

Better Homes & Gardens®

do it YOURSELF™

THE
MAKEOVER
ISSUE

23
IDEAS
UNDER
\$20

BEFORE &
AFTER

SAME
ROOM
NEW
LOOK

THRIFTED
FURNITURE
FLIPS

—
REVIVE
A ROOM
WITH PAINT

—
CREATE A
STATEMENT
WALL

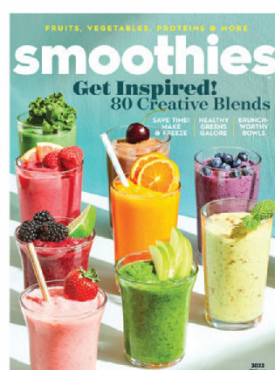
ADD TRIM
FOR MODERN
TEXTURE

Spring 2023
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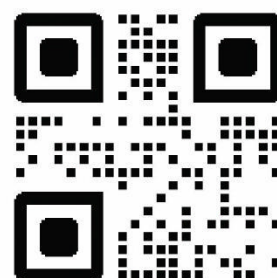


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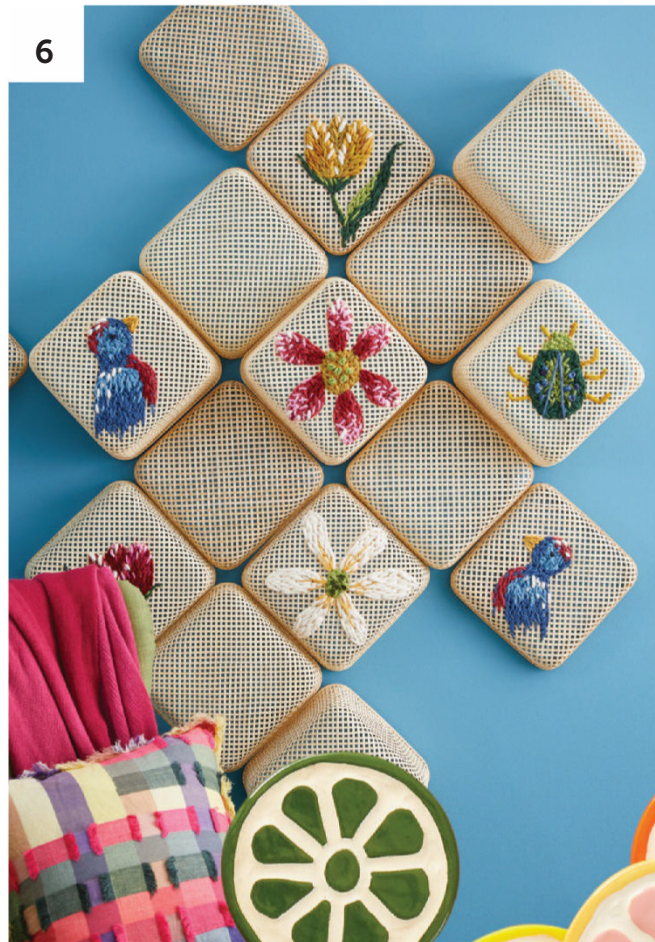


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ALL THAT

glitters

Cue the oohs and ahhs! This season's Furniture Flip winners and runners-up from @makerschallengecentral overhauled their pieces with elements that shimmer and shine.

WORDS **SAMANTHA S. THORPE**

1



BEFORE



BEFORE



2

winner

3



winner



BEFORE

1. ANNA ANDERSON @RAVENSTREETMARKET

Gold details take this dresser from dated to modern. Anna primed the piece, then painted it a rich coffee bean hue. Using a dry brush, she covered the dresser with bronze metallic gilding paint for the perfect touch of shine. Satin bronze knobs complete the classy new look.

2. AUTUMN HESEMAN @PRAYEDOVERPIECES

After hours of repair, this freebie dresser was painted white and coated with high-gloss polycrylic. Then came the magic: Autumn used a straw to blow blue and gold alcohol ink onto poster board, attached the pieces to each drawer front, and coated with epoxy to preserve.

3. EMILY RADTKE @RECONSTRUCTINGEMILY

After scoring midcentury modern side tables on Facebook Marketplace for \$40, Emily removed the chalk-finish paint, replaced a damaged veneer top, and color matched the pieces. A semigloss lacquer sealed the wood, and Bar Keepers Friend illuminated the brass handles.



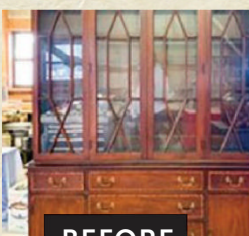
BEFORE



4



5



BEFORE

4. STEPHANIE LOVRIA @STEPH_AND_SONS

This 1960s stereo cabinet rediscovered its groove with the help of an orbital sander and fabric to re-cover the speaker fronts. Careful sanding, wood conditioner, and fresh stain that cooled down the wood's red tones revamped the \$50 find into a beautiful entry console.

5. KAYLA PAYNE @PAINTEDBYKAYLAPAYNE

After more than 40 hours of sanding, this hutch was transformed from a simple thrifted find to a smooth and shimmery jewel box. A high-gloss oil-base paint was applied with a spray gun for a glamorous mirrorlike finish, while shiny gold hardware pulls add one last elegant touch.

FROM THE EDITOR

A good makeover is more than a coat of paint and new hardware. It's a transformation fueled by skill, creativity, and bravery. Team DIY is thrilled to share inspiring revamps from some of our favorite contributors and new friends.

Leslie Poyzer, the designer behind our cover kitchen, is no stranger to the pages of *Do It Yourself*. Although she's produced dozens of amazing projects over the past 15 years, the remodel of her 100-year-old home ("Old House, New Tricks," page 60) required all her ingenuity as well as the expertise of her carpenter father. Her most remarkable achievement? Making a salmon pink bathtub seem totally fresh!

Elsewhere in the issue, muralist Toby Keough ("Petal Power," page 80) shows us how to energize blah walls, while Zoe and Andrew Hunt squeeze an inviting game room under the eaves of their attic ("Game On!," page 74). And no makeovers roundup would be complete without some magic from Jeni Wright. This time, she elevates muffin tins into wall art ("Try It: Wall Displays," page 6) and saves sad chairs from the landfill ("Pull Up a Chair," page 44).

So turn the page to start planning your next before-and-after!

Brian

Brian Kramer
Editor,
Do It Yourself™



TRY IT

wall displays

Upgrade everyday items to add color
and dimension to your room.

PROJECTS **JENI WRIGHT** PHOTOGRAPHS **MARTY BALDWIN**
WORDS **KRISTINA MCGUIRK**

TIME BLOCK

A common object turns mod when placed in brightly painted squares, *this photo*. Use a level to measure and mark a grid of twelve 12-inch boxes. Seal painters tape around every other square, and paint them different colors. Once dry, remove the tape and repeat the process with the remaining squares. Attach a sawtooth hanger to the back of each alarm clock using a strong adhesive. Spray-paint the clocks with a white matte primer, let dry, then spray with white matte paint. Accounting for the location of the sawtooth hanger on the clock, hang each in the center of a painted square.





FOR BIG IMPACT, LOOK FOR A DRIED FLOWER OR LEAF WITH A LARGE HEAD, LIKE THESE PALM FANS.

FAN FARE A humble hardware store find gets reimagined as a vessel to display dried foliage, *above*. Using a drill bit the size of the dried stem you plan to display, drill a hole in the center of the top and bottom flange of a 6½-inch vent cap. Lightly sand the cap, then prime and paint with gloss or semigloss spray paint. Mount the cap using adhesive strips, and feed a dried plant through the holes.



TURNING TABLE Turn an old tabletop into wow-worthy wall art, *below*. Remove the top of a round extendable pedestal table from its base, along with any hardware or boards attached to the underside. Create a skirt for the straight edge so the table can hang flush on the wall. The skirt should measure the length of the side and the height of the rounded skirt on the table. Use a chop saw to cut a board; secure with a jig, screws, and wood glue. Fill any cracks or dings on the table and sand. Hang each half by installing several heavy-duty anchors to the wall and resting the table on top of the screws. (Our halves are about 5 inches apart and offset by about 12 inches.) Draw two overlapping circles on the table and wall with pencil. Remove the halves from the wall and paint (we used seven coordinating colors). Once dry, hang the table pieces and remove any pencil marks from the wall with a white eraser.



THE INTERIOR
EDGE OF AN
EXTENDABLE TABLE
WON'T HAVE A
SKIRT. INSTALL ONE
TO HANG EACH
HALF ON THE WALL.

STITCH PLEASE Flex your embroidery skills through an unexpected medium, *below*. Trace or sketch various patterns onto a collection of baskets. Using a large plastic embroidery needle (big enough to accommodate the thickness of your yarn), stitch the pattern. Hide knots on the underside of the basket. Hang when complete, mixing blank and embroidered baskets.

BASKETS WITH A WIDE WEAVE WORK BEST WHEN STITCHING WITH YARN. USE LIGHTER COLORS FOR HIGHLIGHTS AND DARKER HUES FOR SHADING.





SOME HOLES CAN
HANG MORE THAN
ONE BRUSH FOR A
FULLER, LAYERED
APPEARANCE.

DIFFERENT STROKES Turn well-worn brushes into a rustic display, *above*. Cut a 2x2 board to 35½ inches long. Drill a hole every 2 inches along the center of the board. Attach two sawtooth hangers on the back of the board and hang. Feed a few feet of twine through each hole and tie the brushes in place, layering small ones over larger ones. Once satisfied with the brush placement, trim the twine ends.



SWEET SPOT A few splashes of color can revive old baking tins, *above*. Gather vintage muffin pans—24-count tins have a bigger presence on the wall, but smaller 6- or 12-cup pans work too. Apply a stain-killing primer to the circles you plan to paint, and let dry. Apply crafts paint in various colors to a few of the circles on each tin. To add shine, coat the tins with a polycrylic varnish after the paint has dried. Screw the pans directly into the wall through the top edge of the tin, using wall anchors if needed.

FOR RESOURCES SEE PAGE 93.



VARY THE
PLACEMENT
OF THE PAINTED
CUPS ON THE
MUFFIN TINS FOR
ADDED INTEREST.

GO GREEN Vintage tins come to life when arranged like a wreath and filled with live plants, *below*. Lay metal canisters in different sizes, shapes, and designs in a circle. (You might trace a circle on a large piece of paper or on the wall to help you keep things in order.) Before hanging, determine which containers will include plants and make them removable—this allows you to water, tip over to drain excess, and rehang. For the removable tins, drill a small hole into the top edge of the vessel and loop a wire through the hole to act as a hanger. Screw the nonremovable tins directly through the top edge of each into the wall. Add plants as planned and hang.

BEFORE PLANTING, LAYER PEBBLES IN THE BOTTOM OF THE TIN FOR BETTER DRAINAGE OF THE POTTING MIX.





MEET THE MAKER

THE NEON TEA PARTY

This craft company specializes in bright colors, community, and all the projects you made as a kid. Cue the nostalgia.

PHOTOGRAPHS **MARTY BALDWIN** WORDS **CAYLIN HARRIS**



SIX YEARS AGO, MARISA MORRISON STEIN HIT PUBLISH ON HER BLOG, *THE NEON TEA PARTY*, TO SHARE FASHION, DECOR, TRAVEL, AND DIY CONTENT. THE HOBBY MORPHED INTO A FULL-TIME BUSINESS SHE RAN WITH HER NOW-HUSBAND, SAM, IN THEIR NEW YORK CITY APARTMENT. THE TEAM HAS GROWN, AND MARISA AND SAM NOW LIVE IN SOUTH ORANGE, NEW JERSEY, WITH THEIR DAUGHTER, SOFIE, AND DOG, KUGEL.

THE MAKER: MARISA MORRISON STEIN

After teaching a pom-pom and tassel-making class at an arts studio, Marisa realized the potential in sharing her lessons and passion for camp-inspired crafts to a broader audience.

Q: How did *The Neon Tea Party* come to life?

A: I always wanted to become an accessories editor. After interning at a magazine and working as a stylist and for a jewelry company, I tried a few business models to see how I could turn crafting into a career. I taught a crafting class, and from there it grew into creating my own lessons and craft kits. Now we offer private events, workshops, tutorials, and skill-based learning.

Q: What's your favorite craft?

A: It's hard to choose! But I can narrow it down to my top three: beading, tie-dye, and pom-poms and tassels. Beading because I've always made and been in love with

jewelry. Tie-dye—it's so fun and satisfying. And pom-poms and tassels are the crafts that started it all. I also have to give crochet an honorable mention. It was my grandma's craft of choice and the first more advanced craft I learned.

Q: Why do you think summer camp crafts, like tie-dye, are so popular again?

A: It's a huge nostalgia factor. These crafts make people think about happy, simpler times. Plus, they incorporate bright colors, which can put you in a healthy headspace. Tie-dye is always popular, because it's so transformative. It might seem intimidating, but then you unwrap your creation and feel that moment of pride. It can become addicting!



CRAFT CORNER

1 *The Neon Tea Party* likes to blend trendy with timeless. A great example: granny squares! The craft is having a real fashion moment, so Marisa and her team love brainstorming projects that include them.

2 The crafts company offers both in-person and virtual events and workshops as well as kits in a variety of categories, such as pom-poms and tassels, tie-dye, and beading.

3 Marisa originally thought the virtual classes would attract kids but quickly realized adults wanted more. "Kids were all Zoomed out," she says. One of the programs, CommuniTEA, offers a scheduled time for people to craft and hang out at no cost.



