinations on scrap paper before trying the technique on your log slices. Avoid overworking the balloon in the paint to maintain a marbled effect rather than a muddy one.

For Resources see page 110.



creative GIFT-GIVING

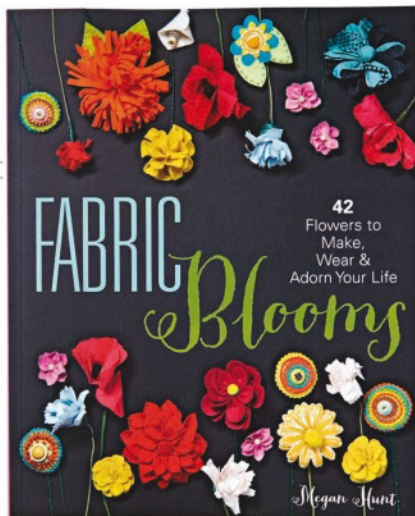
Before you pound the pavement this holiday season, check out our favorite items. You'll find ideas for everyone on your list—and maybe even yourself!

producer **LESLIE POYZER** | photographs **JAY WILDE** | words **CHELSEA EVERS**

UNDER

Fifteen

DOLLARS



IN BLOOM Fashion your own garden of flowers from felt, fabric, and embellishments. *Fabric Blooms* by Megan Hunt has 42 quick-assembly project ideas, including an embroidered bouquet, floral headband, and velvet succulent wreath. \$12; amazon.com



CLEVER CLUTCH Stow pens, beauty products, or stray cords in these wise and witty pouches. Crafted from thick canvas and heat-cured silk-screen ink, the 5x7- and 3x9-inch pouches include a zipper top to keep things safely stored. \$15 each; pamelabarskyskyshop.etsy.com



PETITE PLANTERS ▶ This teensy planter by Wind and Willow (less than 3 inches wide) is perfect for succulents, cacti, and seedlings. Each tiny wood pot is hand-dipped in a no-slip rubber coating in one of several colors. \$8; foragemodernworkshop.com



LITTLE LIGHT Enjoy luxury scent on a budget when you buy one of these mini American-made candles. The 4½-ounce jars pack a punch—the combination of citrus, tropical, and mountain greens-scented wax will burn for up to 25 hours. \$12; anthropologie.com

CITY SIPPERS ▶ Drink up! These 16-ounce glasses are etched with the neighborhoods of 10 American metropolitan areas, making them a perfect gift for your city-dwelling pals. \$15 each; theuncommongreen.com



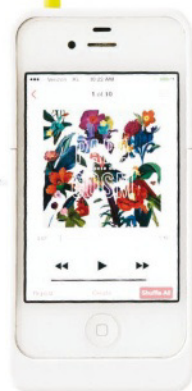
UNDER *twenty-five* DOLLARS

SUMMER LOVIN' Stave off winter blues with this bold 8x10-inch print from Kavan & Co. Featuring a popular quote from Albert Camus, the poster is available in a variety of sizes. Starting at \$18; society6.com



PAINTERLY PILLOWS

Individually cut and sewn by hand, pretty 16-inch pillows feature work by artists from around the world, such as this one from Allyson Johnson. Available in indoor and outdoor varieties, each pillow includes a concealed zipper for easy cleaning. \$20–\$23; society6.com



SWEET BEATS Listen to your favorite tunes in style! These earbuds feature candy-color tips and a polka-dot cord—perfect for a fashion-forward friend who wants to stand out. \$16; shopbando.com

WRITTEN REFLECTION

Look back on five years of memories with the One Line A Day Journal. Each night, write a line or two to record a child's growth, keep track of personal goals, or remember special or everyday events. \$17; papersource.com



STATE PRIDE

A one-of-a-kind state ring shows everyone where your heart truly lies. Crafted by Larissa Loden from vintage brass charms soldered onto a sterling silver band, these stackable rings make the perfect gift. \$25; scoutmob.com



SQUEAKY CLEAN Made from natural, gluten-free, vegan-friendly ingredients, each bar of this lathery soap boasts a scent for any man. \$21 for set of three; rinsessoap.com



CURATED CRAFTS

Sew cushions, grow a succulent garden, repurpose an old chair, or paint new wall art when you follow step-by-step directions in *Home* by Beci Orpin. Separated into three sections—living, working, and sleeping spaces—it's got something for every age, style, and skill level. \$20; amazon.com



FRAME-WORTHY

Let photos speak for themselves with these simple wood block stands. Handmade in Colorado from beetle-kill reclaimed pine, these understated blocks make showing off—and swapping—artwork a cinch. \$24; artifactuprising.com

KITCHEN CRITTER Printed using eco-friendly inks, each of these cotton tea towels features a hip animal. At 26x27 inches, they're the right size for displaying on the wall or using at the kitchen sink. \$18; gingiber.com



PIE PRIMER

Written by award-winning baker Allison Kave, *First Prize Pies* is a treat for dessert-lovers to behold. Separated into spring, summer, fall, and winter recipes, it's a wonderful gift for someone who loves to bake year-round. \$19; amazon.com

OLD SCHOOL Painted with eco-friendly soy paint, this truck is handmade from hardwood and coated with an all-natural sealer. Shipped in a cotton bag, the 6½-inch truck is primed for giving to your favorite kiddo. \$18; smalllifestudio.etsy.com

UNDER *fifty* DOLLARS

▶ PRETTY PALETTE

A gilded color wheel necklace gives a nod to an artist's paint palette. Packaged in a glass tube with a cork, the eco-friendly, gold-dipped dainty necklace looks just as great with a dress as it does with jeans and a tee. \$45; modcloth.com

DO GOOD When you buy a handcrafted Ethiopian scarf, you help to stop modern-day slavery. Beza Threads uses funds from the sale of scarves to rescue victims from slavery, provide preventative programming, and purchase more scarves. No administrative fees are taken from the purchase price. \$30; bezathreads.org

SPOT ON Customize a pretty timepiece for someone special. Choose from thousands of clock face options, then select a natural, black, or white frame and black or white hands. \$30; society6.com

▶ MEALTIME MADE

No more staring aimlessly into an open refrigerator! Crafted from an upcycled wine bottle, this canister is equipped with nine wooden dice printed with ingredients that add up to more than 186,000 possible meal ideas—which means never having to decide what's for dinner again. \$38; scoutmob.com

SHINE BRIGHT

A hot pink speaker shaped like a diamond is a fun and funky way to punch up your desk. Take it on the go for 12 glorious hours of nonstop listening, or use it as simple decor when it's not playing tunes. \$40; shopbando.com

FAB FELT Made of 100-percent wool felt, this MacBook Air sleeve boasts a snug fit and no-fuss opening that keeps computers secure. Bonus: The sleeve acts as a mat when the computer is in use. Sleeves for other devices also are available. \$42; byrdandbelle.etsy.com

GEO GEM The unglazed porcelain Crystal Planter showcases the beauty of raw clay and lets the plants do all the talking. Its slim silhouette makes it a wonderful addition to an unadorned windowsill. \$30; beanandbaileyceramics.com ▶



▶ **SHAKE IT** Up the cocktail ante with an adorable 32-ounce Mason jar shaker created from glass and stainless steel. Equipped with four pieces designed to create a customized cocktail, the shaker looks just as good sitting on the bar as it does in action. \$29; masonshaker.com



▶ **BOTTLED UP** Made from reclaimed redwood in the Bay Area, this bottle carrier by Wood Thumb makes a six-pack look stylish. Perfect for a craft brew-lover, it fits both traditional tall bottles and short, stout ones. \$44–\$50; woodthumb.com or food52.com/provisions



▶ **SWEET SERIF** A 16-inch throw pillow personalized with a favorite photo and a saying of your choice in a simple serif font is a fitting way to add personality and cherish beloved memories in your home. \$35; shutterfly.com

FAMILY TREASURE ▶ Handcrafted from hammered bronze or gold, these simple crest-shape earrings are a unique twist on the classic hoop that beg to be passed down for generations to come. \$38–\$48; newrefinedbasics.etsy.com



UNDER one-hundred DOLLARS



HANG IT UP Made from walnut, the compact Blokkey Organizer will get your loved one's entryway in order. A bungee cord and four super-strong hidden magnets corral glasses, keys, mail, and more. \$72; boardbydesign.etsy.com

SEW SWEET Show your sweetheart your love from afar. A threaded needle and two buttons—one heart and one star—make it easy to denote your favorite landmarks on the handmade pillow. \$56; uncommongoods.com

FORTUNE TELLER

Made from sterling silver, this fortune cookie bracelet by Christina Kober Designs will stand the test of time. Choose a custom message of up to 66 characters, then wear the jewelry always for a daily dose of wisdom. \$76; scoutmob.com



CAFFEINE KICK Coffee-lovers will be thrilled to receive a subscription to this craft coffee delivery service. Each monthly package includes custom tasting notes, brewing tips, and a 12-ounce bag of artisanal coffee, evaluated blindly by experts. \$75 for a three-month subscription; craftcoffee.com



◀ **IN THE STARS** A gold-plated brass locket marked by the pattern of a Zodiac's constellation is a fun update on the timeless classic. Slip a photo or note in the locket, then wear (or gift!) your sign with pride. \$75; julienolanjewelry.com



▲ **TAKE THE CAKE** Protect 18 cupcakes or a 9-inch layer cake with CakeBox, a reusable pine storage case. \$55 (box only); \$75 (box and leather carrying strap); piebox.com

GAME ON Playing games has never looked so chic. Made of all natural hardwood, this set of dominoes is painted with eco-friendly soy paint and sealed with a natural beeswax and olive oil sealer. The set comes in a muslin drawstring bag for easy storage. \$60; smalllifestudio.etsy.com





Fringe factor Vellum strips and an inexpensive paper lantern combine to make a sophisticated abstract light. Trace long, thin triangles onto vellum. Cut several stacked sheets at once to save time. Assemble a 12-inch paper lantern according to package directions. Working from the bottom to the top, hot-glue triangle bases side by side onto the lantern, covering each rung of the lantern before moving to the next. When lamp is covered, attach a pendant light cord, following package instructions, and hang. As a precaution, use an LED bulb, which doesn't get hot.



LIGHT BRIGHTS

Crafted from inexpensive household items,
these pendants look like fancy designer
lamps—but they're a fraction of the price.

projects **AMBER WAGNER** | photographs **ADAM ALBRIGHT** | words **CHELSEA EVERS**



Retro charm Make a lamp from basic kitchen items. Using a 1¾-inch hole saw bit, drill a hole in the center of the bottom of both a colander and a large white bowl. Spray-paint the colander in your desired color and let dry. Tape off a zigzag pattern on the bowl's exterior using painter's tape. Spray-paint and let dry before removing tape. Using superglue, affix a 2-inch-diameter PVC coupling to the outside bottom of the colander, centered over the hole. Let dry. Thread a pendant light cord through the colander hole and coupling, then through the hole in the bowl. Glue the other end of the PVC coupling to the center of the inside of the bowl and let dry. Follow pendant cord instructions to hang.

