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27 IDEAS  
**UNDER  
\$20**

**UPHOLSTER  
A HEADBOARD**  
YES, YOU CAN!  
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## STYLE ON A BUDGET

35 WAYS TO DECORATE WITH THRIFTY FINDS

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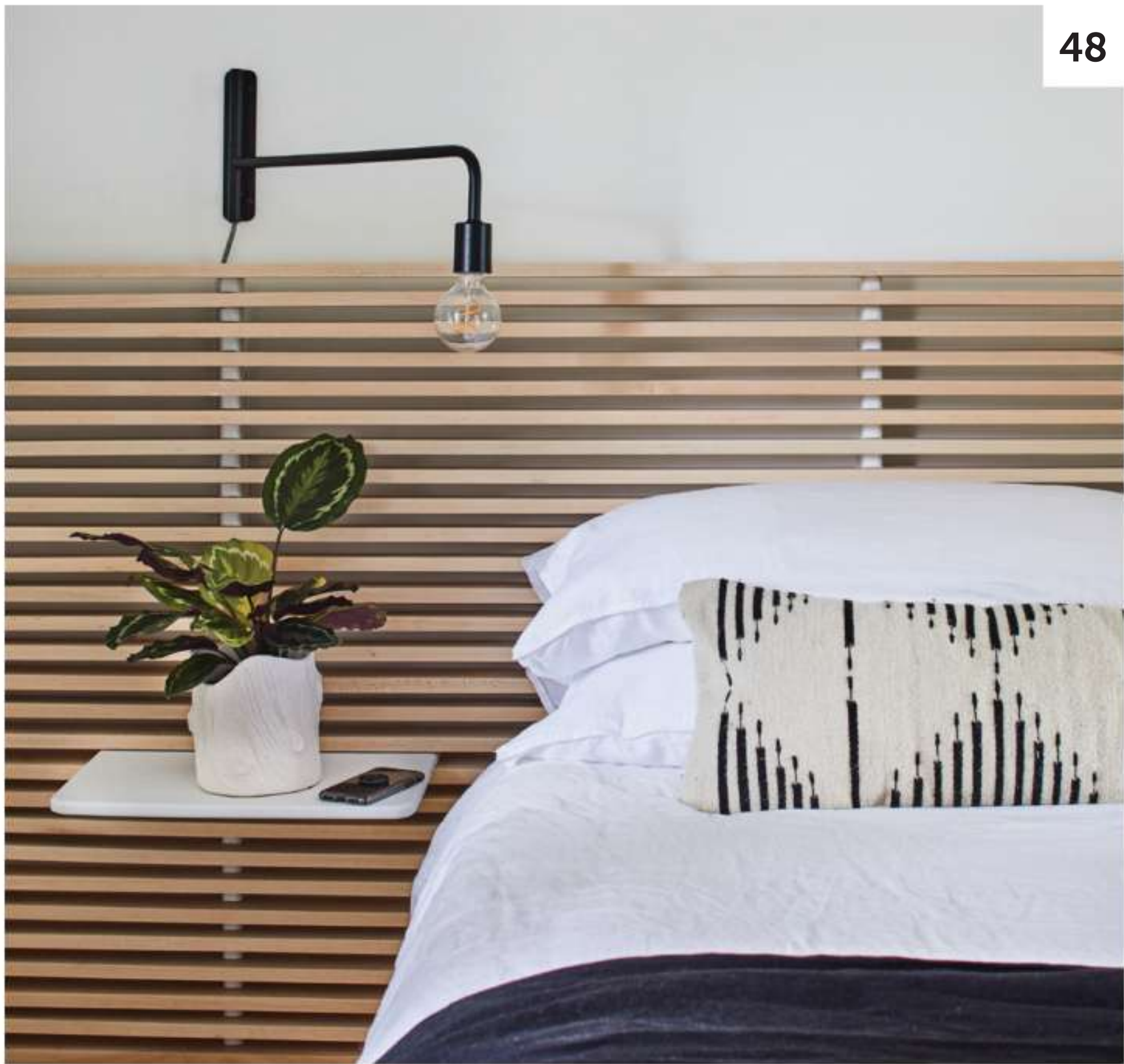
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## FROM THE EDITOR

If you love a good deal—and enjoy crowing about your bargain-hunting prowess—you’ve come to the right place. We’ve dedicated this issue to celebrating thriftiness and sharing all our tips and sources. The fun starts with our cover story (“The Three Rs,” *page 86*) in which homeowners Catherine and Jeff Whittaker reveal that their beautifully remodeled ranch is more Craigslist scores than design center splurges. Then get ready to experience some cheap Z’s when you learn how to knock off a luxe velvet headboard (“Suite Dreams,” *page 76*) and runway-ready light fixtures (“Light Bright,” *page 56*). Team DIY is proud to tell you that our woven chandelier, *this photo*, is actually a cluster of wicker trash cans and toy baskets. And there’s more! We perform similar magic with low-cost items including grocery bouquets (“What to Do with Store-Bought Blooms,” *page 40*), an inexpensive woodburning tool (“Try It,” *page 6*), and pinecones (“Gathered Naturally,” *page 68*).