MAKE IT

ARCH TIE-DYE PILLOW

MATERIALS

- White pillow cover (100% cotton or silk)
- Fabric pencil or washable marker
- Rubber bands
- Tie-dye one-step dye powder in four colors
- Four 4-ounce squeeze bottles
- Plastic tablecloth
- Paper towels or metal rack and tray
- Rubber gloves
- Apron or smock
- Ziplock bag or plastic wrap
- Washing machine and dryer
- Detergent
- Tennis ball or dryer ball
- Pillow form

Step 1 Draw an arch at the top and bottom of a pillow cover using a fabric pencil or washable marker (A).

Step 2 Gently fan-fold the fabric along the top arch so the line begins to appear straight on the top of the folds (B). Secure tightly with a rubber band. Repeat the folding on the other arch. Pinch and pull the folds as you go to straighten the folds between the arches. Secure tightly with a rubber band.

Step 3 Wrap three additional rubber bands incrementally between the two outside bands to identify space for each color of the rainbow arch (C).

Step 4 Prepare each tie-dye solution according to package instructions. Cover your table with a plastic tablecloth and rest the banded pillow cover on paper towels or a metal rack and tray to collect drips from the dye (D).

Step 5 Wearing rubber gloves and an apron or smock, apply a different color of dye to each banded section of the pillow cover (E). (Tip: Wet the fabric before applying dye to help the dye flow more easily; leave the cover dry for a more vibrant result.)

Step 6 Once finished dyeing, place the pillow cover in a plastic bag or cover with plastic wrap. Let sit for eight to 24 hours to absorb the dye. After the dye has set, remove the rubber bands and rinse the pillow cover in warm water to remove excess dye, wearing gloves and an apron or smock. Rinse until the water runs clear. Immediately transfer the cover to the washing machine; wash on normal in warm water using a small amount of detergent. Dry on its own in the dryer without a dryer sheet; add a dryer ball or tennis ball to keep the cover from sticking to the dryer wall. Insert a pillow form to finish.

GET THE MATERIALS TO MAKE THIS PROJECT. TIE DYE STARTER KIT IN TNTP VIBES, \$38; THENEONTEAPARTY.COM



STUFF WE LOVE

ON OUR RADAR

Usher in warm spring days with a new craft tool, gardening gadget, or how-to book.

PHOTOGRAPHS **MARTY BALDWIN** WORDS **AMBER WAGNER**

1. String up a stretchy stack of cheer for your wrist. This playful kit in a jar is available in a number of colorways and provides enough beads and string to make at least 12 bracelets. **The Aspen Stretchy Bracelet Making Kit**, \$60; beadsinc.com





②

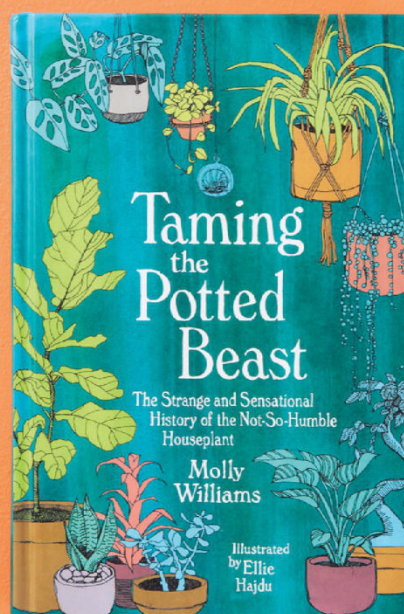
2. Beautiful botanicals spring to life in this paint-by-number book, which contains 30 illustrations, color mixing guides, and painting technique instructions. ***Paint-By-Number Botanicals*** by Catherine Guadagnolo, \$21; bookshop.org

3. Rest this compact multitasking gadget on your wheelbarrow to hold a drink, carry short and long tools, and house other gardening necessities. A covered, water-resistant compartment keeps your phone safe while you work.

The Burro Buddy, \$42; walmart.com



③



④

4. This book takes a fascinating deep dive into the history of the houseplant, plus offers plant care tips and projects.

Taming the Potted Beast by Molly Williams, \$23; bookshop.org

5. Try this twist on traditional batik painting. The stretched and waxed canvas makes it mess-free.

Use the included brush and fabric dye to fill in the printed design. **DIY Batik Mountain Fabric Painting Kit**, \$16; colorcruiser.com



⑤



⑥

6. Reuse plastic containers bound for the recycling bin as molds to make these colorful concrete planters. The kit comes with three pigments plus concrete mix—enough to create several small vessels. **Recycle Your Plastics to Pots Kit**, \$45; concretegeometric.com

7. Add old-world charm to your next project. Annie Sloan teamed with the Royal Horticultural Society to create these 27x18-inch tissue paper prints in 12 designs. Snip individual images or leave sheets whole to adhere to furniture and decor pieces. **RHS Decoupage Paper, \$17; anniesloan.com**

8. Get attainable ideas for living more sustainably. This info-packed book offers low-impact home remodeling tips, product repurposing options, composting advice, and more. **Remodelista by Margot Guralnick and Fan Winston, \$37; bookshop.org**

9. Imagine your spring cleaning staying cleaner longer. Spritz this nontoxic, water-resistant ceramic coating on stainless steel, stone, tile, or glass, then wipe with its microfiber cloth to lengthen your surface's shine and repel fingerprints and smudges. **Lifeproof Home Ceramic Coating, \$30; lifeproofhome.com**

10. Get a head start on gardening this spring by growing produce above ground. These breathable sacks keep root systems healthy and come in multiple colors and sizes to fit your planting needs. **Grow Bags, from \$10; coolarooobags.com**





11. A care package for your garden, this natural bioprotectant, fungicide, and insecticide helps keep plants healthy without compromising the environment. **Arber Outdoor Kit, \$84;** growarber.com

12. Weave a heart basket for your valentine. Choose from seven colors of recycled paper strips, then follow a detailed tutorial to make this lovely design. **Valentine Heart Basket Kit, \$18;** kagocraft.com

13. Tiny but mighty, this rechargeable engraving pen has a two-hour run time. Choose from three speeds and 30 bits to etch on 50 different surfaces including glass, metal, and wood. **Customizer Professional Engraving Pen, \$48;** culiau.com

14. Start the season with a new journal embroidered by you. Use the kit's punching tool to poke a design in the cover, then stitch with the provided embroidery floss and needle. **Leaf Stitch Embroidered Notebooks by Karen Barbé, from \$27;** maydel.com



15. Block off some time to print custom cards, wall art, and gift wrap. This kit contains paper, paint, a rubber brayer, an ink plate, and wood printing blocks, plus comprehensive instructions. **Original Block Printing Kit, \$84;** blockshoptextiles.com

16. A craft from the heart. Color these three wood cutouts with paint and attach a magnet to the back. Use them to hang love letters and photos on your fridge or give to the special person in your life. **Paintable Wooden Heart Magnets, \$20;** willowbeesigns.etsy.com

17. Keep dirt contained while you tend to your plants. This 28x28-inch waterproof mat has corner snaps that open for easy cleanup, and it folds flat to store. **Plant Havn Premium Potting Mat, \$28;** verticaljungle.com

18. Infuse your next sip with this DIY cocktail kit. The custom drink fixings prep up to 16 servings. Just add your spirit of choice and let sit. Make it a mocktail by steeping with water and mixing in juice, soda, or sparkling water. **Camp Craft Cocktails Base Camp Kit, \$25;** campcraftcocktails.com

19. No more disposable lint rollers. Before heading out the door, swipe this sleek brush over your clothes to catch lint and pet hair, then twist to close to trap debris. **Orotund Magical Lint and Pet Hair Removal Brush, \$22;** petlife.com





COOL TOOLS

TOOLBOX ESSENTIALS

Fill your arsenal with dependable supplies. These will last for years and help you accomplish most to-dos.

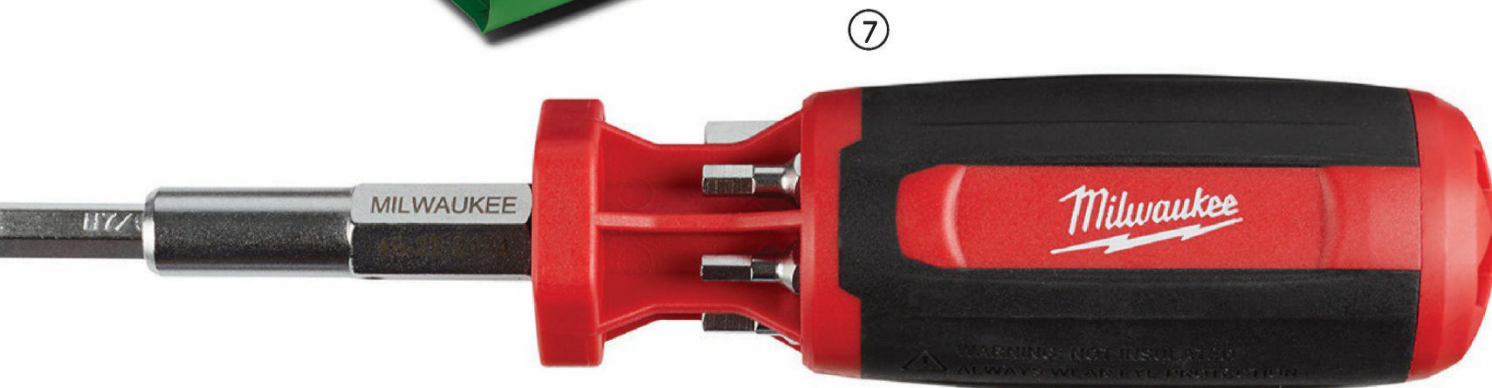
WORDS **LINDSEY M. ROBERTS**

1. GERBER EAB LITE PLAIN EDGE This pocket knife locks securely when in use, folds to store in your pocket, and features a handy clip. Easily swap out the utility blade when it gets dull. \$18; gerbergear.com

2. DEWALT TOUGH SERIES 25-FOOT TAPE MEASURE Not too short to prevent an accurate measurement but not too long to feel unwieldy, this 1¼-inch-wide tape measure includes a removable magnet to secure the hook tightly to metal surfaces. \$31; homedepot.com

3. FISKARS CUTS+MORE ULTIMATE 5-IN-1 SCISSORS If scissors take up space in your toolbox, they better multitask. These can cut wire, pierce holes, snip light rope with a power notch, and open bottles. A safety sheath protects the blades when not in use. \$24; toolboxsupply.com

4. EMPIRE 9-INCH TRUE BLUE PROFESSIONAL TORPEDO LEVEL Keep your projects plumb. A magnetic strip holds the tool in place on metal surfaces; the blue vial highlights the bubble edge for easy readability. \$12; homedepot.com



5. THE TOOLBOX BY CHARACTER Corral must-haves in a steel container available in four colors that will look right at home on your shelf. Silicone liners keep tools in their place. \$185; withcharacter.com

6. KLEIN 11-IN-1 MAGNETIC MULTI-BIT SCREWDRIVER & NUT DRIVER Get the most-frequently used screwdrivers

and nut drivers in one space-saving set. The magnetic shaft makes changes quick. \$21; homedepot.com

7. MILWAUKEE 9-IN-1 SAE HEX KEY MULTI-BIT DRIVER Designed for pros, this driver contains a magnetic shaft and clever storage around the base to hold hex keys. \$20; northerntool.com

8. ANVIL 1½-INCH STIFF SCRAPER Use this putty knife to prep or spackle walls, scrape sticky residue, or pry open a can of paint. \$8; homedepot.com

9. GATEWAY SAFETY FLIGHT CUSHIONED EYE SAFETY GLASSES Easily overlooked, safety glasses keep eyes clear of chemical off-gassing, dust particles, and flying objects. The temple

wings and rubber nosepiece on this pair add comfort. \$8; amazon.com

10. RAZORSAW 9½-INCH DOUBLE EDGE RYOBA FOR HARDWOODS Trim hard or abrasive wood with this thin handsaw. It contains more teeth per inch than other blades of its size to offer a smooth and accurate cut. \$60; woodcraft.com

WHAT TO DO WITH

Felt

This soft, pliable material isn't just for kid crafts. Turn sheets and scraps into easy-to-make modern decor that adds warmth, color, and texture to your home.

PROJECTS **JODI HARRIS** PHOTOGRAPHS **NICOLAS GOURGUECHON**
WORDS **JUSTINE LORELLE LOMONACO**



EASY PIECE-Y Create a unique work of art with felt scraps or shapes cut from larger pieces of felt arranged in a puzzlelike composition, *below*. (You can even involve the kids in cutting and placing scraps.) Use fabric glue on a paintbrush to adhere the bits to a felt sheet or fabric background. Let dry before framing and hanging.



MIX AND MATCH
CAST-OFF SCRAPS
WITH DELIBERATELY
CUT PIECES FOR A
MATISSE-INSPIRED
COLLAGE EFFECT.



FOREVER FLOWERS These blooms never need water, *left*. Create a fluffy felt peony by wrapping and hot-gluing a strip of fringed yellow felt to floral wire. To finish, sew together layers of pale orange scalloped petals and green leaves (A). For the mum, fold and hot-glue a strip of yellow felt, then cut slits every centimeter and roll into a cluster; secure with hot glue. For the lavender spire, fold and hot-glue a strip of purple felt; cut slits every centimeter. Wrap the cut strip down the length of a piece of floral wire and finish by attaching greenery with hot glue. To make a billy ball flower, form a wispy 8-inch-long strip of wool roving into a ball. Dip it in soapy water and continue rolling; rinse with hot water to tighten the fibers. Repeat until the ball feels dense. Let dry.



BOWLED OVER Craft a charming catchall by cutting a large circle out of felt, *right*. Mark evenly spaced dots around the circumference of the felt. Thread a needle with embroidery floss and sew out through the first mark, leaving the knot on the inside of the bowl. String a bead onto the thread and continue stitching around the felt until the fabric pulls into a bowl. Tie off with a bow.

CONTRASTING AND COMPLEMENTARY BEADS ADD A WHIMSICAL TOUCH TO THIS SIMPLE FELT BOWL.