Square up To make a tiered pendant, cut thirty-seven 3-inch wood squares from $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch-thick red oak boards; lightly sand them. Make a whitewash with 1 part paint and 4 parts water, apply to one side of the squares, and let dry. Use painter's tape to mask off all but the bottom 1 inch of each square. Gather three intensities of the same spray-paint color: dark, medium, and light (we used green). Use the darkest shade to paint the bottom inch of 16 squares, the medium shade for 12 squares, and the light shade for 9 squares. Next, cut an 18-inch piece from a $\frac{1}{4}$ x3-inch poplar board, then cut 14-inch and 10-inch pieces from $\frac{1}{4}$ x2-inch poplar. In the center of the 18-inch piece, drill a $1\frac{3}{4}$ -inch hole with a hole saw drill bit.

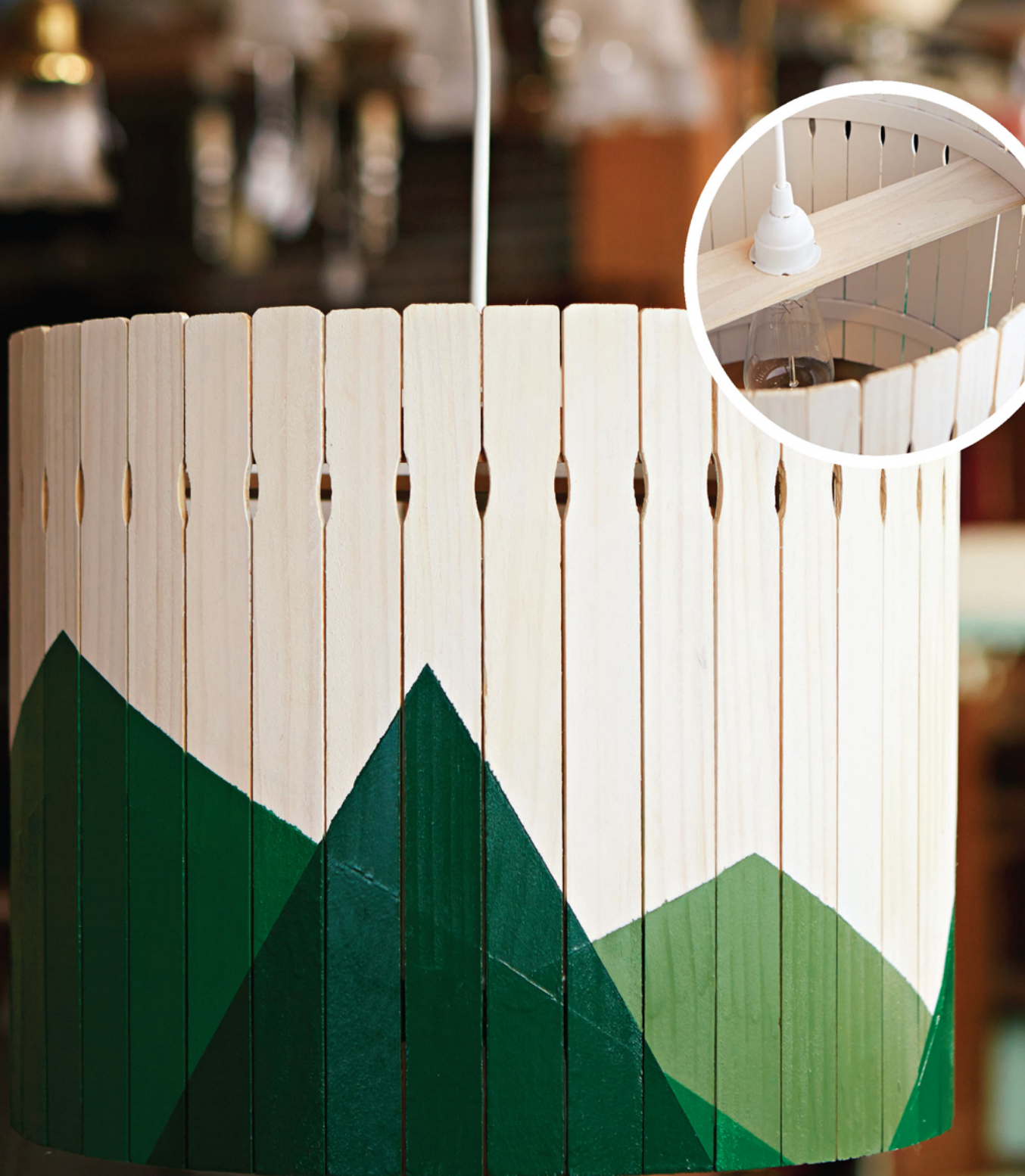
Measure 1 inch in from both ends of the 10-inch board and mark with a pencil. Measure to center of each of the three boards and mark. Line up the centers of all boards, then drill a hole through all three at the 1-inch markings on the 10-inch board using a $\frac{5}{32}$ -inch drill bit. Next, spray-paint the inner ring of an 18-inch quilting hoop and the 18-inch poplar board in the dark shade. Spray-paint the inner ring of a 14-inch quilting hoop and the 14-inch poplar board with the medium shade, then paint the inner ring of a 10-inch embroidery hoop and the 10-inch poplar board with the light shade. (You won't need the outer rings that have tightening screws.) Let dry. Attach the 18-inch board across the middle of the 18-inch hoop using wood

glue. Clamp and let dry. Repeat with the remaining boards and hoops. Hot-glue 16 dark squares onto the 18-inch quilting hoop, even with the top edge of the hoop and spaced about $\frac{1}{4}$ inch apart. Repeat with 12 medium-color squares on the 14-inch hoop, and 9 light-color squares on the 10-inch hoop. Screw one nut onto each of two No. 10-24x24-inch threaded rods and slide the 18-inch hoop layer on using the two drilled holes. Screw another nut on each rod to secure it to the 18-inch layer. Repeat this process until the rod has been secured to each layer. Use a level to ensure layers are even; tighten nuts to secure layers. Use a coping saw to remove excess rod if desired. Affix pendant light cord to the 18-inch board and hang.



Inside story Using a crafts knife, cut seven strips of $\frac{7}{8}$ -inch-wide cherrywood veneer (available on a roll) to 28 inches long. Lay strips veneer side down on a drop cloth, weighing ends down to prevent curling. Spray-paint four strips in one color and three strips in another color; let dry. Apply whitewash (1 part paint and 4 parts water) to veneer side of strips; let dry. Bend one strip into a circle with veneer side out; hot-glue ends together. Repeat with other strips, overlapping the circles at random intervals to make a sphere. Glue strips together at overlapping points. Insert a flange into one of the openings; use superglue to secure and let dry. Attach a pendant light cord to the flange, following instructions to assemble and hang.





Stick 'em up Paint one side of 40–50 paint stir sticks with white latex paint and let dry. Make a whitewash with 1 part paint and 4 parts water, apply to the opposite side of each stick, and let dry. Paint the inner rings of two 14-inch embroidery hoops white and let dry. (You won't need the outer hoops that have tightening screws.) Cut a 3× $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch poplar board to 14 $\frac{1}{8}$ inches long. Drill a hole in the center of the board with a $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch hole

saw drill bit. Paint the board white; let dry. Hot-glue the board to the underside of one embroidery hoop. Then, hot-glue that hoop 1 inch from the top of the paint sticks, whitewash side out and notched side up. Glue the second embroidery hoop 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches from the bottom of the sticks. Use painter's tape to mark off two triangles on opposite sides of the shade and spray-paint desired color. Let dry and remove tape. Tape off two more triangles,

slightly overlapping them with the first two triangles. Spray-paint desired color, let dry, and remove tape. Tape off two more triangles, slightly overlapping them with the others, and paint in a third color. Let dry and remove tape. Insert a pendant light cord through the hole in the poplar board, following instructions to assemble and hang.

For Resources see page 110.



Clipboards on display

Protect clipboards with plastic sacks before spray-painting the clips gold.

sunday	monday	tuesday	wednesday
2	3 Emma's B'day	4	5
9	10	11	12
16	17	18	19
23	24	25	26



DESK JOB

Packed with practical storage and design ideas, this pretty office is sure to inspire your best effort.

projects **BRENDA WEGNER**
photographs **CAMERON SADEGHPOUR**
words **BECKY MOLLENKAMP**



What we did...

Paint has the power to transform a room, and this artsy office is a prime example. We used spray paint to make several accessories—the swing-arm lamp, magazine holders, and clipboards from the office store—match the decor. Chalkboard paint in several shades of blue turned an empty wall into an organizational tool. Learn more about the projects in this space on the following pages.

What we did...

THIS PHOTO: Sturdy countertop brackets provide support for this DIY desktop. Decorative paper gives white rolling cabinet frames some panache. Apply a thin coat of decoupage medium to the cabinet, working on one side at a time. Set paper in place and use a brayer to remove bubbles. To seal the paper, apply three coats of decoupage medium to the entire side with a paint roller, allowing to dry completely between coats. **OPPOSITE, TOP LEFT:** A single coat of gray stain gives the wood top a weathered look.





Flawless finish

Sand in the direction of the wood grain to prevent scratches, and keep the sander moving at all times.



HOW TO TURN PINE PLANKS INTO A DESKTOP

WHAT YOU'LL NEED (a):

- Three 1x7x56-inch pine boards
- Sander with 100-grit sandpaper
- Drop cloth
- Gloves
- Water-based wood stain (We used Minwax Slate.)
- Cotton rags
- Two 1x2x20-inch pieces of scrap wood
- Drill with a 1/4-inch bit
- Twelve #6 wood screws
- Two 20-inch countertop brackets with hanging hardware

step 1 Sand the pine boards so all sides are smooth (b). Use a cotton rag to apply stain to the boards, wiping in the direction of the wood grain (c). Wipe off excess stain with a clean rag. First, you may want to test stain on scrap pine to ensure you like the color and to determine how many coats are required to achieve the desired opacity.

step 2 Secure the three pine planks together by attaching a support board toward each end. Using a 1/4-inch bit, drill six holes (two into each pine plank) through each support. Add #6 wood screws to the holes (d). These screws

are slightly smaller than the pilot holes, but the heads are large enough to keep the screws in place. This method allows some movement in case the wood planks expand over time.

step 3 Hang metal brackets on the wall at a comfortable desk height, about 30 inches. If you'll be adding storage under the desk, hang the brackets high enough to accommodate the carts underneath. It's best to screw the brackets directly into wall studs; if that's not possible, use anchors designed to hold the weight of the desktop. Screw the desktop in place on top of the wall brackets.