In the spirit of making something out of nothing, don’t miss the excitement of the latest Furniture Flip Challenge that assistant art director Emily Butterworth and I are delighted to be judging again. You’ll find the inside scoop on the Season 3 winners at [builderschallenge.com/ffc](http://builderschallenge.com/ffc).

May the season be festive and frugal!

# Brian

Brian Kramer  
Editor, *Do It Yourself*™





TRY IT

# WOODBURNING

Make your mark on home accents  
with this hot technique you can  
master in no time.

PROJECTS & STYLING **LESLIE POYZER**

PHOTOGRAPHS **JASON DONNELLY**

WORDS **PAMELA PORTER**

**DIAMOND IN THE ROUGH** An ikat-inspired design lends Moroccan style to a plain wood vase, *this photo*. Use a pencil to draw diamond shapes on the vase, or use a diamond pattern stencil and a ruler to mark placement more precisely. With a flow tip on the woodburning tool, sweep the tip back and forth about 1/4 inch in a tight zigzag over the pencil lines until each diamond shape is drawn.

Use a shading tip to fill in the diamond, alternating the direction of the tip upward for a pass then downward until filled. Erase any remaining pencil lines.

FIND WOODBURNING  
BASICS TIPS ON PAGE 13.





IF YOU'RE NOT  
CONFIDENT ABOUT  
FREEHAND-DRAWING A  
DESIGN, USE A PENCIL TO  
TRACE A STENCIL.

**IN FULL BLOOM** Give an unfinished wood caddy a fresh botanical outlook, *above*. Use a pencil to draw flowers on all corners of the caddy. Trace the pencil lines using a woodburning tool and flow tip, then add small flower dots using a ball tip. Erase any remaining pencil lines. To protect the design, spray with a clear water-base polyurethane sealer.





**A NEW LEAF** Make serving a natural art by transforming a simple wood cutting board into an organic leaf shape, above. Cut out the leaf outline using a saber saw or jigsaw. Sand edges smooth and wipe with a tack cloth. Use a pencil to draw a leaf stem and veining on the wood where desired. Trace pencil lines using a woodburning tool and your favorite tip (we used a mini flow tip and shading tip). Erase any remaining pencil lines, then coat the board with a food-grade mineral oil.



**MAKING A SCENE** Go on an art adventure by commemorating your favorite view. On a basswood panel, *this photo*, draw a landscape design in pencil. Trace over the pencil lines using a woodburning tool, varying the heat level from medium to high to create different shades. We used a rounded shading tip to make fine lines, a drawing tip to make crosshatch lines, and a universal shading tip to make the birds. Erase any visible pencil lines, then secure a leather band around the edge of the panel using gold-tone finish nails. Install a sawtooth hanger on the back of the panel and hang on the wall layered on top of a large fringed mat or a woven pillow cover.



INSTEAD OF LEATHER TRIM, YOU COULD USE PAINT, GOLD FOIL, OR RIBBON TO ADORN THE EDGE OF THE PANEL.



## FRONT AND CENTER

Perk up an untreated pine dresser with a sassy scallop motif, *this photo*. Use a pencil and straightedge to draw two lines along the bottom of each drawer front and a single line 4 inches above those. Using a 5-inch-diameter circle template and starting at the center, draw arches on top of the double line, then draw arches on the single line, offset from the ones below. Draw lines at a 45-degree angle about every  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch inside the bottom row of arches. Trace over all pencil lines using a woodburning tool and a general drawing tip. Erase any visible pencil lines.

IF YOUR DRESSER COMES UNASSEMBLED (LIKE OURS), COMPLETE THE WOODBURNING ON DRAWER FRONTS BEFORE ASSEMBLING IT.





**WARM WELCOME** Adorn a tight wall space with a tribal-inspired wall hanging, *below*. Use scissors to cut round and square cork coasters into desired shapes and sizes. Trace your cork shapes on paper and sketch a design in each shape. Using a woodburning tool, various tips, and your paper designs as a visual guide, burn designs into the cork. Because cork is soft, practice first on the back, applying less pressure with the hot tool than you would on wood. For gradation in color, move the tip faster for a lighter look and slower for a darker one. Using the leather hole punch and a piece of scrap leather as the backer piece to ensure a clean hole, punch holes in the cork pieces where desired to fasten together with cotton twine. To display, punch two holes into the top piece, then tie a large loop out of the cotton twine for hanging.