READING NOOK Keep your favorite books or magazines handy with a felt wall pocket, *this photo*. Trim two pieces of wood to 14 inches and drill holes for screws. Cut felt piece (ours is about 24 inches long) to wrap around the wood; secure with hot glue. Use a screwdriver to secure long screws through the fabric and wood at both ends of the assembly. Attach to wall.



SLIDE SCREWS THROUGH 4-INCH BRASS SLEEVES FOR A STYLISH FINISHING TOUCH.



REST SPOT Capture a sunset you can enjoy any time, *this photo*. Cut wavy strips of felt in various colors slightly longer than the length of your pillow form. Overlap and sew the strips together with a zigzag stitch; add the sun on top. Once the front is finished, sew it to the back with right sides together, leaving an opening at the bottom to slide in a pillow form. Flip the cover right side out, insert a pillow form, and hand-stitch the pillow closed.

ARRANGE AND SPACE YOUR STRIPS BEFORE SEWING TO ENSURE A DESIRABLE COMPOSITION.





SLIP THE SOAPY, WET WOOL-COVERED BALL INTO A PLASTIC BAG BEFORE ROLLING TO KEEP YOUR HANDS DRY.

POT HOLDER Turn wool roving into a textured planter, *above*. Pull off 10-inch sections of roving and wrap around a fist-size plastic ball as evenly as possible. Once you've reached a desired thickness, slide the wrapped ball into the toe of pantyhose and tie off to hold together. Dip the woolly ball into soapy water and roll in your hands; pour hot water over the ball to tighten the fibers. Roll onto a folded towel until the wool starts to harden and bind together (about 15 minutes). Remove the pantyhose and cut a round opening into the wool to remove the plastic ball. Continue shaping the bowl, if needed, and set a planter inside to finish.



SOFT SERVE Design a cozy table setting with felt coasters and napkin rings, *left* and *opposite*. Create the napkin rings by cutting felt into a 5-inch strip with rounded ends (test the wrap around your napkin to ensure a good fit). Make the clasp by snipping a slit on opposite sides of the strip, even distance from the end, to slide into each other (A). To create the straight and curved edges of the felt centerpiece, use a circle template and a straightedge, like a ruler, to create a semicircle, and then cut the piece in half so they fit together modularly.

DO IT BETTER

DON'T HAVE A TEMPLATE? FIND SOMETHING AROUND THE HOUSE! A PIZZA PAN MAKES THE PERFECT CIRCLE FOR PLACE MATS, WHILE A SMALL PLATE OR BOWL WORKS GREAT FOR COASTERS.

CHOOSE FELT PIECES IN CONTRASTING COLORS TO CREATE A TABLE SETTING WITH A MODERN AESTHETIC.



FOR RESOURCES
SEE PAGE 93.



SET TO IMPRESS Give larger leftover pieces of felt new life by turning them into custom place mats, *above*. Begin by using a straightedge to create the sides, and then add visual interest on one end by cutting a half circle or adding a textural detail like fringe or a scalloped edge.

HANDY GIRL

Get the most out of your home and the things in it by cleaning and caring for them all year. Do the work now, and you won't need to replace items before their time is up.

WORDS **KELLY ROBERSON** ILLUSTRATIONS **ANKE REGA**



HEY, HANDY GIRLS!

You know what I hate? Buying new stuff—especially when it means replacing things I didn't care for properly. In our house, we refer to it as “opportunity cost.” The extra few minutes to clean, repair, or maintain an item can save you the time and expense of purchasing it again later. This spring, I'm excited to invest some time into fixing squeaks, scrubbing tools, and replacing parts. Want to join me? Add some of these to-dos to your task list.

Handy Girl

MAKE YOUR OUTDOOR FURNITURE LOOK NEW AGAIN

- ➔ **Wash off dust and debris.** Give each furniture piece—whether it's metal, wood, or vinyl—a good scrub. I spray every area of my metal furniture (including the undersides) with a power washer. If your item needs a lighter touch, enlist a rag and a bucket of warm soapy water. Rinse suds off and let dry in a sunny spot.
- ➔ **Clean the soft elements.** I'm talking cushion covers. If yours are removable, take them off and clean per the instructions. Mine are machine-washable, and I leave them in the sun to air-dry. One trick: Wash with closed zippers to prevent stray threads from getting caught in the machine.
- ➔ **Freshen the harder-to-wash pieces.** If you have cushions with nonremovable covers, clean these with a power washer as well. Test on a corner first to make sure the fabric holds up to the water pressure. Once you're done, leave the cushions in the sun to dry.
- ➔ **Take care of wood and painted furniture.** More upkeep may be required for these pieces, such as repainting or restaining each season. Cover the furniture during inclement weather (and throughout the winter if your climate requires it) to extend appearance and functionality.



GET YOUR GARAGE DOOR IN GEAR

TWO YEARS AGO, I NOTICED SOMETHING STRANGE WHEN I CLOSED MY GARAGE DOOR: MUSHROOMS. TURNS OUT, THE DOOR'S SURFACE WASN'T PROPERLY SEALED, WHICH CREATED A MOIST, JUST-RIGHT ENVIRONMENT FOR FUNGI TO GROW. I DISCOVERED THAT A FEW NEW BOARDS MADE THE ISSUE AN EASY FIX—AND THAT GARAGE DOOR MAINTENANCE IS SURPRISINGLY SIMPLE. FOLLOW THESE FIVE STEPS TO MAKE SURE YOUR DOOR STAYS IN GOOD WORKING ORDER.

- 1 Watch the door move.** A good eye (and ear) can prevent small things from turning into big expenses. If your garage door moves jerkily or gets stuck, check if any part of the hardware is loose, cracked, or worn, and repair or replace if needed. Then, close and power off the door to clean the rollers and springs with a rag and lithium-based lubricant.
- 2 Examine the auto-stop feature.** Activate the garage door and wave your hand or foot in front of the sensor. If the door stops, no worries. If it doesn't, something could be blocking the infrared light (placed about foot height) that sends an alert to the door. Move or rearrange the problem item so the stop function can safely work again.
- 3 Oil the door chain.** Located parallel to the floor, this part feeds into the control unit at the ceiling and keeps the metal pieces moving smoothly. While oiling, ensure the chain remains snug.
- 4 Replace the weather stripping as necessary.** This piece of rubber on the bottom of the door will wear out over time (unfortunately, there's not much you can do about it). Easily replace it with a few screws.
- 5 Clean the door.** Subject to year-round elements, garage doors inevitably get dirty. A quick power wash will keep the paint on yours looking like new and can also give you a chance to notice any areas that might need a touch-up.

Remember to Replace Filters

I'm not going to admit how long it took me to change the water filter in my fridge. It's one of those tasks that often gets pushed to the back burner—or off the burner altogether. That is, until I decided to **automate it**.

First, I looked up the replacement schedule for the fridge filter and other filters in my life—air purifier, dehumidifier, vacuum—and set up a recurring purchase for each, which

you can do through big-box store websites and local businesses alike. When it arrives in the mail, I know it's time to swap it out.

If you don't want to automate the actual purchase of new filters, set up a reminder on your calendar or phone. When it pops up, head to the store for a new filter and add the job to your weekend to-do list.



Spruce Up Stainless Steel

SINKS Avoid built-up scum and bacteria by clearing your sink of food, dishes, and silverware as much as possible. Wash daily with a little warm water, dish soap, and a rag. Once a week, apply a baking soda paste or stainless-steel cleaning product directly to the sink surface. Scrub with a soft cloth, rinse thoroughly, and enjoy the sparkle.

APPLIANCES Clean daily grime with warm water, dish soap, and a rag. For extra shine on the surface of your fridge or oven, turn to a nonabrasive glass cleaner.

YES, YOU CAN FIX A WINDOWSILL

IN MY MIND, REPLACEMENT WINDOWS ARE ONE OF THOSE BIG-TICKET, BIG-SKILL PROJECTS THAT I WAS HAPPY TO FARM OUT TO A PROFESSIONAL. BUT INTERIOR WINDOWSILLS? THEY'RE DOABLE AND NOT AS DIFFICULT TO FIX AS YOU MIGHT THINK.

- **Remove the original sill.** Most are probably wood. Loosen the edges of the sill so it can pop up and off. For wood, this may entail using a hammer and putty knife to gently tap around the edges to loosen, and then tapping up from the sill's underside to remove. If the sill is glued in place, you may be able to gently tap from below—it just depends on the shape the sill is in.
- **Save the sill.** This is your template; use it to cut a new piece of wood or stone—whichever material you're using.
- **Clean the now sill-less window.** Remove excess glue or putty and any dirt or grime.

- **Slide in the new sill.** If you're gluing stone, follow the manufacturer's directions. If you're replacing it with wood, nail the new sill into the frame. Cover the nail holes with putty, sand smooth, and seal or paint as needed.

...AND A WINDOW SCREEN! You know those small tears you probably have in a few window screens? Like anything, they can lead to bigger rips (and bigger repair jobs). I like to keep a few heat-activated screen repair kits on hand to quickly mend those rips. Simply attach the small screen kit, use a hair dryer to activate the glue, and voilà! No more spots for bugs to sneak through.



KEEP YOUR HAND TOOLS IN TOP SHAPE

Extend the life of your hammers, wrenches, and screwdrivers in just two simple steps.

CLEAN Once you're finished using a tool, take five minutes (or less!) to wipe off any dirt or residue from its surface, spray metal parts with WD-40, and wipe a final time.

STORE House your tools in a clean, covered spot that's protected from the worst of the elements. Try a pegboard in the garage, hooks at a workbench, or the classic toolbox stashed on a shelf.



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DR POWER EQUIPMENT

SEW EASY

DOG BED

Give your furry bestie a comfortable place to rest that also matches your home's style and palette.

PROJECT **LACEY HOWARD + SONJA CARMON**
PHOTOGRAPHS **MARTY BALDWIN** WORDS **LACEY HOWARD**



45-INCH COTTON FABRICS PRECUT INTO 2-YARD LENGTHS ARE PERFECT FOR THIS PROJECT.

MAKE IT

DOG BED

MATERIALS

- 1 yard each of two coordinating fabrics (for a finished 19x27-inch cushion)
- Grosgrain ribbon (ours is 2 inches wide)
- Sewing machine and thread
- Ruler and marking pencil
- Iron and ironing board
- 2 bed pillows, towels, or a blanket for stuffing

Step 1 Cut one piece of fabric for the top of the bed to 20x28 inches. Cut two pieces of fabric for the bottom of the bed to 20x19 inches each. Cut three pieces of fabric for the edge of the bed to 4x45 inches each (or the width of your fabric). Cut an 8-inch length of ribbon. On one short end of both bottom pieces, fold $\frac{1}{2}$ inch, press, then fold again, press (A), and hem (each piece should now measure 20x18 inches). Lay the two bottom pieces of fabric on top of the top piece, lining up the outer edges so the two hemmed edges overlap in the center (B). Pin the overlap at the raw edges and stitch along the sides where the two pinned pieces overlap to create a single bottom piece. (The opening in the center will allow you to insert the stuffing.) Be sure to stitch forward, reverse, and forward again at each start and stop.

Step 2 Pin the ends of the edge pieces together at the short ends (C) to make one long strip, matching the pattern if needed, and stitch.

Step 3 With right sides together and starting at a corner, pin the long edge of the edge piece to the top piece, aligning the edges (D). Stitch $\frac{1}{2}$ inch from the raw edges (E), pivoting at



DO IT BETTER

DON'T TOSS OLD BED PILLOWS, TOWELS, BLANKETS, FABRIC SCRAPS, OR OTHER SOFT ITEMS. UPCYCLE THEM AS THE STUFFING FOR A DOG BED. YOUR PUP WILL GLADLY COZY UP ON A FLUFFY SPOT THAT ALREADY SMELLS LIKE YOU AND YOUR HOME.



the corners. At the final corner, cut away the excess of the edge piece, stitch the short ends of the edge together, and finish stitching the edge to the top piece.

Step 4 Find the center on one long side of the edge piece. Measure, mark, and pin the ribbon as a handle, folding in each end about 1 inch (F). Topstitch the ends in place (G).

Step 5 Lay the bottom assembly on your work surface, right side up, and then arrange the top and edge pieces so you can mark places on the edge piece where it will meet the corners of the bottom piece (we cut tiny arrows) (H). Make a 45-degree fold in the edge piece at each corner. Pin and stitch the bottom to the edge with a $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch seam. Turn right side out and press the edges. Topstitch the perimeter of the top and bottom with a $\frac{3}{8}$ -inch seam to form the flange (I). Insert pillows, towels, or a blanket through the envelope opening on the bottom.



SCAN TO SHOP! Hover your phone over the smart code to find the Better Homes & Gardens fabric line at Walmart.

FOR RESOURCES SEE PAGE 93.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

“When I was first injured, Wounded Warrior Project promised they’d always be there for me and my family. And they always have been.”

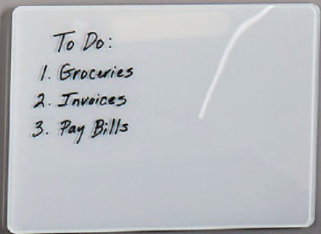
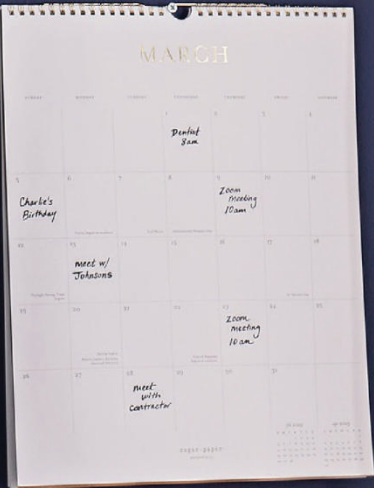
— WOUNDED WARRIOR BRYAN WAGNER



Wounded Warrior Project® (WWP) is committed to serving the post-9/11 generation of injured service members, ensuring they get the care, attention, and support they deserve. Our services in mental health, physical health, peer connection, career counseling, and financial wellness change lives — and warriors never pay a penny for these services.