Coat it on

To make sure chalk will write clearly and come off easily, use at least three coats of chalkboard paint.

What we did...

OPPOSITE, CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: Trick out a cabinet by spray-painting the pulls gold and adding labels written in gold paint pen. Remove the seat of a secondhand chair before sanding the frame with fine-grit sandpaper. Apply paint using a cotton cloth for a distressed look. Cover the seat cushion with a fabric remnant, stapling it in place on the bottom. To add labels to white metal mail files, we masked off all but a 1-inch strip using painter's tape and covered the area with several coats of blue chalkboard paint. For creative storage jars, mask a portion with painter's tape and cover the open area with frosted-glass spray paint (which acts as a primer). When dry, add a coat of gold spray paint. Apply double-sided tape and coat with glitter.

ABOVE: To make a chalkboard wall calendar, lay out the grid using a tape measure, ruler, level, and color pencil. Ours is 32x45 inches with a half-inch space between each 6-inch square. Tape off every third square with 1-inch delicate painter's tape. Use a 4-inch roller to apply three coats to each taped-off square, allowing drying time between coats. When dry, carefully remove the tape. Repeat the process on the remaining squares until finished. When the paint is fully cured, add numbers to the blocks with chalk markers. **ABOVE RIGHT:** A spray-painted paper holder, originally for a children's art easel, keeps a doodling surface nearby. **RIGHT:** Weave long strips of torn fabric through the holes of a wire basket. Tie knots on the back of the basket to secure each strip.



For Resources see page 110.

10 DIY Ideas to Steal

GET THE LOOK OF THIS INSPIRED OFFICE USING SOME OF OUR FAVORITE TOOLS AND MATERIALS.



3. Chalk it up

Chalkboard paint is a great way to add labels, create calendars, and keep your office organized. Good news: It doesn't have to be black! Benjamin Moore's chalkboard paint base is tintable in any color you want. To create a calendar just like ours on [page 60](#), use the following colors for the rows from top to bottom: 671 Soft Spruce, 670 Gulf Stream, 669 Oceanic Teal, 668 Lake Victoria, and 667 Maritime Blue. \$22 per quart; [benjaminmoore.com](#)



2. On a roll To tape off the wall calendar, we used FrogTape Delicate Surface. The low-adhesion formula removes cleanly without damaging freshly painted surfaces. \$7; [frogtape.com](#)



4. Write stuff For a neater look when writing on a chalkboard surface, swap dusty dry chalk for chalk markers, which go on like chalk but come off with water. The new Bling-Bling Cha-Ching set from Chalk Ink provides a playful look. With colors like Electric Blue and Solid Gold Dancer, this kit is sure to leave its mark on your space. \$35; [chalkink.com](#)

5

Getting hacked

The Helmer Drawer Unit from IKEA (\$40; [ikea.com](#)) is the perfect canvas for creativity. We spruced up the white frames of two of these rolling cabinets using metallic and coral Chiyogami paper (\$8; [papersource.com](#)) and decoupage medium.



1. On the line If you're a stickler for perfection, lay out your chalkboard calendar using the 10-inch digital LaserTrac Level from Craftsman. Place it on a tripod or hang it magnetically and use its LCD display to mark off perfectly straight horizontal and vertical lines. \$50; [craftsman.com](#)

THIS WEEK

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
* Appointment at 3 pm		* Meeting at 4 pm.	
THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	MEMO
Daniela's piano recital		Dad's Birthday!	

6

Keep track This handy dry-erase calendar helps you see a week of activities at a glance. Available in 15x23-inch and 22x33-inch sizes, this vinyl wall decal is less permanent than paint. Choose from 30 colors for the days-of-the-week lettering and use any dry erase marker to fill in your information. \$36–\$55; canodesigns.etsy.com

8

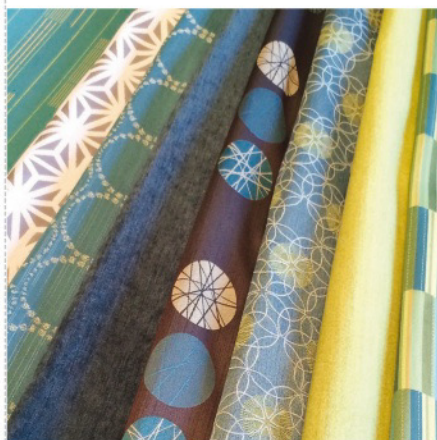
Piece meal

Big-name fabrics typically come with a big price tag. Save on designer textiles by ordering discounted remnants, which are the perfect size for small makeovers like the chair in this office. Toto Fabrics offers 1-yard cuttings of stylish fabrics from Maharam, Crypton, and Momentum Textiles at 75 percent off the list price. \$5–\$25/yard; totofabrics.com



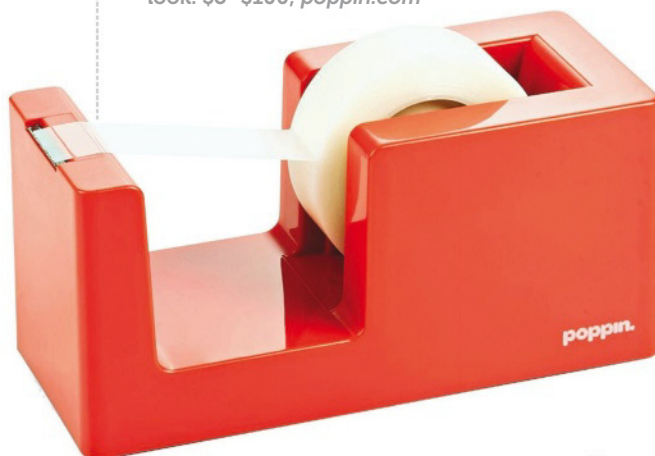
7. Quick coats

Spray paint made quick work of several projects in this office, including a lamp and mail files made of metal. For these types of unusual surfaces, try Krylon's Rust Protector Spray Paint. Available in a wide range of colors and finishes, including metallic and textured, the product also works on outdoor projects. \$4–\$6; krylon.com



9. Form meets function

Office supplies from Poppin come in your choice of 16 colors. (We heart coral!) Choose from tape dispensers, staplers, trays, and more. Bundled sets make it easy to coordinate the look. \$8–\$100; poppin.com



10. Support system

Basic countertop brackets are ideal supports for a heavy desktop. The gusseted 20-inch Brunswick Bracket from Federal Brace can hold 500 pounds. Its curved design is also smart for desk use because it allows more legroom. \$170 for stainless steel; federalbrace.com





ALL THAT

GLITTERS

Shimmery finishes, sparkling sequins, and other tiny touches of bling add just the right amount of glam to liven up everyday and entertaining spaces.

projects **KATIE LEPORTE** | photographs **ADAM ALBRIGHT** | words **KATELYN PHILIPP**



Work space Fashion a dazzling office or crafts area by adding small but sparkly touches to furniture and accessories, such as a rolling stool and bulletin board, above. See-through surfaces (thrifted acrylic sawhorse legs, a transparent lamp base) along with natural touches (an unstained wood desktop) provide a neutral foundation that allows glittered accents to shine. On the following pages, learn more about how to get your glitter on.

1 Seat stencil Apply a gold glimmery pattern to any vinyl surface. Prep the vinyl with a coat of Annie Sloan Old White Chalk Paint. Let dry at least three days. Spray the back of a floral stencil with stencil adhesive, then lightly adhere it to the vinyl. Apply two or three layers of gold Krylon Glitter Blast spray, allowing the paint to dry 30 minutes between applications. Seal the design with clear spray polyurethane, and wait 24 hours before using the stool.



Protect glittery designs with a thin coat of clear sealer.



2 Personal present Dip a paintbrush in decoupage medium to draw a cursive letter or special date on a gift tag, then sprinkle glitter and let dry.

3 Striped message board Treat a bulletin board to this fresh effect. Measure and mark stripes with a straightedge and painter's tape (we used FrogTape brand). Paint exposed sections with white latex paint; let dry and remove tape. Tape off the center strip. Use a paintbrush to coat the strip with decoupage medium, then spread a light layer of glitter over it and let dry. (We used two shades of pink for an ombré effect.)

4 Glittery gift Dip a circular crafts sponge in decoupage medium and stamp it on a cardboard gift box. Shake glitter on the dots. To help the glitter stay put, top the dots with a thin layer of decoupage medium. Add ready-made sparkly ribbon.

For a look that's glam not gaudy, balance the sparkle with natural textures.

Dining haven Embellish neutral elements with gold sequins and sparkles for a look that's sophisticated, and surprisingly inexpensive, in a dining room, *this photo*.





5 Sequined vase Give a vase a shiny makeover. Place painter's tape around the neck of the vase to form a loose guide, then dot clear superglue below the tape in a random pattern that trickles downward. Stick on sequins (use a toothpick to press into place) and let dry. Peel off the tape.

6 Lamp revamp Freshen an old lampshade by painting the lower third bright white. Then tape off a narrow stripe and apply decoupage medium before shaking on fine glitter. Repeat to add a hit of glitter to the inside of the shade, too. Combine with a pendant light to turn it into an overhead light fixture.

7 Gleaming hem Attach a batch of large sequins along a tablecloth hem to grab attention. Place adhesive dots (we used Glue Dots) on the cloth and press medium to large sequins in a cluster around the edge, or sew them on to boost durability.



Bonus project!
Watch a video
to learn how
to make a
pretty ombré
glittered vase:
[BHG.com/
GlitterVase](http://BHG.com/GlitterVase)

Festive flair This one-of-a-kind serving station started life as a cast-off cabinet, *this photo*. A fresh coat of paint, new gold-tone knobs, and shimmering touches on its glass door and surface trim make it modern. In small doses, exciting hues—orchid, sky blue, and party-ready pink—energize pale-tone walls and furniture.



10 Glitter bowl Mask a thin line around a glass bowl with painter's tape and apply decoupage medium with a narrow paintbrush. Layer on fine gold glitter; let dry before removing tape.

A clear glass bowl with horizontal stripes in gold and pink. Inside the bowl is a white ceramic spoon. A white, fringed cloth is draped over the side of the bowl. The bowl sits on a gold-colored tray. A small black circle with the number 10 is visible on the right side of the bowl.



These seriously sparkly products will boost the glitter factor on home decor, paper, and party accents. Clockwise, from pink tape:

Advantus Metallic Glitter: The shaker top makes it easy to dust on the right amount of this crafts glitter. \$3; joann.com

Krylon Glitter Blast: Previous incarnations of spray-on glitter resulted in dull, flaking finishes. Not Glitter Blast. We dig its intensely sparkly and ultra-adherent finish. \$9: joann.com

Recollections Signature Extra Fine Glitter: This glimmering gold glitter comes in a handy storage box with 29 other vibrant colors. \$30; michaels.com

Recollections Signature Glitter Paper:
Whether used in cards, party decorations,
or scrapbooking, this sparkly 12x12-inch
paper can be cut to any shape.
\$2; michaels.com

SequinExplosion Sequins: Available in tons of sizes, colors, and opacities, mylar sequins boost the shine factor of any sewing or crafts project. \$11 for a pack of 100 large sequins; *amazon.com*

Darice Sparkle Tape: Its smooth finish and strong adhesive are perfect for embellishing furniture, paper, and more. \$7: [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com/darice-sparkle-tape)

not too shabby

Using neutral colors and texture, a mother of four creates a high-end look for less in a rental while providing both family and personal spaces.

styling + words **BRENDA WEGNER** | photographs **JAY WILDE**



What she did...

LEFT: Wendy Hyde's glamorous media center—once an ugly brown 1970s dresser—is just one example of the busy mother and blogger's eye for style. After painting the dresser cream, Wendy had mirrors cut to fit the drawer fronts and attached them with mirror mastic. A gallery of family photos showcased in white frames and mats makes the television less of a focal point. **BELOW:** A diamond drill bit is the secret to drilling holes for knobs in the mirrored drawer fronts. **OPPOSITE:** In the entryway, a striking gray console table (designed by Wendy and built by her father) is a modern departure from Wendy's eclectic-cottage style. To create the pattern on the wall, Wendy traced a medallion shape with a metallic paint pen. **OPPOSITE TOP:** Wendy blogs from a petite desk in her bedroom.







Visit BHG.com/HangCurtains
to learn tips
and tricks for
dressing your
windows.



What she did...

When Wendy couldn't find a dining table that was the right size and price, she found plans online and enlisted her father's help to build one for about \$150. Vinyl letters placed on a black painted canvas became subway-style art. A revamped buffet provides extra storage in the space.



What's a designer and blogger to do when she can't find the perfect table, artwork, or pillow for her home? If she's Wendy Hyde, she makes it herself.

Wendy became a do-it-yourselfer when she dreamed up things for her Utah townhome that she couldn't find in stores. "I love to do things myself, but I hate to have things look DIY," Wendy says. "I like people to wonder, 'Did you do this yourself?'"

To achieve a luxe look that suits her transitional-meets-cottage style, Wendy chooses materials wisely and takes time carefully considering her needs for each space.

"You can totally achieve something that looks high-end—it just takes a lot of elbow grease and patience," she says.

With four kids and three bedrooms, she has an added challenge of providing personal space for each family member in her rental.

"Even though being with family is great, I feel like you need a little space to call your own," Wendy says. "It's important to find ways to create storage."

While sons Brady and Bennett share a room, their bunk beds are their sanctuaries. An alcove in the hallway became a personal retreat for her oldest son, Budge, with the addition of a clever curtain system and a custom daybed with built-in storage. Daughter Emma's room is an all-out girlie retreat from the boys.

While the children's rooms get a touch of the color they love, a neutral color palette of grays and whites unifies the shared spaces in the home. "Bringing texture and a range of shades makes it interesting," Wendy says.

Wendy, who has a degree in fashion merchandising, loves sharing her DIY adventures on her blog, shabbynest.blogspot.com. "I had a passion for interior design and decorating and wanted to connect with like-minded people," she says.

Even as Wendy began working as a designer, she found she couldn't give up the blog. "It's almost like another one of my kids. I couldn't quit if I wanted to at this point. It's definitely time-consuming, but it always draws me back," she says.



Rental tip: A DIY daybed looks like a built-in but can easily be removed.

Print numbers
in your fave
font and
trace them
on inexpensive
baskets with
a permanent
marker.



What she did...

OPPOSITE: To give her oldest son his own space, Wendy used her ingenuity to turn an alcove in the second-level hallway into a makeshift bedroom dubbed "the loft." Above the bed, art made from pieces of scrap wood adds the texture that Wendy loves. Under the window, a custom daybed built by Wendy's dad provides much-needed storage for clothes and books in the small space. Wendy cut a foam trundle-bed mattress to size for the bed using an electric knife. The nautical-inspired curtain is hung on rope suspended from screw eyes and secured by an industrial-size handle. It can be closed for privacy. ABOVE RIGHT: The laundry closet gets a lot of action in the Hyde home, so Wendy wanted it to be fun and functional. She stenciled the wall with a pattern inspired by a favorite fabric. A countertop found in the "as is" section at IKEA fits perfectly over the washer and dryer. ABOVE LEFT: Since the boys' names all start with the same letter, numbers identify the baskets in which their clean clothes are stored until they're put away. RIGHT: Wendy carved out a small work space in her bedroom. To make a bulletin board less utilitarian, she covered it with linen and lined it with upholstery tacks.





What she did...

ABOVE: In the two younger boys' room, a favorite quilt inspired a striped accent wall. The boards of a dismantled pallet were glued to plywood, stained, and topped with a cardboard deer head for rustic art. RIGHT: In Emma's room, Wendy placed pages from a vintage-style Barbie doll calendar in inexpensive gold frames for artwork above the bed. She upholstered a curvy headboard cut from plywood. ABOVE RIGHT: The room's pillows display Wendy's sewing skills. To create the ballerina pillow, she scanned her hand-drawn sketch, printed it on photo transfer paper, and transferred the design to a linen patch that she stitched onto a pillow cover. Wendy designed the white-and-blue fabric and printed it through spoonflower.com.

Neutral bedding makes it easy to change the look as a child's tastes evolve.

CENTRAL PARK
HARLEM
GREENWICH VILLAGE
UPPER EAST SIDE
VIA TRIBECA
HELL'S KITCHEN
MIDTOWN
MEAT PACKING DIST.
BATTERY PARK
SOHO
TIMES SQUARE
VIA CHINATOWN
GRAMERCY PARK
EAST RIVER
BROOKLYN
MORNINGSIDE HTS.

1

To the letter

Make word art similar to the version in Wendy's dining room. Use a digital cutting machine to cut words from vinyl in your favorite font and attach them to an artist's canvas. Wendy used the Silhouette Cameo, below (\$300; silhouetteamerica.com). If you're not ready to invest in a special tool, Great Big Canvas, an online service, allows you to choose words, colors, and sizes to make your own custom word art printed on canvas, poster paper, and more, above. Prices start at \$30; greatbigcanvas.com



bhg.com/diy

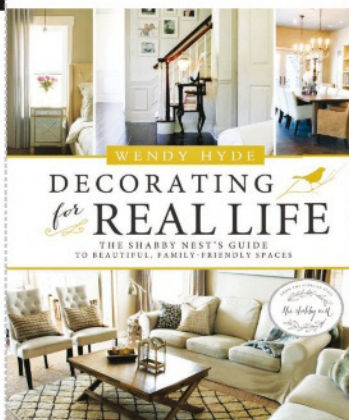
5 DIY Ideas to Steal

TAKE HOMEOWNER WENDY HYDE'S LEAD AND MAXIMIZE YOUR HOME'S POTENTIAL WITH THESE CLEVER IDEAS.

words MARIA V. CHARBONNEAUX

Cardboard critters

Deer, elephants, rhinos—oh, my! Get in on the animal bust trend with these cardboard animals you assemble yourself. Available in multiple sizes and solid colors or prints, these kits are kid-friendly. \$20–\$250 each; cardboardsafari.com



3. Luxe for less

Find out how to get the luxe look Wendy Hyde loves. See her favorite home tours and DIY projects in her new book *Decorating for Real Life: The Shabby Nest's Guide to Beautiful, Family-Friendly Spaces*. \$25; deseretbook.com



Iconic trellis

Inspired by a pricey designer wallpaper, Wendy used the Trellis Allover Stencil (\$40; cuttingedgesdesigns.com) to give her laundry room (page 81) a pop of pattern. She paired it with a great green: Moss Landing from BEHR Paints (\$41–\$44 per gallon; behr.com). Use a semigloss enamel finish in a hardworking space, such as a laundry room.



5. Cutting edge

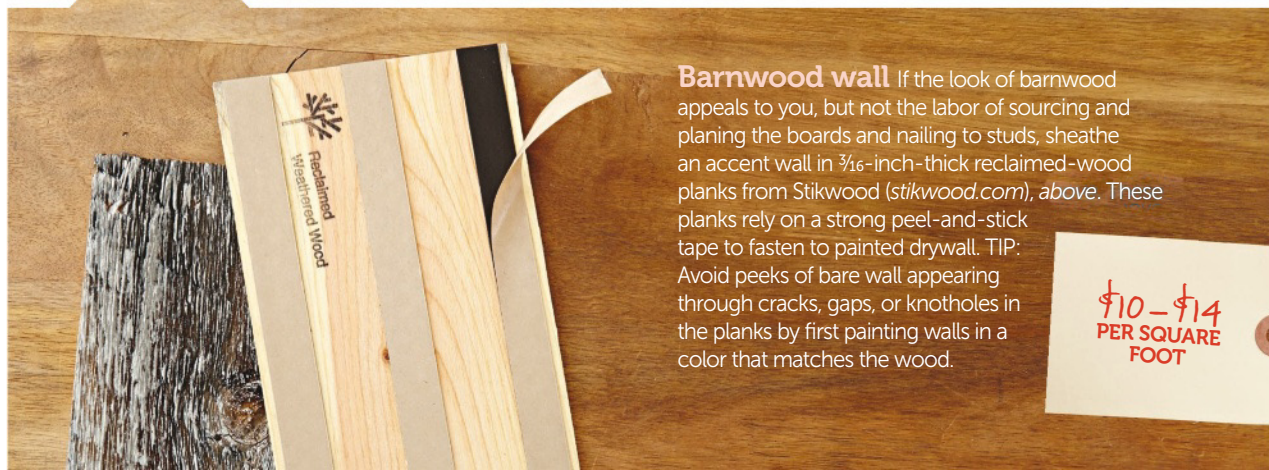
To make your own mirror or mirror-front dresser, you can have mirrors cut to the size at a local glass store. Or, an inexpensive glass cutting tool, such as the Kobalt Glass Cutter (\$4; lowes.com), also will do the trick. Clean the mirror thoroughly, score the glass with the tool, then break the mirror along the scored line according to package instructions. Be safe! Wear safety glasses and gloves.



STICKY TRICKS

Apply here for easy decorating transformations that rely on glue, tape, decals, and other adhesive surfaces.

projects + words MEREDITH LADIK | photographs JAY WILDE



Barnwood wall If the look of barnwood appeals to you, but not the labor of sourcing and planing the boards and nailing to studs, sheathe an accent wall in $\frac{3}{16}$ -inch-thick reclaimed-wood planks from Stikwood (stikwood.com), above. These planks rely on a strong peel-and-stick tape to fasten to painted drywall. **TIP:** Avoid peeks of bare wall appearing through cracks, gaps, or knotholes in the planks by first painting walls in a color that matches the wood.