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HACK IT



MAKE IT



BUY IT

ORDER IN THE HOUSE

WORK FROM HOME

No room for an office? A folding wall-mounted desk takes up little space and fits all the essentials you need to get the job done.

PROJECTS **LESLIE POYZER** PHOTOGRAPHS **MARTY BALDWIN** WORDS **SAMANTHA S. THORPE**



FOLD TO STOW Carve out a hardworking niche in minimal space by mounting a floating, fold-down desk kit. Before installing the unit, determine how high to hang it based on your preferred work surface height—a standard desk is between 28 and 30 inches. Level and secure the unit to wall studs following the manufacturer's instructions. **Andersonville Floating Desk, \$290; wayfair.com**



LIGHT BRIGHT Don't work in the dark. Screw a battery-powered, rechargeable picture light to the top of the desk's frame to illuminate your work space. This dimmable, remote-controlled light bar attaches magnetically to its arm so you can pull it off to recharge. **Arixinks Rechargeable Picture Light, \$29; amazon.com**



FILE FORWARD Dress up your desk with pretty-as-a-picture file folders. This set includes three distinctive patterns to help you visually separate papers into topics and quickly grab the right one. **Hydrangea Assorted File Folders, \$16; riflepaperco.com**





CHARGE IT Keep your laptop, phone, tablet, and other electronics powered up deskside. Drill a hole into the bottom cubby using a hole saw, then sand the rough edges. Attach a portable, multifunctional power strip that contains outlets and USB ports to the cubby vertically using an adhesive strip. Pull the power strip's cord through the hole, and plug it in to keep multiple devices charged throughout the day.



CAMERA READY Turn a Zoom call into an efficient—and flattering—experience with a phone stand outfitted with a folding, rechargeable LED light. The stand fits all smartphones and can hold your device vertically or horizontally. Its accessible port means you can charge while you talk or stream. **Helix Illuminated Phone Stand, \$15; target.com**



WRAP STAR End cord chaos with a flexible rubber shell reminiscent of a turtle. Wrap excess cord around the collapsible hourglass-shape core, leaving the two ends accessible so you can plug them in when needed. Snap the rubber case closed for a compact organizer that saves space on your desktop, or throw it into your work bag and take the cord with you without tangles. **Mini Cable Turtle, \$7; containerstore.com**



ESSENTIAL TOOLS Trick out nooks inside the desk to get more function from your work space. This desk came with a corkboard, but you can add one by cutting a piece of cork to size and attaching it with adhesive squares. Shelves keep a stapler, pencil cup, and tape within reach.



BETTER BOARD Choose a tempered glass whiteboard to note to-dos. Wipe it clean using glass cleaner to avoid dry-erase marker stains or “ghosting” like a traditional whiteboard. Hang it on the file cubby with adhesive strips.

FOR RESOURCES SEE PAGE 93.



CANE ART Disguise the desk cabinet behind a framed cane panel made from natural rattan cane webbing. Measure and cut cane webbing to desired size and soak in a tub of hot water until pliable (this can take up to four hours). Dry cane and apply spray adhesive to the back of the cane panel. Adhere to the front of the cabinet, leaving room for the trim. Cut trim molding to size to frame the cane, sanding rough ends. Apply a clear coat of polyurethane to the trim; let dry. Fasten the trim around the caning using 1/2-inch finishing nails.

Make A Custom Cutting Board With Our Do-It-Yourself Kits

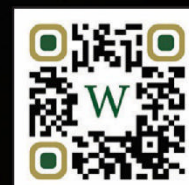


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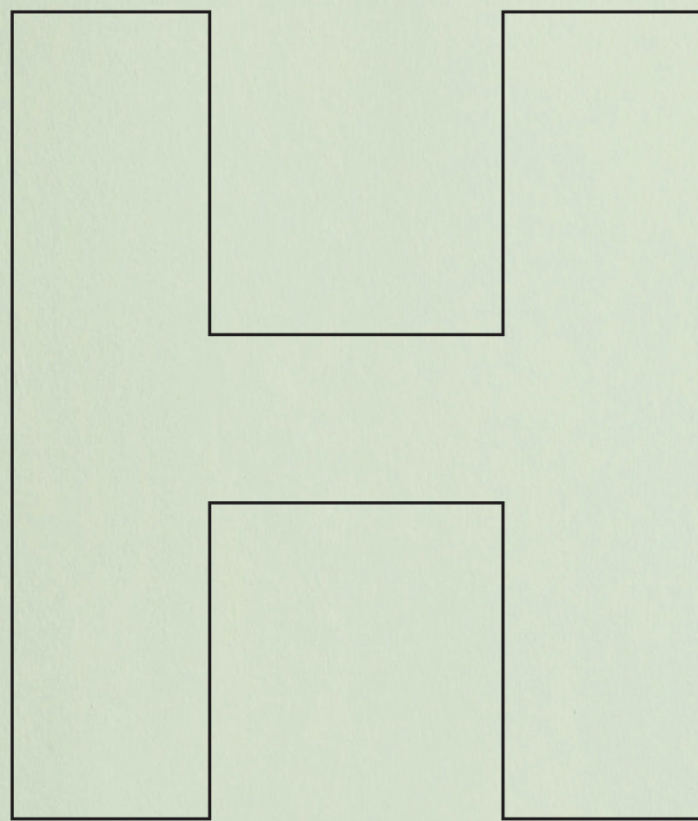
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WITH PAINT, UPHOLSTERY, AND A VISION,
these thrifted chairs receive fresh upgrades
that deserve a standing ovation.

PROJECTS **JENI WRIGHT** PHOTOGRAPHS **JASON DONNELLY** WORDS **MARIA V. CHARBONNEAUX**



AIR



COLOR CODED

Give dated dining chairs a glow-up with a rainbow of hues, *this photo*. Turn over the chair and remove the seat. Use needle-nose pliers to pull the staples and strip away old fabric. If the padding is worn, replace with new batting or thin foam. Trace and cut fabric about 5 inches wider than the seat on all sides. Wrap the fabric around one side; secure with several $\frac{5}{8}$ -inch staples using a heavy-duty stapler. Pull the fabric taut around the opposite side and staple. Repeat on the other sides. Neatly fold the taut fabric at each corner and staple. Prep the chair frame and apply paint. Let dry before reattaching the seat.



PATTERN PLAY

Elevate a chair's upholstery with acrylic paint and a stencil, *this photo*. Opt for a small- to medium-scale stencil pattern on an accent chair similar to this one. You can make your own design using a blank stencil sheet and a stencil cutting tool.



ONE-OF-A-KIND DESIGN Position the stencil on the upholstery, and hold it in place with painters tape, *below*. Dip your stencil brush in acrylic paint, dab the excess on a paper towel, and lightly pounce within the stencil. For a mottled effect, apply less paint; for an opaque look, apply thick coats. Let dry, then remove the stencil. Wipe the stencil clean and repeat, keeping a consistent distance between the motifs for a uniform pattern, *right*.



before

A simple IKEA armchair acts as a canvas when met with a stencil, paint, and brush.



AVOID THE "CRUNCHY" FEEL OF DRIED PAINT BY MIXING A LITTLE FABRIC MEDIUM INTO YOUR ACRYLIC PAINT BEFORE STENCILING.



DO IT BETTER

TO ENSURE YOUR SLIPCOVER LAYS NEATLY, USE AN IRON TO PRESS SEAM ALLOWANCES OPEN AFTER STITCHING PIECES TOGETHER AS WELL AS ALONG THE EDGE OF THE COLOR BAND AFTER FOLDING IT IN HALF.

DYNAMIC DUO With slipcovers that require only basic sewing skills, you can help these seats find their second act, *opposite*. Drape and pin upholstery-weight fabric to the chair along the existing seams, and carefully cut a ½-inch seam allowance outside the pins, *right*. Follow this process for all sides of the chair, so the fabric hangs over the back and seat. You can either bring the fabric to the floor and hem for a skirt, or add a contrasting color band as we did.



before

This pair of slipper chairs was the pinnacle of trendiness during chevron's heyday.

Before you put them on Facebook Marketplace, consider giving them a whole new look.



SEW PERFECT Once all slipcover pieces are cut, pin them right sides together, and stitch. Add darts along curved edges as needed so the fabric lays flat, *left*. To create the color band, measure from the bottom of the slipcover to the floor, add 1 inch for seam allowances, and then double the total measurement for the length of the contrasting fabric. Measure each side of the chair and add 1 inch for seam allowances for the width. Referring to these measurements, cut out four panels. With right sides facing, stitch the panels together to form a tube. Fold the tube in half with the wrong sides together. Pin to the bottom of the slipcover and stitch in place so the seam allowances are hidden.



FOR FLEXIBLE SEATING,
USE THE CHAIRS
SEPARATELY OR PUSH
THEM TOGETHER
AS A LOVE SEAT.





before

A dark, outdated dining chair finds the limelight with bright paint, new upholstery, and paracord details.

STRING FLING Fresh paint and fabric go a long way on a wood armchair, *this photo*. Take style a step further by creating color-block sections with paracord. Tightly wrap cord around the chair arm in sections, starting and finishing on the underside when possible. Singe the cord ends with a lighter to keep them from fraying and secure the cord with a staple. (If you can't hide the staples, as on the legs, use hot glue.) Be sure to count the number of times you wrap the cord to replicate the look on the opposite side.



FIND PARACORD IN DOZENS OF COLORS AND WIDTHS FROM ONLINE SUPPLIERS. WE LIKE THE SUPER DURABLE TEXTURE IT ADDS.





before

With its sleek lines and sturdy construction, this vintage stool just needed a little love to return to its former glory.

RETRO REVIVAL

A scuffed-up stool gets a fresh take with a few easy restoration methods, *left*. Detach the seat and back, remove the old seat cover, and reupholster. To spruce the metal frame, sand and wipe away dust with a tack cloth. Prime the frame and screws using a spray primer for metal; let dry. Apply several thin, even coats of matte spray paint to the frame, letting paint dry between coats. Sand the wood slats to remove old varnish. Stain if you'd like, or skip it like we did for a natural wood tone. For extra protection, spray the back and frame with a matte spray varnish. Once dry, reassemble the stool.

DO IT BETTER

COLORFUL FELTED BUTTERFLIES AND BEES MAKE THIS DESIGN SOAR, BUT YOU CAN ADAPT THE IDEA WITH FLOWERS, BIRDS, OR ANY MOTIF THAT FITS YOUR STYLE.

COVER STAR

With a little creativity and felted wool, you can make a standard-issue office chair look like it came from a high-end boutique, *this photo*. Trace the chair's back and seat onto a piece of paper, and then cut wool fabric 4 to 5 inches larger than the paper patterns. Fold and pin the edges of each fabric piece, and straight-stitch around the perimeter to create a 1/2-inch-wide pocket.





A PRETTY RIBBON
GIVES THE BACK
OF YOUR CHAIR A
POP OF COLOR AND
DECORATIVE INTEREST.

ALL AFLUTTER Embellish the covers with layered butterflies cut from plaid felted-wool fabrics. Pin wings in place and fuse them to the background fabric using wool roving, a needle-felting tool, and a brush mat. For extra texture, add needle-felted details, *right*. Tear apart wool roving to outline the wing edges and to form butterfly or bee bodies, antennae, and wing accents. Poke with a needle-felting tool until your desired shape is formed and fused to the wool fabric base.



FINISHING TOUCH Snip a tiny hole at the top of each cover, and feed a long length of ribbon through the pocket, *above left*. Align the covers over the seat and back; cinch and tie the ribbons to hold covers in place.



before

A plain office chair
needed some pizzazz.
A slipcover makes
adding color and
design simple.

➡ **Learn how to felt!** Follow these steps to practice the technique: [BHG.com/HowToFelt](https://www.bhg.com/how-to-felt)



TOPSTITCH AROUND
THE PERIMETER OF
THE PADDED ARM
COVERS FOR A
POLISHED LOOK.



PICK IT APART Using a drill and needle-nose pliers, carefully remove screws and staples to deconstruct the chair. Rip out seams to take apart the seat and back covers. Use the old fabric pieces as patterns to cut new fabric, paying special attention to pattern placement if you're using a floral or directional print. Sew the new cushion cover pieces together in the same fashion as they were before, adding pleats around curved edges so the fabric lays flat, *above*. Replace worn foam or batting if needed, and stitch closed.



before

Replacing upholstery isn't nearly as hard as it looks. For a beginner-friendly project, look for a wood-frame chair with a removable seat and back.

FOR RESOURCES
SEE PAGE 93.

ARM REST While the chair is deconstructed, prep the frame and paint. Once dry, staple any fabric pieces to the frame as needed, pulling them taut as you go. Reattach the chair seat and back. For a cozy touch, we added padded arm covers, *above*. Measure and cut four fabric rectangles to desired size. Sew two rectangles on three edges with right sides together like a pillowcase. Turn right side out and fill with a batting rectangle. Staple the open side to the chair frame so staples are hidden, drape the cover over the arm, and secure with fabric-covered buttons made using snap-together button forms; repeat for the other arm.

DO IT BETTER

TAKE LOTS OF PICTURES
AND NOTES EVERY STEP
OF THE WAY TO HELP YOU
REMEMBER HOW THE CHAIR
WAS CONSTRUCTED. THEN,
FOLLOW YOUR PHOTOS
IN REVERSE ORDER
AS YOU PUT THE PIECE
BACK TOGETHER.



ON *the* MEND

Playful patches and decorative stitches give ripped clothing and hole-ridden fabric pieces a second shot at wear.

PROJECTS **KIM HUTCHISON** STYLING **JESSICA THOMAS** PHOTOGRAPHS **CARSON DOWNING** WORDS **EMILY ELVERU**

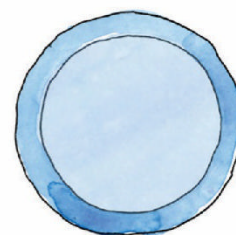
QUICK FIX Patch a well-worn hole in a denim jacket or pair of jeans with bright fabric and stitching, *right*. Start by trimming frayed strings around the hole. Cut a patch $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch larger on all sides than the hole from fabric that's about the same weight as your item. Turn the item inside out and attach the patch using a fabric glue stick; ensure that the patch faces right side out. Reinforce the patch with pins, turn the item right side out, and insert additional pins on the outside. Create a series of crossed straight stitches or a running stitch (see "Stitch This Way," page 58) around the edge of the patch every $\frac{1}{4}$ inch. To finish, knot the thread on the back of the fabric and remove pins. If desired, create a decorative running stitch in the center of the patch.



BED THREAD Cover large rips or hard-to-hide holes in a duvet with an appliqué (see “How to Apply a Patch,” right), *this photo*. Mend holes in sheets and pillowcases using the technique to darn socks (see “How to Darn a Hole,” page 59).

CHOOSE THREADS
IN COMPLEMENTARY
COLORS TO YOUR
DECOR SCHEME
TO MAKE MENDING
LOOK INTENTIONAL.

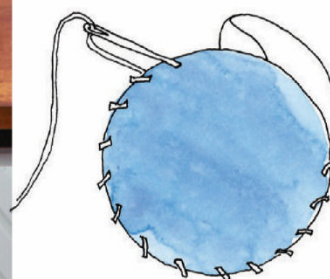
HOW TO *apply* A PATCH



STEP 1

Iron freezer paper shiny side down to the wrong side of patch fabric.

Cut out the shape needed, leaving 1/4-inch allowance around the freezer paper. Using a temporary fabric glue stick, apply adhesive to freezer paper and press it over the hole in the duvet.

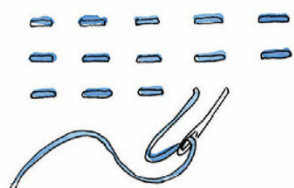


STEP 2

Working around the patch, fold the fabric's 1/4-inch allowance under the paper and whipstitch the outer edge of the circle to the duvet. (Avoid stitching through the paper.) With about 1/2 inch left to sew, use tweezers to pull out the paper. Continue sewing around the patch.

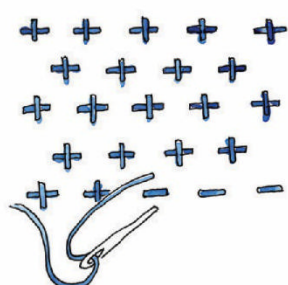
➔ **Learn more!** Watch a tutorial for each of these projects: [BHG.com/VisibleMending](https://www.bhg.com/VisibleMending)

stitch THIS WAY



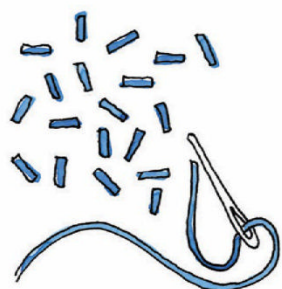
RUNNING STITCH

You've likely tried this trusted beginner's stitch. Stick a needle through the fabric from the back to the front and down again about $\frac{1}{4}$ inch away. Repeat in a straight (or straight enough) line.



CROSSED STRAIGHT STITCH

Nope, not cross-stitch. Make a series of horizontal running stitches, then cover it with a series of vertical running stitches.



SEED STITCH

It's like sewing sprinkles or confetti to your fabric. This one's simply a running stitch that ditches its straight line and goes any which way you please.

OH SEW GOOD Cover stains on a tablecloth and on napkins with a smattering of patches and simple stitches, *this photo*. Use a fabric glue stick to adhere a patch over the hole (see "How to Apply a Patch," page 57), then choose a decorative stitch to sew over the patch and surrounding area on the fabric.



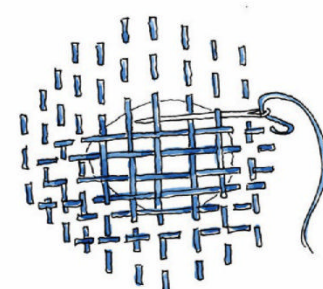
A WOOD DARNING MUSHROOM HELPS MAINTAIN AN ITEM'S SHAPE AS YOU SEW.

HOW TO *darn* A HOLE



STEP 1

Sew rows of vertical running stitches back and forth at least $\frac{1}{2}$ inch beyond the hole on all sides, making long stitches across the hole.



STEP 2

Repeat horizontally, weaving the thread through the long stitches until the hole is covered. Weave in the ends of the yarn and trim.

IN STITCHES Give worn socks new life by darning holes using vibrant thread or yarn, *above*. Trim the hole to remove frayed threads. Place a wood darning egg or mushroom (a tennis ball works too) inside the sock behind the hole. Thread a needle with yarn, embroidery floss, or thread. (For wool socks, use wool yarn. For cotton socks, use cotton crochet thread or embroidery floss.) Follow the steps in "How to Darn a Hole," *right*, to finish mending.

1 Homeowner Leslie Poyzer mixes new, old, store-bought, and DIY elements throughout her home. In the dining space, a handcrafted papier-mâché shade (inspired by one from interior designer Leanne Ford) hangs over a classic tulip table surrounded by rattan chairs. **2** New floors were the only major improvement this sunlit corner of the house needed.

①

②



LESLIE POYZER AND
HER DAD, JIM, WHO
HELPED WITH MUCH
OF THE RENOVATION
IN HER NEWLY
UPDATED KITCHEN.



old house NEW TRICKS

When a designer and her handy dad stepped into a century-old fixer-upper, they should have been repulsed by the slanted floors throughout the home and half-demolished bathroom—but they saw only its potential.

STYLING **LESLIE POYZER** WORDS **LAURA FENTON**
PHOTOGRAPHS **MARTY BALDWIN + CARSON DOWNING**



3

4



WITH A BACKGROUND IN INTERIOR DESIGN AND A FATHER WHO IS A HOME BUILDER, DES MOINES-BASED STYLIST

Leslie Poyzer was uniquely poised to rehab an old house. But when she fell hard for a circa-1890s home in need of some serious TLC, she worried her dad, Jim Poyzer, would think the project was too big (gaps in the floor revealed the basement below). Instead, he encouraged her to go for it—and offered to help with the renovation.

Together, Leslie and her father stripped the main level to the studs and began rebuilding it to suit her taste and lifestyle, including removing walls so the old dining room, kitchen, and solarium formed one room. Her friends and family pitched in too. Leslie's brother weighed in on the challenge of leveling the floors—they built a frame for a new subfloor on top of the old one. Her best friend, Sarah Wolfgang, a kitchen designer and the founder of Wolfgang Studio, helped conceive the new open-plan kitchen.

With every decision, Leslie looked for cost-friendly options that would honor the house yet still feel fresh and modern. The ongoing projects even brought Leslie and her dad closer. "Renovating became great bonding time," says Leslie. "It was the most time I've had with my father as an adult, so it was really special." The resulting home is stylish, functional, and ready for its next hundred years.

RATHER THAN SLICE DOWELS IN HALF ON HER TABLE SAW, LESLIE ORDERED PRECUT HALF ROUNDS FROM BAIRDBROTHERS.COM.



3 A large marble-topped island and double ovens were musts on Leslie's kitchen wish list. She saved money by keeping most of the existing appliances. **4** Leslie left $\frac{3}{4}$ inch between each half-round dowel lining the island base, which cut costs by requiring less material. **5** Leslie was partially motivated to enlarge the kitchen to support her hobby business: baking cakes. **6** "Friends sip on wine and talk to me while I'm cooking," Leslie says of the tufted armchairs that sit opposite the island.





FOR CONTINUITY AND COST SAVINGS, LESLIE USED THE SAME MARBLE ON THE HEARTH AS THE KITCHEN COUNTER.



DO IT BETTER

DON'T BE AFRAID TO CHANGE THE LOOK OF YOUR SPACE. "IT CAN BE AS SIMPLE AS NEW THROW PILLOWS OR SMALL ACCESSORIES TO KEEP IT FRESH," LESLIE SAYS. "THINK OF YOUR HOME LIKE YOUR WARDROBE WHEN YOU ADD A NEW PAIR OF SHOES OR EARRINGS TO CLASSIC, STAPLE PIECES."





7 Leslie kept the fireplace simple, but after leveling the floors, she and her dad added a marble inset around the hearth for both safety and practicality. **8** The reading nook on one side of the living room is furnished with cane-back chairs and an affordable cowhide rug; the occasional tables are faux logs that Leslie painted white. **9** Other than replacing the floors, Leslie did no major work in the living room (she even kept the wall color!). "Sometimes it takes only a few new things," she says. Leslie updated the room's look with transitional furnishings and modern light fixtures sourced from Etsy.



10 Thanks to generous drawers, the marble-topped vanity in Leslie's bathroom stores all her toiletries.

11 Leslie used prefabricated EZ-Niches (alpinebay.com) to frame a stylish arch in the shower wall.

12 She saved on wall tile by picking a 3x6-inch option from Lowe's. To make it "a little bit more modern but still classic," she chose one with a handmade look and installed it vertically. **13** The home's only full bathroom had been gutted by the previous owners, but the pink cast-iron bathtub remained—and Leslie kept it. "It was in good condition, and if I took it out, I couldn't get the quality of a nice old cast-iron tub back in the space," she says. **14** Leslie customized the vanity with arched metal legs.

DO IT BETTER

CHOOSE A HAND WAND IN YOUR SHOWER TO MAKE CLEANING THE TUB AND TILE EASIER. "I DON'T KNOW WHY THEY'RE NOT IN EVERY BATHROOM," SAYS LESLIE, WHO OPTED FOR DELTA FAUCET'S VERO MODEL.





13

14

A MARBLE MOSAIC FLOOR NODS TO THE HOUSE'S VICTORIAN ERA. LESLIE USED BEIGE GROUT, WHICH READS PINK NEXT TO THE BATHTUB, TO MATCH THE MOSAIC INSERT DETAILS.





HANG CURTAIN RODS
HIGH TO LENGTHEN
THE APPEARANCE OF
YOUR WINDOWS.

"I WANTED MY
HOME TO FEEL LIKE
A VACATION, SO
I CHOSE A PALETTE
INSPIRED BY SAND,
WATER, AND SKY."

LESLIE POYZER, HOMEOWNER

15 To balance a pair of awkwardly positioned windows in the primary bedroom, Leslie hung curtains so she could push them all the way to the left side. **16** The bedside table was a secondhand score that she revived with a coat of Chalk Paint by Annie Sloan in Duck Egg Blue. "Chalk Paint is so easy to apply with little to no prep, and it contains no VOCs," she says. "I love how it looks and wears." **17** Leslie kept the foundation light and serene in the bedroom by painting the walls and ceiling Sherwin-Williams Sea Salt. "The room has some weird angles; it's hard to tell where the ceiling and the wall end, so I just did the whole room in one color," she says. **18** Leslie painted the frame of a thrift store seascape to match the vintage headboard, noting it's a quick way to get a fresh look without the cost of reframing.



FOR RESOURCES SEE PAGE 93.



17

18

Spring REVIVAL

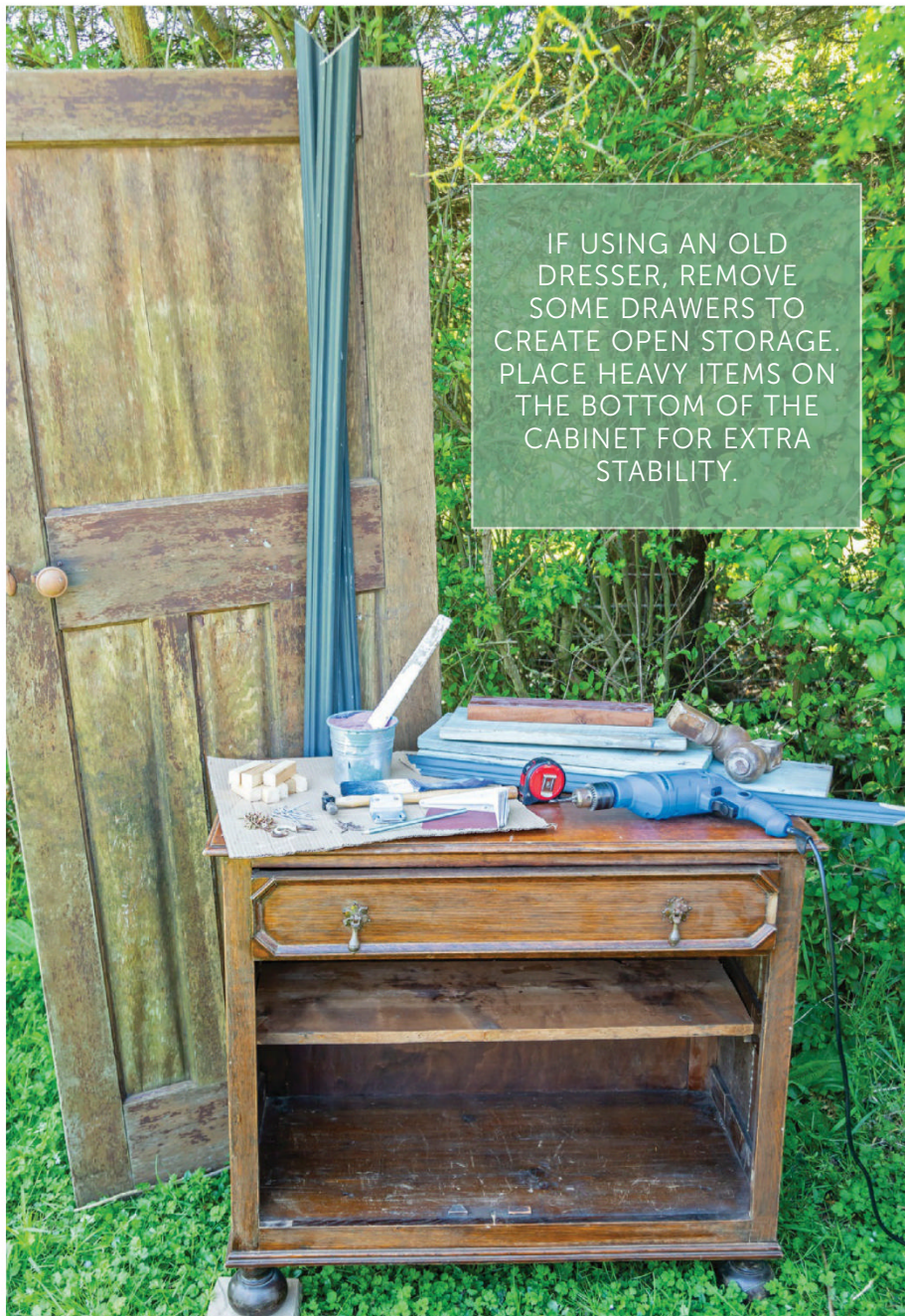
Cultivate your creativity.
Build a custom potting
bench in a weekend from
an old door and a dresser.