**\$10-\$14
PER SQUARE
FOOT**

HOW TO APPLY TAPE TO A WALL

WHAT YOU'LL NEED

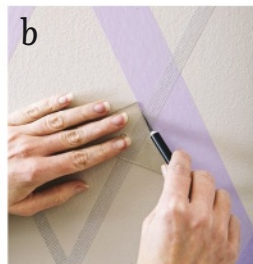
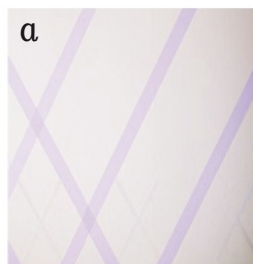
- 50 mm washi tape (We used Pale Wisteria.)
- 15 mm washi tape (We used Silver Grid.)
- Tape measure
- Level
- Plumb line
- Crafts knife
- Straightedge

step 1 Find the center of your wall, marking that point where the wall meets the ceiling. From the center point, make marks at 15-inch increments to the left and to the right. Using the

plumb line as a vertical guide from these marks, make marks 30 inches apart until you reach the base molding. The marks are your diagonal guide and where your tape strips will intersect (a). Apply wide tape in diagonal strips (one direction at a time), cutting off excess at top and bottom. Work slowly, unrolling and smoothing tape in small sections. Allow strips to overlap.

step 2 Repeat the process for the slim tape, but marking at 7½ inches to the left and to the right of each wide strip. Where the slim tape overlaps the wide, don't press too firmly.

step 3 Trim the overlapping slim tape using a crafts knife and a small architect's triangle or straightedge (b).



Accent wall Not ready to commit to wallpaper? Capture its captivating look on a small accent wall using washi masking tape from Japan, *right*. Washi tape is affordable and long lasting, but when you're ready to move on to another look, it peels off cleanly in minutes. Search etsy.com for great washi tape resources. (We found ours at etsy.com/craftyjapan.) Our argyle design is created with diagonal lines of two tapes in two widths. For our 8x10-foot wall, we used about five purple rolls and four silver grid rolls. **TIP:** Plot your design on graph paper first.





Memo center Create pretty and purposeful thought bubbles in your mudroom using removable decals made of erasable chalkboard from Blik (whatisblik.com), above. (Jot your messages in liquid chalk pens.) The decals come precut as 21-inch-diameter circles and 16x26 inches in a rainbow of colors. For variety, we traced plates in several sizes onto the back of rectangular decals and cut them out using scissors. To install, tape the shapes on the wall to decide on placement, then peel off the backing, starting at the top and pulling downward, smoothing into place.



\$16
FOR TWO
CORNER
ACCENTS
\$25
PER 95-INCH
ACCENT STRIP
\$3
PER
0.85-OUNCE
BOTTLE

Embellished mirror

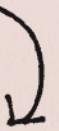
Appoint a plain, flat-trim mirror with the look of carved wood using 2-inch-wide Greek-key trim made of PVC from O'verlays (myoverlays.com), *above right*. The 1/8-inch-thick trim cuts with scissors and adheres with epoxy glue, such as Loctite Epoxy Quick Set (loctiteproducts.com).

Geometric side table

Corner the market on sophisticated yet affordable style: Glue accents made of 1/2-inch-thick PVC from O'verlays (myoverlays.com) to the inside corners of a side table, *right* and *opposite*. We built the table from two \$18 Parsons tables, attaching a fully assembled one to the top of the second, *opposite*. (Flip the assembled table on its top, place and align the second top, finished side facing down, onto its legs and screw together from the underside. Then flip the entire assembly.) Install the corner pieces using a two-step epoxy. Use clamps to ensure a snug, level fit where the appliqué corners and table meet. When fully cured, paint the table.



Gray is the wingman of the decorating world, allowing colorful accessories to shine while it grounds a look.



Experiment with your photo app's color and contrast tools to switch a color image into chic black-and-white art.



Special thanks to: Bassett Furniture, Blik, Brewster Home Fashions, Caitlin Wilson, Capel Rugs, Dash & Albert Rug Co., Flor, FreeSpirit Fabrics, L. L. Bean, Midori, O'verlays, Paper Mojo, Poppin, Shades of Light, Stikwood, The Land of Nod, Thomasville



\$13
PER
16-OUNCE
BOTTLE

\$7
PER
SHEET OF
24x36-INCH
PAPER



Marbled drawers Agate and marbled furnishings rock home design, *opposite*. Get the look using decorative paper attached to furniture using decoupage medium, *above*. We used Mod Podge in a Hard Coat formula (modpodge.com). First, create patterns of your top and door and drawer fronts using kraft paper. Trace the patterns on decorative paper; cut out. Apply thin, even coats of the medium to the dresser, then gently press the paper onto the dresser, smoothing out trapped air bubbles with a brayer, squeegee, or credit card. After the medium dries, seal the paper with a topcoat of decoupage medium.

DENIM RESCUE

Hang on to those old bell bottoms and boot-cuts. With a few snips and stitches you can fashion home accents that never go out of style.

designs + words **PAMELA PORTER**
photographs **ADAM ALBRIGHT**
how-to photographs **JAY WILDE**

Think big
Oversize stencils
pack a pleasing
style punch
underfoot. Protect
your rug's painted
design with floor
lacquer.



The perfect fit Who knew those faded blue jeans could look so chic? Pair denim accents with lots of white for fashionable flair. Whether you dress it up or dress it down, this versatile material delights in any room. Best of all, it's ultrathrifty. Secondhand stores have a plethora of jeans for just a few bucks each, or ask friends to send old pairs your way. Gather a pile and try these projects on for size.





1 On the fringe Start with a large section of denim, such as a leg piece. Cut 10-inch lengths for fringe. If your table is round, taper the pieces to fit the edge of a round tablecloth. To fringe, cut ½-inch-wide strips into the pieces, leaving 1 inch uncut at the top. Wash denim and tumble dry. Sew one side of a sleeping bag zipper to the tablecloth and the other side to the fringed denim pieces. Use more than one zipper if needed.

2 Perfect blend In a bucket, mix Denim Blue Rit Dye, ½ gallon hot water, and 1 tablespoon each of salt and laundry detergent. Dip three-quarters of a piece of white denim into the dye. Soak two minutes, then pull 1 inch out of the dye. Soak two minutes, then pull another inch out, and carefully add more dye. Continue until you achieve the desired effect. Rinse with cold water, dry, then sew into a pillow cover.

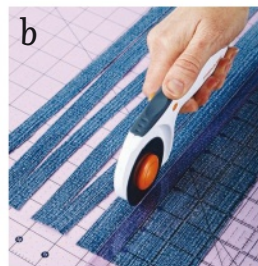
3 Lace it up Cut the leg from jeans and insert plastic between the layers. Spray the back of a lace stencil with stencil adhesive and position on the denim. Mask the rest with painter's tape. Squirt bleach from a spray bottle over the stencil, soaking the denim. Let dry in the sun. Repeat if needed. When dry, remove stencil. Wash denim in cold water and dry. Sew into a pillow cover.

4 Patched works Sew denim pieces into strips, then stitch strips together to make a rug. Iron seams open on back so the rug lies flat. Turn edges under and secure with fabric glue. Tape off one strip and paint an overall stencil design (we used Annie Sloan Chalk Paint). Paint another strip using a lace border stencil. Then paint stencils randomly (see page 93). Seal the painted areas with Annie Sloan Floor Lacquer.

5 Room to bloom Pretty flowers are the perfect accent to any room. These denim pom-poms bloom forever and never need watering. Attach them to branches using wire or string. We gathered branches from the backyard and painted them white (see page 93). For a more colorful bouquet, make pom-poms from colored denim. These pretties also are fun to use as an alternative to bows on gifts.



HOW TO MAKE A DENIM POM-POM



WHAT YOU'LL NEED:

- Denim
- Rotary cutter
- Cardboard
- Cutting mat
- Straightedge
- String

step 1 Gather materials (a). For one pom-pom, cut denim to about 18x10 inches, avoiding any seams.

step 2 Lay denim on a cutting mat. Using a rotary cutter and straightedge, start at one 10-inch edge (bottom) and cut a ½-inch-wide strip, stopping ½ inch from the top. Move cutter over ½ inch and cut from the top to the bottom, stopping ½ inch from the bottom. Move cutter over ½ inch and repeat from the bottom to the top.

Continue across the 10-inch width to create a continuous zigzag strip (b).

step 3 Cut a piece of cardboard about 5 inches wide and wrap the entire denim strip around it (c). Slide the strip off the cardboard and tie in the middle with string (d).

step 4 Cut loop ends (e) and fluff into a pom-pom (f). Wash in the washing machine twice, tumbling dry after each wash to achieve the distressed look (at left).



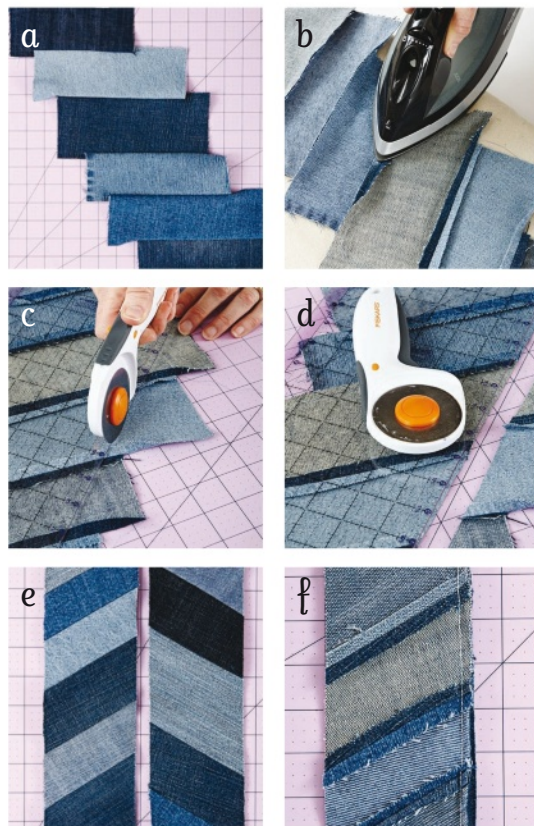
Office blues Whether you're crunching numbers or stamping cards, go casual with denim accents in a home office or crafts room, *this photo*. Blue jean hues are perfect for getting those creative juices flowing, and you can take pride in knowing you're doing your part to reuse, reduce, and recycle.



6 Neat seat With so many variations, herringbone can suit everyone's style. This modern take on the classic pattern is easy to love—and easy to sew. The random colors and offset construction mean you don't have to painstakingly try to match colors or seams. Use a herringbone strip to boost a solid upholstery color like in this chair.