PROJECTS + PHOTOGRAPHS **GAP IMAGES**
WORDS **BETH ESLINGER**



GARDEN CENTRAL Yes, you can find a multitude of potting benches online, but they're pretty basic unless you want to dish out major cash. Instead, invest in a weekend of thrifting and simple assembly to create your own custom piece, *this photo*. Start with a vintage wood door and dresser, bookcase, or cabinet that are roughly the same width (this door was slightly smaller, so we trimmed it with molding to create a perfect match). After sanding, paint in a color of your choice and connect the two pieces with galvanized angle brackets. Now the fun begins: Add shelves, and embellish further with hangers to display and store pots, tools, and gardening essentials, *opposite*.





MAKE IT

POTTING BENCH

MATERIALS

- Wood door (roughly 32x80 inches)
- Wood dresser, bookcase, or cabinet
- Molding to extend door profile (optional)
- Miter saw (optional)
- 2-inch-square wood dowels, cut to 3 inches long
- Nails
- Hammer
- Sandpaper
- Tack cloth
- Paintbrush
- Exterior paint (satin or flat finish works best to camouflage flaws in furniture)
- Clear polyurethane (optional)
- Galvanized steel angle brackets
- Drill
- Wood screws
- Wood planks for shelves (8–10 inches deep)
- Shelf brackets

Step 1 If the door is narrower than the dresser, extend with molding. Cut the molding to length, using a miter saw to create 45-degree corners. Attach two or three 3-inch wood blocks along each side of the door's edge (A). Nail the molding to the wood blocks, connecting the molding at the corners.

Step 2 Sand all surfaces smooth. (If the wood surfaces are rough, start with medium-grit sandpaper and finish with fine-grit sandpaper.) Wipe off dust with a tack cloth.

Step 3 Paint all pieces in a color of your choice. Apply clear polyurethane for extra protection from the elements, if desired.

Step 4 Attach the door to the cabinet using galvanized steel angle brackets and wood screws (B). We used two brackets on each side, but you can add more if needed.

Step 5 For shelves on the door, attach brackets to boards (C), then screw brackets to door in desired locations. For a shelf near the work surface, attach two furniture feet to a board. Cut molding to the shelf width and attach to the door as a cleat. Set the shelf on the cleat and screw the shelf onto the cleat (D).

Step 6 Add cup hooks to the bottom of the shelves and additional hooks or peg rails on the door to hang tools.

Step 7 Touch up paint if needed, place in the garden, and fill with pots, tools, and other gardening materials.



DO IT BETTER

BUILD A STURDY SHELF NEAR
THE BENCH TOP USING
VINTAGE FURNITURE FEET, OR
DISTRESS, PAINT, AND SAND
NEW FURNITURE FEET FROM
THE HOME CENTER. TOP WITH
A BOARD CUT TO THE DESIRED
LENGTH, AND ATTACH
TO A CLEAT ON
THE DOOR.

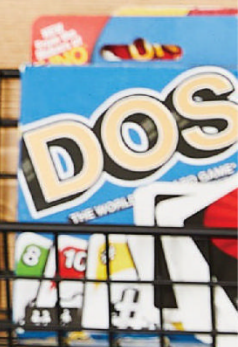




Game
ON!

SCHOOL SPIRIT AND *FRESH DIY SKILLS*
HELP THIS CREATIVE COUPLE
ACHIEVE A WINNING HANGOUT.

STYLING **KENDRA SURFACE** PHOTOGRAPHS **BRIE WILLIAMS** WORDS **SARAH EGGE**



ZOE AND ANDREW
HUNT FRAMED A
READY-MADE CHALK
PANEL FROM THE
HOME CENTER WITH
A LARGE TRIM PIECE
AND SHELF TO HOLD
WIRE BASKETS.



Pool **PLAY** When Zoe and Andrew Hunt chose new construction for their first home, they wanted a finished third floor to house a game room. Their first project for the space included refurbishing a pool table handed down from Zoe's mom, *this photo*. New felt and legs plus white paint replaced the original red felt and oak legs. (Find the full how-to on their blog at pineandpoplar.com.) Other projects followed, like the checkerboard table that started as an accident, *opposite*. "We had a bad, blotchy stain experience," Zoe says. The couple pivoted and created this design to cover the unevenness.

DO IT BETTER

THE WHITE MORTAR WASH, CALLED GERMAN SMEAR, ON THE BRICK WALL PANELS HIDES SEAMS. TO REPLICATE, USE HEAVY-DUTY SPACKLE (SUCH AS DAP ALEX PLUS) AND A 3-INCH SPACKLE KNIFE TO GET THICK COVERAGE.



*"A game room and
A PLACE TO HANG OUT
WITH FRIENDS WAS AT
THE TOP OF OUR
'REALLY WANT' LIST."*

ZOE HUNT, HOMEOWNER



THE HUNTS CHOSE
CHALK-FINISH PAINT
TO COVER THE TABLE
BASE, APRON, AND
RAILS BECAUSE IT
DOESN'T REQUIRE
SANDING. SPRAY PAINT
REFRESHED THE METAL
TRIM PIECES.



A LEATHER TABLE-TENNIS NET ADDS ELEGANCE. ZOE USED A ZIGZAG STITCH TO SEW THE CRAFTS STORE LEATHER PIECES TOGETHER WITH POCKETS FOR THE BRACES.



DESIGN INSPIRATION FOR THE THIRD-FLOOR GAME ROOM CAME EASILY TO ZOE AND ANDREW HUNT: THEIR BELOVED ALMA MATER, THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA.

They spun off paint colors, collectibles, motifs, and an homage to fellow alum Michael Jordan, “because Carolina plus basketball equals G.O.A.T.,” Zoe says with a laugh. That sense of humor sets the tone for a fun, relaxing spot where the couple can enjoy favorite pastimes with friends and family. Zoe and Andrew tackled the room and its components in about six weeks, using skills they’ve honed as the creative force behind their popular blog, *Pine and Poplar*. What started as an empty space with nothing but a dart board resting on the floor is now an inviting hangout for good-natured competition.

Double **THE FUN** To squeeze more use out of their pool table, Zoe and Andrew spent about \$100 to build a removable table-tennis topper out of plywood, *left*. “I need to be honest,” Zoe says. “This ping-pong table is only 4 feet wide instead of the standard 5 feet, but it’ll save you about \$50.” The smaller size fits their room better, and the pieces are lightweight and easy to store. Zoe and Andrew painted murals on the back so the panels hang on the wall as decoration when not in use.

DO IT BETTER

A PLUMBER'S TORCH HELD ABOUT 6 INCHES FROM THE WOOD CREATED A SCORCHED EFFECT ON THE SHELVES AND COUNTER. PRACTICE ON SCRAP FIRST, WORKING BACK AND FORTH IN SMALL SECTIONS.





FOR THE ARGYLE WALL DESIGN, ZOE USED PAINTERS TAPE TO OUTLINE THE DIAMONDS AND ACHIEVED STRAIGHT DOTTED LINES BY TRACING THE LIGHT OF A LASER LEVEL.



FOR RESOURCES SEE PAGE 93.

Raise THE BAR While tackling other projects in their house, Zoe and Andrew learned their walls are not perfectly square. This made the built-in bar and wine rack a challenge for their math and construction skills, *opposite*. They modified a standard cabinet to house a beverage cooler before installing the scorched-wood countertop and wall shelves, *above left*. Leather pulls attached with screw posts, *left*, tie in with the leather table-tennis net. Zoe designed the wine rack to play off the clipped roofline in that corner of the room, *above*. "Each shelf ended up being a slightly different shape and size to fit into the space," Andrew says. "I remember thinking, 'I don't think we have the skills for this.'" The result is a storage bonus. "I'm so glad he gave it a try," Zoe says.



petal power

Living among large-scale painted botanicals keeps this Idaho-based artist abuzz with creativity.

STYLING **JANNA LUFKIN**
PHOTOGRAPHS **JOHN GRANEN**
WORDS **BRIANNE SANCHEZ**



WHEN YOUR HOME IS YOUR CANVAS, IDEAS CAN GROW WILD. DURING THE EARLY PHASE OF THE PANDEMIC,

artist Toby Keough was inspired to transform her family's suburban Idaho abode into a pollinator paradise. With a few cans of paint, she conjured poppies, peonies, and other fantastic floral murals to help melt away the long mountain winter—indoors, at least. “I felt pure happiness using my skills to create a space where my family could see bright colors,” says Toby, who shares her work on Instagram (@tobyrae).

The Keoughs' home has seen many iterations in the 16 years they've lived there. “It's OK to repaint,” Toby says. “Interests change. My home has always reflected what I'm into or how I'm feeling.” Before she began reupholstering and painting professionally, the self-taught artist focused on raising her four kids and sprucing up their spaces. Toby and her husband, Sean, who's a contractor, share a sense of adventure when it comes to refreshing rooms and adding thrifted or upcycled elements to their home.

These days, Toby digs bold bouquets and finds inspiration for her murals while on walks around her neighborhood. She starts each piece with a chalk outline and then draws the details before painting the blooms with a brush. In no time, stems snake along the wall and a bee's-eye view pops between the petals. “I feel such a sense of joy when I'm able to take whatever was in my brain and put it on the wall,” says Toby.



GARDEN PARTY Giant flowers greet guests from the moment they step into this Idaho home, *above*. Toby Keough, *above left*, paints oversize buds in bright colors. She's not shy about mixing pattern and texture, creating a space that matches her playful personality. California poppies perk up the entryway, where a leftover butcher block helps ground the grab-and-go table. In the dining room, *opposite*, a mural of the cheery nasturtium flower mixes with live plants hung in pots on the wall. The thrifted table and chairs were one of Toby's first big secondhand finds. She reupholstered the cushions using reclaimed fabric.

WHAT IS AVAXHOME?

AVAXHOME-

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fresh magazines, hot games,
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Cheap constant access to piping hot media

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18 years of seamless operation and our users' satisfaction

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AN ACCOMPLISHED UPHOLSTERER, TOBY USED A WOOL BLANKET TO ADD WARMTH AND WHIMSY TO THIS WING CHAIR.

ROSE GOLD Low-profile midcentury-style seating and groovy linear wall accents give the family room a 1960s lounge vibe, *left*. Toby layered metallic stripes over florals to keep the look from feeling too precious. Everyone in the family loves to hang out in this space—literally. The vintage rattan swing chair was a “dream purchase,” Toby says. “I found it at a local antiques store for more than I would usually spend on a piece of furniture, but it was on my bucket list and I’ve now had it for years.” One of Toby’s canvas pieces hangs over the salvaged mantel. If you’re not ready to commit to a mural or if you’re a renter, Toby says a large painting can similarly serve as a dramatic element to draw people into a space.

DO IT BETTER

THE KEOUGHS SANDED THE HAND-POURED CONCRETE COUNTERTOPS FOR A POLISHED LOOK. CONCRETE IS POROUS, SO SEALING (AND RESEALING) THE SURFACE PROTECTS IT FROM STAINS, SCRATCHES, AND WATER ABSORPTION WHILE ENHANCING THE COLOR AND SHEEN.

THE BUTCHER BLOCK OVERHANG ADDS DIMENSION.



FINDING BALANCE Toby created the look of a built-in buffet by raising one section of base cabinets and topping it with open shelving, *this photo*.



"I FEEL SUCH A SENSE OF JOY WHEN I'M
ABLE TO TAKE WHATEVER WAS IN MY BRAIN
AND PUT IT ON THE WALL."

TOBY KEOUGH, HOMEOWNER

MIX IT UP Gold-tone pulls link the kitchen's white upper cabinets and dark stained lowers, *this photo*. "Some of these elements are super trendy right now, but I try to tweak them in a way that fits my space," says Toby, who blends farmhouse chic with a colorful touch. Her collection of quirky ceramics and scavenged containers pops against classic subway tile.



FULL CIRCLE An attached bathroom extends the primary bedroom's color palette; the geometric design complements the botanical mural without repeating it, *this photo*. For Toby, private bathrooms are the perfect places to try different styles and create unexpected and unique stand-alone spaces. This low-budget, high-impact update involved painting the vanity and walls and adding new hardware while keeping the original tile floor and countertop. A round mirror followed the Keoughs from their first home, typical of their embrace of resourceful repurposing.