HOW TO SEW A HERRINGBONE PATTERN



WHAT YOU'LL NEED:

- Denim scraps
- Sewing machine
- Iron and ironing board
- Cutting mat
- Thread
- Acrylic ruler
- Rotary cutter

step 1 Cut denim into strips about 2–3 inches wide by 6–7 inches long. Stagger strips to the left and sew together (a) using 1/2-inch seam allowances. Iron seams open (b).

step 2 Place sewn strip on a cutting mat, aligning the top edge parallel to the top of the mat. Place an acrylic ruler at a 30–45-degree angle and cut (c). Use the angled lines on the mat as a guide (d). Repeat on the opposite

side of the strip so you have a strip with two clean edges.

step 3 Repeat steps 1 and 2, but stagger the denim strips to the right so your finished strips will be angled in opposite directions (e).

step 4 Place sewn strips right sides together and sew using 1/2-inch seam allowances (f). Press open, and use on a chair, pillow, or other home accent.

7 A little loopy After recycling most of your jean material into home accessories, put the remaining scraps to work on these clever little magnets. Cut three belt loops off a pair of jeans, stack, and hot-glue together to form an asterisk. Use metal snips to cut the button from the jeans, trimming as much off the shank as possible. Use hot glue to secure a rare earth magnet on the back and the button on the front (if needed to make the button lay flatter, cut a small slit into the center of the asterisk and fit the button shank into the slit).



8 Under wraps To cover a shapely lampshade, cut 3-inch-wide denim strips 3 inches taller than your shade. Turn under one long edge of each strip and hem or glue. Place one strip on the shade, pull taut, wrap the top and bottom to the back of the shade and glue in place. Repeat with other strips, overlapping each to cover the raw edges. Embellish by wrapping several belts around the top of the shade.

9 Pick pocket Jean pockets are perhaps the most fun part of the material to repurpose. Look for jeans with colorful stitching or embellishments. Cut them out, including the fabric behind the pocket, then attach them to a memo board to hold cards, pencils, or other supplies. Or attach pockets to pillows, place mats, and book covers. String them together as bunting, or sew them into a little purse.

10 Scrap happy Made from bits of denim scraps, this bird artwork is something to tweet about. Choose any motif you like: Experiment with flowers or other animals and use different colors of denim to achieve shading. This artwork is mounted on a clipboard, but you could frame your masterpiece instead.

For Resources see page 110.



HOW TO CREATE BIRD-MOTIF ART FROM DENIM



WHAT YOU'LL NEED:

- Denim scraps
- Pattern
- Fusible web
- Iron and ironing board
- Marker
- Sewing machine
- Thread
- Clipboard

step 1 Gather supplies (a). Print pattern and cut out shapes. Iron fusible web to the back of denim scraps according to package instructions (b).

step 2 Place pattern pieces upside down on fusible web, trace, and cut out (c).

step 3 Remove backing from fusible web and arrange the shapes denim side up on white

denim. Place the branch first and then remaining pieces to form the bird shape. Iron according to manufacturer's instructions to secure the pieces to the white denim (d).

step 4 Sew random stitches on the shapes using white thread (e).

step 5 Sew around the perimeter of the white denim. Remove threads to create fringed edges (f).

style file

With a discerning eye and flair for fashion, this homeowner infuses character in her suburban abode.

styling + words **BRENDA WEGNER** | photographs **JAY WILDE**



Meet the Hefners!

Blogger and Jane-of-all-trades Gwen Hefner shares a home with her husband, Micah, and their children, Xander, age 5, and Milly, 2.

3



4

5

1 Abstract artwork

Gwen liked the textured canvas and simple frame of a piece of thrift store artwork. To make it fit her style, she brushed white and black paint over the original artwork for an abstract effect.

2 Mantel decor

Black paint refreshes metallic-frame mirrors that Gwen had grown tired of. "The black drew my eyes to the fireplace more than the metallic pieces," she says. To make the portrait, she traced a photo of her son, Xander, from her computer screen and filled the silhouette with green and blue watercolors.

3 Built-in black In the same way a wardrobe needs a little black dress, Gwen believes every room should get a pop of the color. Instead of painting her built-ins, she cut foam-core boards to size with a crafts knife, spray-painted them black to avoid brush marks, and slipped them between the shelves.

4 Copper lamp After spotting a high-end lamp online, Gwen re-created the look with copper pipes and metal funnels. She used a pop rivet punch to poke holes in the funnels.

5 Pillow play Gwen scored a scrap of pricey designer fabric on eBay and stitched the colorful floral into pillows for the living room. "I had searched everywhere for something less expensive that had all the colors. It was a splurge, but it was my starting point," she says.

During stints owning a jewelry company and working in the fashion industry, Gwen Hefner learned accessories can make an outfit. When she began decorating the home, near Kansas City, Missouri, she shares with her husband, Micah, and their children, she realized accessories can also make a room.

“There is a difference between putting together an outfit that lasts 24 hours and a home that has to last lots of years,” she says.

To achieve a look in her home that would stand the test of time, Gwen opted for a neutral base. She and Micah upgraded

the builder-grade oak finishes with dark hardwood floors on the main level and beefier millwork throughout. Walls in soft hues and classic furniture choices—some new, some passed down, and some thrifted—also provide versatility. Flea market finds and sophisticated do-it-yourself projects bring in layers of trendy color and pattern. Gwen, who blogs about her creative endeavors at The Makerista (themakerista.com), loves that DIY allows her to get a custom look with meaningful touches.

“I’m always willing to put in the time to get more bang for my buck,” she says.





6 Cabinet upgrade

Micah removed a wall between the living room and kitchen to give the home a more open layout. Before painting the builder-grade cabinets white, the couple updated the veneer on the sides of the cabinets with beaded-board panels. They also installed a subway tile backsplash to give the kitchen a clean, bright, and classic look.

7 Luxe lampshade

Adding fabric or trim to inexpensive lampshades is one of Gwen's favorite decorating tips. She covered this shade with black velvet to give it a high-end look. To cover a lampshade, trace the shade on paper to make a pattern, trim your fabric to size, then adhere using fabric glue.

8 Collected volumes

Gwen scans thrift stores for books in colors she likes, but brings home only tomes on music, fashion, photography, or other topics that represent her interests. Small touches—such as new knobs and black tassels—upgrade a discount store cabinet.

9 Sitting pretty Gwen purchased a beautiful wood dining table and six chairs for \$100 on Craigslist. She scrubbed the pieces with Danish oil to revive the wood and re-covered the chair seats with black-and-white striped outdoor fabric to make the set feel more modern.

10 Affordable art To get large-scale art without spending a fortune, Gwen used wide brushstrokes to blend acrylic colors on butcher paper. The trick to creating sophisticated monochromatic art is using multiple shades, adding a little white, cream, black, and even yellow to the paint if necessary, to achieve depth.



Sketch a design you love in black marker then fill it in with watercolor paints.



11 Hexagon flooring

Gwen says the tile job was time-consuming but worth it. Using sheets of mosaic tile in black, tan, and white, she created a geometric flooring pattern in the master bathroom. To get the look, she selectively removed some six-sided tiles from the sheets of white tile and replaced them with black and tan tiles cut from other mosaic sheets.

12 Masterful mix

A matching set of dark wood furniture posed a decorating challenge in the master bedroom. To achieve a light and bright look, Gwen split up the set, moving the nightstands to another room and replacing them with golden bamboo-style side tables. Inexpensive sconces spray-painted in pretty periwinkle add a touch of whimsy to the space.

13 Pint-size storage

Sized just right, a petite antique secretary adds extra storage for perfume bottles, makeup, and extra towels in the master bath. Quirky yellow pulls give it an affordable update. The wood and brass tones contribute to a layered and collected look when combined with the black, white, and chrome finishes found elsewhere in the room.

14 Curtain call Gwen took advantage of the vaulted ceilings in daughter Milly's room by hanging handmade curtains close to the ceiling. Because she knew she'd need a lot of yardage for the project, she found an inexpensive floral at a local fabrics store. Black pom-pom trim keeps the feminine pattern from feeling too sweet. She filled the gap between the rod and the window with milk glass plates.

15 Architectural detailing To visually ground the tall ceilings in Milly's room, Micah added beaded board and a chair rail to the bottom third of the walls. Crisp white paint softly contrasts with the light gray walls.

16 Picture show Gwen backed an old frame with foam-core board covered in linen to create a memo board loaded with photos of Milly's grandmothers. The small purse, once belonging to a relative, now gets a place of honor.

17 Whimsical mobile A handmade mobile, made from ripped strips of pink, black, and white fabric hanging from an embroidery hoop, coordinates with the pink and green bedding and pillows Gwen sewed.

A pretty memo board with photos of female relatives is a jumping-off point to talk to children about the past.





A working train set displayed up high means little ones can watch it in action without damaging the valuable antique cars.



18

Apply chalkboard paint to the wall at kid height and frame it with wood trim.



19

18 Personal touches

Gwen monogrammed the pillow in son Xander's room by using fusible web to attach an X cut from fabric and stitched around it with yarn. She found a coat of arms for \$1 at a thrift store, and her father cut and painted a shield to mount it on. She painted the British flag artwork on vintage sheet music for a gallery wall.

19 Family heirloom

An antique dresser given to the family by Micah's parents finds a home in Xander's room. Gwen added ceramic knobs and removed the dresser's attached mirror, replacing it with one painted red and hung on the wall for a modern look. She spray-painted the lamp and covered the shade with fabric.



20

20 Book storage

Gwen turned an inexpensive crate from a crafts store into convenient book storage for Xander. She cut the crate in half vertically with a jigsaw, painted each piece white, and hung them low on the wall using drywall anchors.

Stitch black and white cardstock circles together for a quick and easy garland.



See more ways to use chalkboard paint, and get a formula to make your own.
BHG.com/ChalkboardArt



21 Faux fireplace

Gwen and Micah turned an inconvenient crawlspace in the basement into a play area that the kids can call their own. Gwen applied chalkboard paint to the wall and Micah framed it with trim pieces to create the look of a fireplace and mantel. The silhouettes are drawn with chalk marker.

22 Striped chairs

To give the set of kid-size furniture a custom look, Gwen added strips of black washi tape to the chair backs. The tape is durable to withstand play but can easily be removed if Gwen tires of the look.

For Resources see page 110.



1

Pillow power If you're not a whiz with a sewing machine, look to Etsy for custom pillows made in designer fabric. Gwen Hefner loves this Designers Guild Orangerie floral because the wide range of colors gives her flexibility to bring in other accessories in her living room. From \$70; westendaccents.etsy.com

5 DIY Ideas to Steal

ADD COLOR WHERE IT COUNTS AND PAY ATTENTION TO DETAILS TO GET THE FASHION-FORWARD LOOK OF GWEN HEFNER'S HOME.



2. Bit of black

Gwen feels every room needs a little black. Framed canvases from Lindsay Letters are a great way to add a touch of typography to any room. From \$60; lindsayletters.com

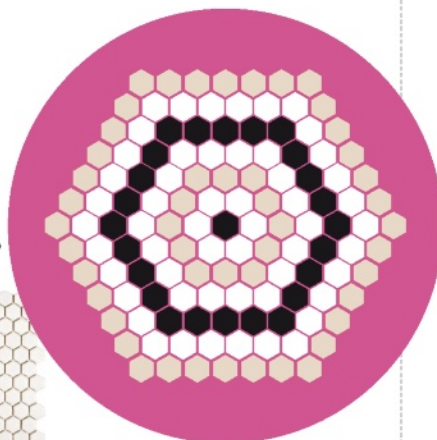
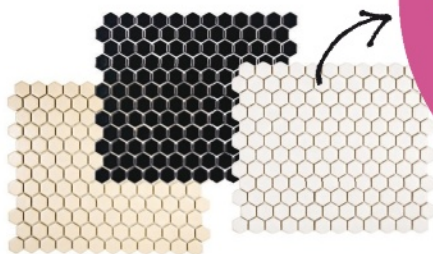


3

Display-worthy A basic bulletin board gets a nostalgic twist when you add treasured family photos and small mementos to it and hang it as you would art. \$109; youmatterdesigns.etsy.com

4. Tile time

Gwen mixed and matched affordable mosaic tiles to update the floor in her master bath. The tiles come in 10 $\frac{1}{4}$ ×11 $\frac{3}{4}$ -inch sheets. Gwen worked with the white tiles as her base, replacing some of the white tiles with tan and black tiles to create her design. \$6–\$10 per square foot; homedepot.com



5

Night-light Install these easy-to-hang lamps on either side of the bed to add light for reading. Follow Gwen's lead and make them yours by spray-painting them your favorite color. \$40 each; lowes.com

shopping guide

Here's where to find building materials, furnishings, and accessories shown in *Do It Yourself*™ magazine. We cannot guarantee the availability of items or services.

Find clickable links
to all these sources
in the digital edition
of this issue.
BHGSpecials.zinio.com

[P] Paint Color

Because of the magazine printing process, paint colors depicted on our pages might vary slightly from manufacturers' colors. Use paint color names or numbers, when provided, as a starting point. To get a color as it appears in the magazine, take the page to a paint retailer for matching.

[T] To the Trade

Contact a design professional to find more information about this product or service.

LOST & FOUND

PAGES 8–14

Vintage playing cards and wrapping paper—*grandmothersattic.etsy.com*. **Wrapping paper used as table runner**—Paper Source; 888/727-3711; *papersource.com*. **Burlap ribbon, silver pail**—Jo-Ann Stores; 888/739-4120; *joann.com*. **Votives**—Pier 1 Imports; 800/245-4595; *pier1.com*. **Woven and beaded chargers**—World Market; 800/267-8758; *worldmarket.com* (product line varies).

STOW AND GO

PAGE 16

Cabinet from the Everywhere Storage collection—West Elm; 866/428-6468; *westelm.com* (product line varies). **Wallpaper** Du Barry from the Pompadour Wallpapers collection W6013-05—Osborne & Little; 877/322-7420; *osborneandlittle.com* [T]. **Fabric on top small box** Seeds, **fabric on bottom small box** Reverse Sweet Pea—Galbraith & Paul; *galbraithandpaul.com*. **Box label holders** Metal Label Holder with pull—Van Dyke's Restorers; 800/787-3355; *vandykes.com*. **Glass cylinders** Cylinder Hurricane—Organize.com; 800/600-9817; *organize.com*. **Sheets, towels**—L.L. Bean, Inc.; 800/809-7057; *llbean.com*.

A GOOD YARN

PAGES 24–29

Throughout
Tape measure—Hill Vintage and Knits, Des Moines; 515/288-2287; *hillvintageandknits.com*. **Pages 24–25**
Table runner—World Market; 800/267-8758; *worldmarket.com* (product line varies). **White curtains** embellished after purchase—JC Penney; 800/222-6161; *jcpennyc.com*. **Yarns for cake topper** Cascade Superwash in Berry Pink, Medium Rose, Coral, Golden, and Daffodil; Hikoo Simpliworsted in Deep Turquoise and Aqua Mint—Hill Vintage and Knits, Des Moines; 515/288-2287; *hillvintageandknits.com*. **Yarn for pom-poms** Bernat Sheep(ish) by Vickie Howell in Teal(ish), Turquoise(ish), and Robins Egg(ish)—Jo-Ann Stores; 888/739-4120; *joann.com*. **Pages 26–27**
White curtains embellished after purchase—Wal-Mart Stores, Inc.; *walmart.com*. **Pom-pom trim** in blue and aqua—Cheep Trims; *cheeptrims.com*. **Lamp**—Crate & Barrel; 800/967-6696;

crateandbarrel.com (product line varies). **Desk** HGTV Home Parsons Writing Desk—AllModern; 800/615-9703; *allmodern.com*. **Slippers** Uggs—Von Maur; 877/866-6287; *vonmaur.com*. **Knifty Knitter Pom-Pom Maker**—Amazon.com; *amazon.com*, search: Knifty Knitter Pom Pom maker. **Bird on wreath**—Michaels Stores, Inc.; *michaels.com*. **Drapery rod and finials, desk chair, rug at chair**—homeowners' collection.

Pages 28–29

Throw embellished after purchase—T.J. Maxx; 800/285-6299; *tjmaxx.com* (product line varies). **Yarn for throw** Lion Brand Wool Ease in Natural Heather, Denim, Sea Spray—Jo-Ann Stores; 888/739-4120; *joann.com*. **Pom-pom makers** available in extra-small, small, large, and extra-large by Clover—Amazon.com; *amazon.com*, search: Clover Pom Pom Maker. **Yarn for pom-pom demonstration** Cascade Lana D'Oro in Azure—Hill Vintage and Knits, Des Moines; 515/288-2287; *hillvintageandknits.com*.

HOLIDAY BY HAND

PAGES 39–45

Page 39–40

Paper straws similar available as Chevron Straws—Cute Tape; *cutetape.com*. **Glass canister with bail lid** similar items available—Hobby Lobby; 800/323-9204; *hobbylobby.com*.

Page 41

Frame purchased unpainted, similar items available—Michaels Stores, Inc.; *michaels.com*. **Balsa wood** similar available—Balsa Wood, Inc., Iowa City, Iowa; 319/855-4029; *balsawoodinc.com*. **Gingham fabric ribbon** similar ribbon available in Hunter Green—Simply Ribbons; *simplyribbons.com*. **Footed glass bowl**—vintage find.

Page 42

Pom-poms Creatology—Michaels Stores, Inc.; *michaels.com*. **Glass footed bowl**—vintage find.

Page 43

Large open glass container—Target Stores; 800/800-8800 for a retail store near you; *target.com* (product line varies). **Small covered, footed plate**—vintage find. **Polymer clay** Sculpey Clay, **glaze** Sculpey Glaze in Glossy—Polymer Clay Superstore; *polymerclaysuperstore.com*.

Page 44

Foam cone, sequins—Factory Direct Crafts; 800/252-5223; *factorydirectcrafts.com*. **Cloches**—Origin Crafts; *origincrafts.com*.

Page 45

Velvet ribbon similar items available—Paper Mart; 800/745-8800; *papermart.com*.

LIGHT BRIGHTS

PAGES 54–59

Throughout

Lighting kit for projects Hemma Cord Set, available in black or white—IKEA; *ikea-usa.com*.

Pages 54–55

Original round paper lantern for project 12-inch No Frills Paper Lantern in white—Luna Bazaar; 800/223-1106; *lunabazaar.com*. **Vellum** Core'dinations Cardstock Smooth Vellum, purchase in pack of 50 sheets—Jo-Ann Stores; 888/739-4120; *joann.com*.

Page 56

Plastic colander Palsby 200 mm Colander in white, **plastic bowl** Palsby 5-Liter Bowl in white—Amazon.com; *amazon.com*, search: Koziol Palsby. **Green paint** Hunter Green—Rust-Oleum; 877/385-8155; *rustoleum.com* [P]. **PVC coupling** Mueller Streamline 2-inch PVC Hub Repair Coupling—Home Depot USA, Inc.; *homedepot.com* (product line varies).

Page 57

Wood for green lamp clear red oak and clear poplar, **white paint** for whitewash by Behr—Home Depot USA, Inc.; *homedepot.com* (product line varies). **Spray paints** for wood Hunter Green, Leafy Green, Meadow Green—Rust-Oleum; 877/385-8155; *rustoleum.com* [P]. **Wood embroidery hoops**—Jo-Ann Stores; 888/739-4120; *joann.com*.

Page 58

Veneer Cherrywood Iron-On Veneer—Menards; for locations throughout the Midwest, visit *menards.com*. **Clear finish coat** Satin Finish Clear Coat—Rust-Oleum; 877/385-8155; *rustoleum.com*.

Page 59

Paint sticks, white paint Behr—Home Depot USA, Inc.; *homedepot.com* (product line varies). **Spray paints** Hunter Green, Leafy Green, Meadow Green—Rust-Oleum; 877/385-8155; *rustoleum.com* [P]. **Wood embroidery hoop**—Jo-Ann Stores; 888/739-4120; *joann.com*.

DESK JOB

PAGES 60–67

Desk drawers two Helmer units on casters, decoupaged and painted after purchase, **shelving unit** Kallax with a door insert in Mint and two drawers in White, **paper holder** on wall Mala, painted after purchase **desk lamp** Barometer, painted after purchase, **file folders** on wall Kvissle, painted after purchase, **magazine holders** Kvissle, **rug** PS 2014 702.647.28—IKEA; *ikea-usa.com*. **Wire basket** Cabo Waste Can in black—Amazon.com; *amazon.com*, search: Cabo Waste Can by Design Ideas. **Papers in wire basket** and used to decoupage desk drawer units—Paper Source; 888/727-3711; *papersource.com*. **Clipboards**—OfficeMax; 877/633-4236; *officemax.com*. **Tray on desk, gold stapler**—Target Stores; 800/800-8800 for a retail store near you; *target.com* (product line varies). **Peach paint** Pink Peach—Benjamin Moore; 888/236-6667; *benjaminmoore.com* [P].

ALL THAT GLITTERS

PAGES 68–75

Throughout

Lamp, acrylic table and bench, white cabinet and hardware, gold snail, white cake plate—vintage finds.

Pages 68–71

White paint Old White—Annie Sloan Chalk Paint; *anniesloan.com* [P]. **Gold spray** Glitter Blast—Krylon Products Group; 800/457-9566; *krylon.com* [P]. **Sparkly ribbon**—Jo-Ann Stores; 888/739-4120; *joann.com*. **Bulletin board**—Michaels Stores, Inc.; *michaels.com*.