DO IT BETTER

TO ADD EVEN MORE INTEREST TO THE PRIMARY BATHROOM VANITY WALL, TOBY MOUNTED ROUND MIRRORS OF DIFFERENT SIZES SLIGHTLY OFF-CENTER FROM THE SINKS AND LIGHT FIXTURES.

FOR RESOURCES
SEE PAGE 93.



WARM LAYERS A cheerful orange color brightens the primary bedroom, *top*. The mural features cranes and lotus flowers inspired by Japanese kimonos. Toby says she isn't afraid of color combinations clashing because working outside her comfort zone and weaving layers of interest is part of her intuitive process. She upholstered the headboard herself, leaning into soft, velvety fabrics to add luxury and cultivate the feel of a laid-back midcentury Las Vegas hotel, *above*. A window seat and arched paint treatment (in the same orange bedroom color) turn an awkward nook next to the pantry into a pretty place to perch with a book, *left*. Toby extended the paint onto the ceiling to bring a sense of height and delineate the office area.

GET INSPIRED

before & after

Driven by functionality and personal style, these makeovers took six spaces from drab to eye-catching.

WORDS ASHLYN WARE

COZY NOOK This dining room serves guests in style. Angela Belt (on Instagram @_angelabelt) updated a corner cabinet with navy paint. The banquette provides storage while seating more people in less space than needed for chairs. Desert colors pink, orange, and rust join blues for an earthy-meets-mod feeling, while pillows and a linen pendant bring softness to the design.

BEFORE



STYLING RAINA KATTELSON
PHOTOGRAPH DAVID LAND



KITCHEN RENEW

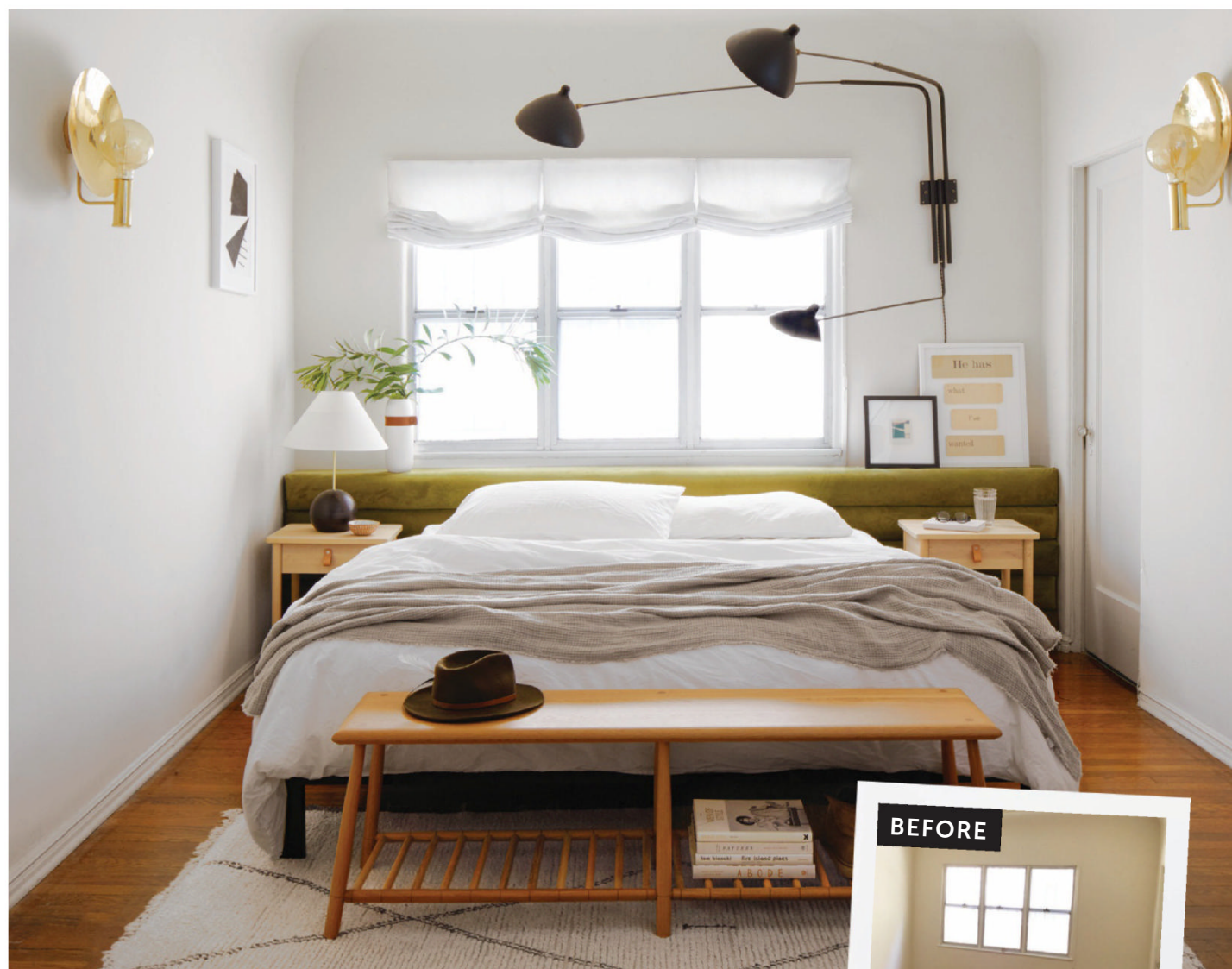
Homeowner Ruthie Jackson (on Instagram @miracleonthirtyfourth) opened up this once closed-off kitchen by widening the doorway between the cooking space and wet bar nook and reconfiguring the cabinets. Butcher-block and stainless-steel countertops, black and gold hardware, and forest green paint on the cabinets add depth and textural contrast. The window frames got a modern update with the same deep green hue, while the interiors of the bar cabinets were freshened with antique gold Rub 'n Buff. Leftover butcher block used for a dining nook bench brings cohesiveness.



STYLING **JESSICA THOMAS + LINDSAY BERGER**
PHOTOGRAPHS **ADAM ALBRIGHT**

STATEMENT PIECE

Designer Brady Tolbert (on Instagram @bradytolbert) added a savvy custom headboard running below the windows to welcome natural light and an airy feeling to this bedroom. The olive-color headboard, made of half-round bolsters covered in velvet, is mounted to the wall as a single unit. Duckbill lights hung on only one side of the bed embrace the room's asymmetry. A pair of nightstands and a coordinating bench at the foot of the bed add storage and function.



CLOSET OVERHAUL

The recommended size for a powder room is 16 to 20 square feet. But Robin and Ed Hicken, who share DIY ideas on their blog at frugalfamilytimes.com, deployed clever design choices to turn an overstuffed 13-square-foot closet into a powder room. The floating counter, made from two mitered pieces of laminated pine paneling, gives the appearance of a thick slab. The apron hides the counter's mounting hardware and the pipes for the above-counter sink, while the tank-free toilet saves floor space. Metallic gold stenciling on pale green walls adds a final flourish.

LAUNDRY REFRESH Jenna LeBlanc, who blogs at jennasuedesign.com, chose front-load appliances to allow room for a butcher-block countertop, perfect for treating stains or folding clean clothes. Excess butcher block became two shelves and four brackets. An 8-inch-wide caddy on wheels slides snugly between the wall and dryer, optimizing organization in a confined space. Painting the ceiling a soft green and laying porcelain penny tiles in a customized pattern provide intriguing details.



STYLING **KENDRA SURFACE** PHOTOGRAPH **HECTOR SANCHEZ**



POSITIVE PORCH White paint, a snappy accent color, and saying farewell to dated architectural elements brightened this cottage-style home. Homeowner and interior decorator Zoë Gowen (find her on Instagram @zoegowen) replaced the skimpy railing and brick landscaping walls with inviting wrap-around steps. She kept the metal awnings as an energy-conscious choice but applied white and green stripes for a happy vibe. The new Dutch door and window boxes complete the home's charming first impression.

FOR RESOURCES SEE PAGE 93.

RESOURCES

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.

[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.

[V] Product Line Varies The product selection changes frequently on the retailer's website.

ON THE COVER

Cabinets Omega Jax in Natural Alder—Wolfgang Studio; wolfgangstudio.com.

Countertop White Venatino marble—Stonehouse; stonehousegranite.com.

Barstools Lovell Counter Stool—Anthropologie; anthropologie.com. **Flooring** Castlewood Oak in Chatelaine—Shaw Floors; shawfloors.com. **Wall sconces over shelves** Pathson Vintage Industrial Wall Light—Amazon; amazon.com [V]. **Island pendants** Selamat Large Cordial Hanging Pendant—Burke Decor; burkedecor.com.

TRY IT: WALL DISPLAYS

PAGES 6–13

PAGES 6–7

Wall paint Pure White SW 7005, **squares paint** Flyway SW 6794, Rejuvenate SW 6620, Soar SW 6799, Hep Green SW 6704, Gusto Gold SW 6904, Aqueduct SW 6758, Vanillin SW 6371, Childlike SW 6569, Cyclamen SW 6571, Cilantro SW 6453, Celestial SW

6808, Heartthrob SW 6866—Sherwin-Williams; sherwin-williams.com [P]. **Side table, lamp**—Target Stores; target.com [V]. **Clocks**—Walmart; walmart.com [V]. **Quilt, sheets**—Garnet Hill; garnethill.com. **Round pillow**—Anthropologie; anthropologie.com. **Multicolor pillow, blue pillow**—Annie Selke; annieselke.com. **Mushroom**—Terrain; shopterrain.com.

PAGES 8–9

Wallpaper below wall display—Rifle Paper Co.; riflepaperco.com. **Wall paint in living room** Eaglet Beige SW 7573, **table wall display paint** Honeycomb SW 6375, Heartthrob SW 6866, Blueblood SW 6966, Pure White SW 7005, Resounding Rose SW 6318, Pickle SW 6725, Porch Ceiling SW 9063—Sherwin-Williams; sherwin-williams.com [P]. **Mushroom**—Terrain; shopterrain.com. **House-shape basket**—Canoyer Garden Center; canoyergardencenter.com. **Leopard pillow, round tray**—Annie Selke; annieselke.com. **Patchwork pillow on chair**—West Elm; westelm.com. **Floral pillow, vase with flowers**—Anthropologie; anthropologie.com. **Lamp**—The Picker Knows; Facebook @thepickerknows.

Lampshade—Lowe's; lowes.com. **Cloud print**—Target Stores; target.com [V]. **Rug**—Urban Outfitters; urbanoutfitters.com.

PAGE 10

Wall paint Jamaica Bay SW 6781—Sherwin-Williams; sherwin-williams.com [P]. **Baskets with lids** Smarra—IKEA; ikea.com. **Pillow**—Anthropologie; anthropologie.com.

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Wall paint Parisian Patina SW 9041—Sherwin-Williams; sherwin-williams.com [P]. **Tray**—Annie Selke; annieselke.com. **Bowl, lamp**—Target Stores; target.com [V]. **Brushes**—Reclaimed, reclaimeddsm.com; The Junk Parlor, thejunkparlor.com; The Picker Knows, Facebook @thepickerknows. PAGES 12–13

Breakfast nook wall paint Gambol Gold SW 6690, **entry wall paint** Iron Ore SW 7069—Sherwin-Williams; sherwin-williams.com [P]. **Bench cushion fabric**—Hobby Lobby; hobbylobby.com. **Multicolor pillow**—West Elm; westelm.com. **Yellow pillow**—Canoyer Garden Center; canoyergardencenter.com. **Blue pillow**—Anthropologie; anthropologie.com. **Hat**—Target Stores; target.com [V]. **Tins**—Jerry Hoffman's Auction Outlet of Iowa, collectamaniaia.com; Reclaimed, reclaimeddsm.com; The Brass Armadillo, brassarmadillo.com; The Picker Knows, Facebook @thepickerknows; The Rusty Pumpkin, rustypumpkin.com. **Cake**—Whole Foods Market; wholefoodsmarket.com. **Hanging light**—vintage.

WHAT TO DO WITH: FELT

PAGES 24–31

Beads, embroidery floss, floral wire, wall frame with mat—Jo-Ann Stores; joann.com. **Wool roving** Desert Breeze—Amazon; amazon.com [V]. **Felt sheets**—Michaels; michaels.com. **Wool felt 3mm**—The Felt Pod, thefeltpod.com; National Nonwovens, nationalnonwovens.com.

Felt—Commonwealth Felt; *commonwealthfelt.com*. **Hardware, wood board**—The Home Depot; *homedepot.com*. **Plates, silverware, napkins**—Cost Plus World Market; *worldmarket.com* [V]. **Salt and pepper shakers**—CB2; *cb2.com*.

SEW EASY: DOG BED

PAGES 36–38

Windowpane fabric Windowpane Grey, **dot fabric** Cotton Dots—Better Homes & Gardens Collection® for Walmart; *walmart.com*. **Bench**—Robin Wade Furniture; *robinwadefurniture.com*. **Basket, pink pillow, dog toys**—Target Stores; *target.com* [V]. **Striped pillow**—Hobby Lobby; *hobbylobby.com*.

ORDER IN THE HOUSE: WORK FROM HOME

PAGES 40–43

Wall paint Indigo Batik SW 7602—Sherwin-Williams; *sherwin-williams.com* [P]. **Desk** Andersonville Floating Desk—Wayfair; *wayfair.com*. **Flooring** Barrington in Nutmeg Chestnut CDL25-10—Mohawk; *mohawkflooring.com*. **Curtains**—HomeGoods; *homegoods.com*. **Basket wall decor, basket with olive tree, pillow**—At Home; *athome.com*. **Calendar, opaque white box** Brightroom, **phone stand** Helix Illuminated Phone Stand—Target Stores; *target.com* [V]. **Chair, picture light** Arixinks Rechargeable Picture Light, **glass whiteboard** MaxGear Desktop Dry Erase Board—Amazon; *amazon.com* [V]. **Rubber shell for cord** Mini Cable Turtle—The Container Store; *containerstore.com*. **Stapler**—Poppin; *poppin.com*. **Cane tote bag**—Anthropologie; *anthropologie.com*. **File folders** Hydrangea Assorted File Folders—Rifle Paper Co.; *riflepaperco.com*.