Pages 72–73

Chairs Wisteria; 800/320-9757; *wisteria.com*. **Rug** Shades of Light; 800/262-6612; *shadesoflight.com*. **Base paint** for lampshade Old

White—Annie Sloan Chalk Paint; anniesloan.com [P].

Pages 74–75

Letter decals—Michaels Stores, Inc.; michaels.com.

NOT TOO SHABBY

PAGES 76–83

Page 76

Rug—Rugs USA; 609/447-4515; rugsusa.com.

Coffee table—World Market; 800/267-8758; worldmarket.com (product line varies). **Sofa**—IKEA; ikea-usa.com. **Fabric for pillows**—Hobby Lobby; 800/323-9204; hobbylobby.com. **Television console** vintage find, refinished after purchase—homeowners' collection.

Page 77

Baskets Metallic Woven Basket 33-1770379—West Elm; 866/428-6468; westelm.com (product line varies). **Metallic pen used on wallcovering**—Hobby Lobby; 800/323-9204; hobbylobby.com. **Table in entryway** custom by homeowner—homeowners' collection.

Pages 78–79

Rug Black with Taupe Sisal 8×10-feet XN0101 BT—Shades of Light; 800/262-6612; shadesoflight.com. **Metal chairs**—Overstock.com; 800/843-2446; overstock.com. **Lamps**—Target Stores; 800/800-8800 for a retail store near you; target.com (product line varies). **Drapery**—IKEA; ikea-usa.com. **Pendant lamp and window shades in dining room** original to home.

Pages 80, 82 (top left)

White bookshelves Lack, turned on end, cushion Ursula Euro Cushion Covers and Inserts, alarm clock Dekad, curtain panels Estrid—IKEA; ikea-usa.com. **Cloth baskets in cubbies**—Target Stores; 800/800-8800 for a retail store near you; target.com (product line varies). **Ceiling light in boys' room** original to home, daybed made by homeowner—homeowners' collection.

Page 81

Countertop, wire mesh baskets—IKEA; ikea-usa.com. **Glass canister**—Target Stores; 800/800-8800 for a retail store near you; target.com (product line varies).

Page 82 (top right and bottom right)

Paint for side table Cornflower Blue from the Martha Stewart Living collection—Home Depot USA, Inc.; homedepot.com [P]. **Quilt** Pick-Stitch Wholecloth Quilt in white—Pottery Barn; 800/922-5507; potterybarn.com (product line varies). **Basket on floor**—HomeGoods; homegoods.com.

STICKY TRICKS

PAGES 84–91

Pages 84–85

Sconces Soho Sconces SC08050 AB in antique brass—Shades of Light; 800/262-6612; shadesoflight.com. **Ottoman fabric** Anna Maria Horner PWTCo01 from the Smoot True Colors Collection—Free Spirit; 866/907-3305; freespiritfabric.com. **Ottoman** Threshold X Stool, floating shelf similar available as Big Boy Shelf in white—Target Stores; 800/800-8800 for a retail store near you; target.com (product line varies). **Ribbon on sconce shades** Luster Ribbon in Lily, Orchid, and Poinsettia—Midori, Inc.; 800/659-3049; midoriribbon.com. **Umbrella stand**—The Container Store; 800/786-7315; containerstore.com. **Lacquered desktop tray** in purple—Poppin; 888/676-7746; poppin.com. **Wall surface** Reclaimed Weathered Wood—Stikwood; 866/226-8354; stikwood.com.

Page 86

Wall color Useful Gray SW7050—The Sherwin-Williams Co.; 800/474-3794; sherwin-williams.com [P]. **Tapes** Mt. Casa Tape 50 mm in Pale Wisteria and 15 mm in Silver Grid Checks—Crafty Japan; craftyjapan.etsy.com. **Settee** Barcelona in linen fabric pattern 1902, Color 01—Thomasville Furniture Industries, Inc.; 800/225-0265; thomasville.com. **Rug** Tanjib 3665 in 400 Lavender, 5×8 feet—Capel, Inc.; 800/334-3711; capelrugs.com. **Fabric for pillow at**

left True Colors PWTCo04 in Violet—Free Spirit; 866/907-3305; freespiritfabric.com.

Page 87

Round decals made from Chalk by Blik in Light Peri, Teal, and Lilac—Blik; 866/262-2545; whatsblik.com. **Striped bins** Grey Stripes Around The Cube 560421, bookcase 6-Cube Bookcase in white 452142, aqua bins I Could've Bin An Art Caddy 303828, lampshade Light Years Table Shade in purple 203947, lamp base Between a Rock and a Lamp Base in silver 310611—The Land of Nod; 800/933-9904; landofnod.com. **Rug tiles** House Pet in Hummingbird, Chameleon, and Iguana—Flor; 866/281-3567; flor.com. **Patterned lunch box** Flip-Top Lunch Box TA271907 in Brilliant Blue, blue hat Fleece Lined Camp Hoodie in Brilliant Blue—L.L. Bean, Inc.; 800/809-7057; llbean.com.

Pages 88–89

Table paint Gladiola SW6875, wall paint Cornical Coral SW6876—The Sherwin-Williams Co.; 800/474-3794; sherwin-williams.com [P]. **Table Parsons End Table**—Wal-Mart Stores, Inc.; walmart.com. **Decorative table corners** Greek Key Pattern Corners GKC41, mirror frame decoration Greek Key GK295 strip trim—O'overlays; myoverlays.com. **Chair** Whitney Accent Chair 10888-02L in Charcoal fabric 6373-19 with nickel nailheads and feet in Desert Sand stain—Bassett Furniture Industries, Inc., Bassett, Virginia; 276/629-6000; bassettfurniture.com. **Pillow**—Caitlin Wilson Textiles; caitlinwilson.com. **Rug** Tigers Eye Dhurrie in Charcoal Gray and Taupe—Shades of Light; 800/262-6612; shadesoflight.com.

Pages 90–91

Drawer-front paper Pirouette Marbled Paper in Purple, Yellow, and Lilac—Paper Mojo; papermojo.com. **Rug** Fair Isle Grey, 4×6 feet—Dash & Albert Rug Co.; 800/658-5035; dashandalbert.com. **Wallpaper** Amalfi Silver Linen Strip in Naturale by Kenneth James 671-68506—Brewster Wallcovering; 800/366-1700; brewsterwallcovering.com. **Decoupage medium** Mod Podge—Plaid Enterprises, Inc.; 800/842-4197; plaidonline.com.

DENIM RESCUE

PAGES 92–99

Dining table Carson, dining chairs Phillips High-Back Chair, desk Martha Stewart Living Craft Space Table—Home Decorators Collection; 877/537-8539; homedecorators.com. **Wallpaper in dining room** Lotus by Carey Lind—York Wallcoverings; 800/375-9675; yorkwall.com. **Lace doily stencils** Victoria and Margaret—Royal Design Studio; royaldesignstudio.com. **Lace border stencil** Martha Stewart Crafts—Michaels Stores, Inc.; michaels.com. **Paint for floorcloth** Old White—Annie Sloan Chalk Paint; anniesloan.com [P]. **Trash can, desk riser, calendar, paper bin, photo clip**—Design Ideas; 800/426-6394; designideas.net. **Belts on pendant**—Target Stores; 800/800-8800 for a retail store near you; target.com (product line varies). **Desk chair, pendant frame**—vintage finds.

STYLE FILE

PAGES 100–109

Sofa similar available as Gordon Tufted Sofa 08494—Home Decorators Collection; 877/537-8539; homedecorators.com. **Coffee table**—Crate & Barrel; 800/967-6696; crateandbarrel.com (product line varies). **Rug**—Pottery Barn; 800/922-5507; potterybarn.com (product line varies).

Page 104

Yellow quilt—Target Stores; 800/800-8800 for a retail store near you; target.com (product line varies).

Page 105

Wall paint Moonshine—Benjamin Moore; 888/236-6667; benjaminmoore.com [P].

Pages 106–107

Bedding—The Land of Nod; 800/933-9904; landofnod.com. **Wall paint** Snow Drop 530A-1—Behr Process Corp.; 800/854-0133; behr.com [P].

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g. Copies not Distributed (See Instructions to Publishers #4 (page #3)):	192,530
h. Total (Sum of 15f and g):	523,996
i. Percent Paid (15c divided by 15f times 100):	98.37%

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photographs **MARTY BALDWIN & JAY WILDE**
words **MARIA V. CHARBONNEAUX**

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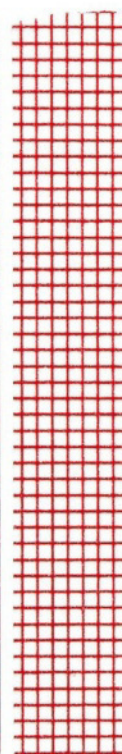
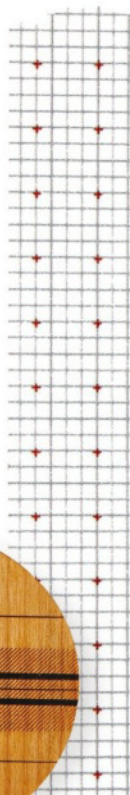
2. Tag, you're it Add panache to presents with embroidered gift tags. The kit includes eight preprinted brown or cream tags, floss, and a needle. \$8.50/kit; sanderandrye.etsy.com

3. Bear hug Winter days are more bearable when you cuddle up with this 14-inch-square gingham and felt pillow. \$39; regansbrain.etsy.com

4. Just coasting Available in maple, walnut, or cherry (pictured), a set of four laser-engraved wood coasters protects and perks up your table. \$30; graindeep.etsy.com

5. Caught on tape Dress up cards, crafts, and more with washi tape in a bevy of preppy designs. \$3.50–\$4/roll; lazoie.etsy.com

6. That's a wrap Holiday packages go graphic with kraft wrapping paper in a bold red print. \$7/10-foot roll; wrapandrevel.etsy.com



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"We saved enough energy to bring a new middle school off the drawing board."

Loudoun County Public Schools Superintendent Dr. Edgar B. Hatrick



NAME: Loudoun County Public Schools, Virginia

IMPROVING ENERGY PERFORMANCE BY: Earning EPA's ENERGY STAR® certification for 46 schools

SAVINGS: More than \$40 million, plus a nearly 360,000 metric ton greenhouse gas emission reduction

RESULTS: Energy savings equaled cost of building their newest middle school

When Loudoun County Public Schools partnered with ENERGY STAR, the idea was to cut energy costs so the savings could go to a better use. In nineteen years, their savings equaled the cost of building a new middle school. Today, that school is a reality. And the energy they're saving reduces greenhouse gas emissions that cause climate change. Put ENERGY STAR to work for you at energystar.gov.





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