PULL UP A CHAIR

PAGES 44–55

PAGES 46–47

Throw, table, flowers, rug—Target Stores; *target.com* [V]. **Pillow**—Sticks; *sticks.com*.

PAGES 48–49

Side table, pink pillow—Target Stores; *target.com* [V]. **Rug**—Annie Selke; *annieselke.com*.

PAGE 50

Frame, lamp, table, pillow—Target Stores; *target.com* [V]. **Rug**—Pottery Barn Teen; *pbteen.com*. **Basket**—Des Moines Mercantile; *desmoinesmercantile.com*.

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Pendant, large basket, caddy, clock—Target Stores; *target.com* [V]. **Rug**—Annie Selke; *annieselke.com*.

PAGES 52–53

Chair—IKEA; *ikea.com*. **Rug**—Annie Selke; *annieselke.com*.

PAGES 54–55

Art, lamp, table, throw—Target Stores; *target.com* [V]. **Chair fabric**—Ballard Designs; *ballarddesigns.com*. **Rug**—Annie Selke; *annieselke.com*.

OLD HOUSE, NEW TRICKS

PAGES 60–69

Follow interior designer and stylist Leslie Poyzer on Instagram @thequeenofkingman and former builder Jim Poyzer at his new venture, Outfarming; *outfarming.com*.

PAGES 60–61

Dining chairs Pari Rattan Chair—Anthropologie; *anthropologie.com*. **Light kit for pendant** Design Classics Modern Globe Mini-Pendant Light with White Glass—Amazon; *amazon.com* [V]. **Flooring** Castlewood Oak in Chatelaine—Shaw Floors; *shawfloors.com*.

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Cabinets Omega Jax in Natural Alder—Wolfgang Studio; *wolfgangstudio.com*. **Countertop** White Venatino marble—Stonehouse; *stonehousegranite.com*. **Barstools** Lovell Counter Stool—Anthropologie; *anthropologie.com*. **Flooring** Castlewood Oak in Chatelaine—Shaw Floors; *shawfloors.com*. **Wall sconces over shelves** Pathson Vintage Industrial Wall Light—Amazon; *amazon.com* [V]. **Island pendants** Selamat Large Cordial Hanging Pendant—Burke Decor; *burkedecor.com*.

PAGE 63

Armchairs Whitley Walnut Beige Wood Accent Chair with Nailheads and Tufting—The Home Depot; *homedepot.com*. **Side table next to chairs**—Cost Plus World Market; *worldmarket.com* [V]. **Flooring** Castlewood Oak in Chatelaine—Shaw Floors; *shawfloors.com*. **Wall sconces, acrylic table**—CB2; *cb2.com*.

PAGES 64–65

Chairs in reading nook Fields Cane Back White Accent—Crate and Barrel; *crateandbarrel.com*. **Sofa** similar available as Winston Mink Velvet 3-Seater Chesterfield Sofa with Nailheads—The Home Depot; *homedepot.com*. **Cowhide rug**—iCowhide; *icowhide.com*. **Wall art**—

Dan Hobday Art; *danhobdayart.etsy.com*.

Light fixture in niche Double Brass Wall Sconce—DL Design Works; *dldesignworks.etsy.com*. **White side chair** Gwyneth Ivory Boucle Chair, **candlesticks on mantel**—CB2; *cb2.com*. **Area rug, coffee table**—West Elm; *westelm.com*. **Seagrass raffia wall hanging, sofa pillows**—RJ Home; *shoprjhome.com*. **Sofa pillows**—HomeGoods; *homegoods.com*. **Basket by fireplace**—Cost Plus World Market; *worldmarket.com* [V]. **White pillows on sofa**—HomeGoods; *homegoods.com*. **Planter next to fireplace, floor lamp behind cane chair**—Target Stores; *target.com* [V]. **Mirror**—vintage.

PAGES 66–67

Cabinets Omega Jax in Natural Alder—Wolfgang Studio; *wolfgangstudio.com*. **Cabinet legs** Hedvig Wide 160 in Shiny Brass—Pretty Pegs; *prettypegs.com*. **Countertop** White Venatino marble—Stonehouse; *stonehousegranite.com*. **Drawer handles** Billsbro in White—IKEA; *ikea.com*. **Faucet** Trinsic Single Handle Bathroom Faucet in Champagne Bronze, **shower fixtures** Champagne Bronze—Delta; *deltafaucet.com*. **Drawer organizer**—The Container Store; *containerstore.com*. **Shower curtain**—Cost Plus World Market; *worldmarket.com* [V]. **Vase**—Jo-Ann Stores; *joann.com*. **Light fixture** Aureole Colour Series Wall Sconce—Spark and Bell; *sparkandbell.etsy.com*. **Wall tile** Boutique Ceramic Crafted White 3x12-inch Glazed Ceramic Subway Wall Tile—Lowe's; *lowes.com*. **Floor tile** Cecily Pattern Marble Tile—MSI; *msisurfaces.com*. **Rug**—HomeGoods; *homegoods.com*.

PAGES 68–69

Nightstand paint Duck Egg Blue Chalk Paint—Annie Sloan; *anniesloan.com* [P]. **Duvet, yellow peacock shams**—Dwell Studio; *dwellstudio.com*. **Velvet quilt**—Target Stores; *target.com* [V]. **Pillows with tassels**—H&M; *hm.com*. **Peacock feather pillow**—HomeGoods; *homegoods.com*. **Curtain rod**—Amazon; *amazon.com* [V]. **Curtains**—The Home Depot; *homedepot.com*. **Table lamp**—Schoolhouse; *schoolhouse.com*. **Drum light fixture**—CB2; *cb2.com*. **Wall sconce** vintage—Etsy; *etsy.com*. **Headboard**—vintage.

GAME ON!

PAGES 74–79

Follow Zoe and Andrew Hunt on their blog, Pine and Poplar, *pineandpoplar.com*, or on

Instagram @pineandpoplardiy_. **Gold bowl**—Target Stores; *target.com* [V]. **Plant, planter**—The Plant Bar; *theplantbarco.com*. **Glassware, glass canisters, black-and-white canister, ceramic bowls**—Cost Plus World Market; *worldmarket.com* [V]. **Copper mugs, wineglasses, ice bucket, bar tools**—homeowner's collection.

PETAL POWER

PAGES 80–87

Artist and muralist: Toby Keough, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho; *tobykeough@gmail.com*; Instagram @tobyrae.

Artwork paint throughout—Benjamin Moore; *benjaminmoore.com* [P].

PAGE 80

Chandelier—Habitat for Humanity; *habitat.org*. **Fabric design for chairs**—Toby Keough; Instagram @tobyrae. **Fabric for dining chairs**—Spoonflower; *spoonflower.com*.

Runner on table—Target Stores; *target.com* [V]. **Cowhide rug**—Tandy Leather; *tandyleather.com*. **Curtains**—Amazon; *amazon.com* [V].

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Overalls—Lucy & Yak; *lucyandyak.com*.

Area rug by front door—Cost Plus World Market; *worldmarket.com* [V].

PAGES 82–83

Painting above fireplace, fabric design for upholstered chair—Toby Keough; Instagram @tobyrae. **Fabric for upholstered chair**—Pendleton; *pendleton-usa.com*. **Hanging chair**—Boulevard Mercantile; Facebook @boulevardmercantile. **Sofa**—Interior Define; *interiordefine.com*. **Footstool**—At Home; *athome.com*. **Wood and marble double tables, striped pillow, side table**—Target Stores; *target.com* [V]. **Coffee table**—West Elm; *westelm.com*. **Pillows on sofa**—Cost Plus World Market; *worldmarket.com* [V].

PAGES 84–85

Cabinetry, butcher-block countertop—Huntwood Cabinet Showroom; *huntwood.com*. **Cabinetry hardware**—Etsy; *etsy.com* [V]. **Counter stools**—Walmart; *walmart.com*. **Basket on counter**—Target Stores; *target.com* [V]. **Light fixture**—vintage.

PAGES 86–87

Wall paint in bedroom Persimmon SW 6339—Sherwin-Williams; *sherwin-williams.com* [P]. **Shams, quilt, pendant lights in bedroom**—Amazon; *amazon.com* [V]. **Curtains**—IKEA; *ikea.com*. **Polka-dot pillows on window seat**—Crate and Barrel;

crateandbarrel.com. **Chartreuse pillow on bed** Opal House, **black-and-white pillow on window seat**—Target Stores; *target.com* [V]. **Mirrors in bathroom, throw on bed, bird vase on desk**—vintage. **Headboard, long orange pillow on bed, pottery on desk**—homeowner's collection.

BEFORE & AFTER

PAGES 88–92

PAGE 88

Interior stylist and designer: Angela Belt, Angela Belt Art and Style LLC, West Hartford, Connecticut; Instagram @_angelabelt; *angelabelt.com*.

Chandelier—Room & Board; *roomandboard.com*. **Artwork** ThingDesign—Society6; *society6.com*. **Plates** Assata, **silverware**—Kultured Kitchens; *kulturedkitchens.com*. **Pillows**—Leilon Home; *duendedesignco.com/leilon-home*.

PAGE 89

Interior decorator: Ruthie Jackson, Miracle on Thirty Fourth, Des Moines; Instagram @miracleonthirtyfourth; *miracleonthirtyfourth.com*.

Cabinet paint Black Forest Green HC-187—Benjamin Moore; *benjaminmoore.com* [P].

Butcher-block countertop—IKEA; *ikea.com*.

Brass corner plates on stainless-steel countertop—Amazon; *amazon.com* [V].

PAGE 90

(Bedroom) **Designer:** Brady Tolbert, Los Angeles; Instagram @bradytolbert.

Wall light—AllModern; *allmodern.com*.

Bench O&G Studio, **lamp base**—Rejuvenation; *rejuvenation.com*. **Bedside tables**—IKEA; *ikea.com*. **Rug**—vintage. (Bathroom) **Design:** Robin and Ed Hicken, This DIY Life; *frugalfamilytimes@gmail.com*; *frugalfamilytimes.com*.

Gold stencil paint Rust-Oleum 1 qt. Soft Gold Metallic Paint—The Home Depot; *homedepot.com* [P]. **Wall paint** Wabi-Sabi T18-10—Behr; *behr.com* [P]. **Wall stencil** Spring Leafs—StencilsLabNY; *stencilslabny.etsy.com*. **Sconces**—Wayfair; *wayfair.com*. **Sink**—IKEA; *ikea.com*. **Faucet** Single Handle Channel Bathroom Faucet in Matte Black—Delta; *deltafaucet.com*. **Toilet** Sanicompact—Saniflo; *saniflo.com*.

PAGE 91

Designer: Jenna LeBlanc, Jenna Sue Design Co.; *jenna@jennasuedesign.com*; Instagram @jennasuedesign; *jennasuedesign.com*.

Ceiling paint Softened Green SW 6177—Sherwin-Williams; *sherwin-williams.com*

[P]. **Floor tile** Bedrosians 360 in White, Charcoal, and Silver Sage, **countertop and shelves** The Baltic Butcher Block, **stain for countertop and shelves** Minwax Wood Finish Oil-Based in Weathered Oak Semi-Transparent Interior, **drawer pull** Allen + Roth 3-inch Center to Center Arch Handle Drawer Pulls in Aged Bronze—Lowe's; *lowes.com* [V]. **Washer** Front Loading Washer, **dryer** Electric Dryer with Steam in Black Stainless Steel—Samsung; *samsung.com* [V].

PAGE 92

Interior decorator: Zoë Gowen; *zoe@zoegowen.com*; Instagram @zoegowen; *zoegowen.com*.

Siding paint Creamy SW 7012, **accent paint** Sassy Green SW 6416—Sherwin-Williams; *sherwin-williams.com* [P]. **Dutch door** Jeld-Wen—The Home Depot; *homedepot.com*. **Pillows**—Hollywood at Home; *hollywoodathome.com*. **Planters**—Shopee; *shoppebham.com* [V].

PROJECTS UNDER \$20

MAKE IT!

Find inspiration and how-to for thrifty DIY projects featured in this issue.

Vent cap foliage display **8**
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Muffin tin **12**
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Brass corner plates on counter **89**



TREND SITING

CUTE FRUITS

Tastefully sweet, this adorable fruit decor is always in season.

PHOTOGRAPHS **MARTY BALDWIN**
WORDS **ASHLYN WARE**

1. This cozy made-to-order tufted melon pillow is a delicious addition to any seating area. Handmade Watermelon Slice Pillow, \$61; hellohappyhandmade.com

2. Create delectable decor with this cherry embroidery kit, which comes with a 3-inch hoop, floss, needle, and instructions. Cherry Embroidery Kit, \$20; mlmoxoxo.etsy.com

3. Charm meets function in these artisan-made dragon fruit- and grapefruit-inspired glass bowls. Glass Fruit Bowl (6½ inch diameter), from \$40; dreamglasspl.etsy.com

4. Everyday items don't have to be boring, and this adorable strawberry-strewn oven mitt and pot holder prove it. Strawberries Oven Mitt and Pot Holder Set, \$30; collisionware.etsy.com

5. Give your refreshing drink a place to rest on these handcrafted citrus coasters. Each set comes with one grapefruit, lime, lemon, and orange slice. Citrus Fruit Coaster Mix, \$42; smoceramics.com

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