## DO IT BETTER

EXPERIMENT WITH COLOR! AFTER BURNING DESIGNS ON TAGS, ADD WATERCOLORS OR STAINS TO THE BACKGROUND OR USE FINE-TIP PAINT PENS TO DRAW TINY COLOR ACCENTS OR A FUN BORDER.

**TIE ONE ON** Little customized tags lend big personality to gifts of all sizes, *left*. Use a pencil to draw a petite design on small wood rounds. Be sure to write "To:" and "From:" on the back. Trace over the lines using a woodburning tool and desired tip. Erase any remaining pencil lines. Drill a hole through the top of each round and tie to gifts using twine or yarn. For door hangers (see *page 11*), drill an additional hole at the bottom of the round and attach a tassel.

**OFF THE RACK** Make a coatrack, *right*, with a global vibe. Cut a pine board to desired size (ours is 6x30 inches). Photocopy or freehand draw a design that fits the board. Trace over carbon lines using a woodburning tool and drawing tip. Use fine sandpaper to remove any remaining carbon lines. Wipe clean. Measure and mark placement for novel hooks. Drill holes. Install hooks, cutting off excess screw lengths if needed. To hang, ensure coatrack is level, then screw into place through board into studs.



FOR RESOURCES SEE PAGE 102.



# WOODBURNING BASICS

A centuries-old art with roots in pyrography, a reference to the Greek word for “fire,” today’s woodburning relies on user-friendly tools to make it a perfect crafting technique to try. Here are few tips for a novice burner to keep in mind.

## TOOLS

Woodburning tools come in two main types—solid-point metal-tip burners and wire-nib-tip burners. Solid-point tools are less expensive but are slow to heat and cool. Wire-nib tools heat and cool quickly and are easier to maneuver, but they are more costly.

- Choose a tool with heat control settings, a comfortable grip, and a stand.
- Keep pliers on hand to carefully remove hot tips and secure cool tips to a hot tool. Position a dish in which to place hot tips.
- Shop for a variety of tips. Some tips even burn letters, numbers, shapes, and symbols.
- Keep tips clean of carbon residue as you work by passing them over a damp sponge or wire mesh as needed as you burn. Once cooled, clean tips gently using honing paper or a leather strap.

## TECHNIQUE

Practice, practice, practice. Get comfortable using your burning tool with various tips to make different designs.

- Choose soft light-color wood with little or no grain for burning, and experiment with cork, leather, paper, or even gourds.
- Burn with the grain of the wood when possible as there will be less resistance.
- Light pressure works best to let the hot tip do the work and will result in fewer errors.

- Strive to complete continuous lines rather than starting and stopping.
- For organic shapes or writing, use a round or ball tip, which allows more freedom and fluidity to change directions smoothly.
- Gently blowing toward the tip as you burn can avoid overburning areas.
- Some smoke is to be expected, but lower the heat if it’s excessive.

**SAFETY** Woodburning tools are HOT! Use caution, supervise kids, and never leave the tool unattended.

- When hot, set tool on a silicone mat. Use tape to secure the tool’s stand to your work surface so it doesn’t topple.
- Work in a well-ventilated area—burning wood can create unhealthy fumes.
- Burn only natural, untreated surfaces. Paints, sealants, and other finishes release chemical toxins when burned.

YOU CAN USE UNFINISHED WOOD SLICES WITH A BARK EDGE OR WOOD BLANKS WITH A CLEAN EDGE FOR TAGS. TO GIVE UNFINISHED TAGS A FAUX-BARK LOOK, USE A BURNING TOOL TO BURN THE BLANK’S EDGE





STUFF WE LOVE

# ON OUR RADAR

Winter will fly by with clever crafting kits, smart home solutions, and practical tools.

WORDS **CHELSEA EVERS** PRODUCER **AMBER WAGNER**  
PHOTOGRAPHS **MARTY BALDWIN**

**1.** Similar to paint by number, these DIY flat-needle felting kits make it easy to felt your own fuzzy creations. A beginner's guide, instruction sheet, and link to an online video tutorial offer support for first-timers. Color-coded needles along with a pattern, hoop, fabric, and various felting wools mean you can get started as soon as you open the box. **Needle Felting Kit, \$35; [etsy.com/shop/feltdesky](https://etsy.com/shop/feltdesky)**





**2.** Start with this sculpted vinyl mat and add hex tiles in more than 20 colors to create a personalized welcome moment. Easy to clean, the tiles can be repositioned as often as desired. **Tile Mat, starts at \$75; [letterfolk.com](https://letterfolk.com)**

**3.** Get to work with this flooring saw that makes miter, rip, and crosscuts on luxury vinyl tile, laminate, and hardwoods. The 5½-inch blade allows for fast, precise cuts at up to 6,500 rpm. **18V One+ 5½-inch Flooring Saw, \$169; [ryobitools.com](https://ryobitools.com)**

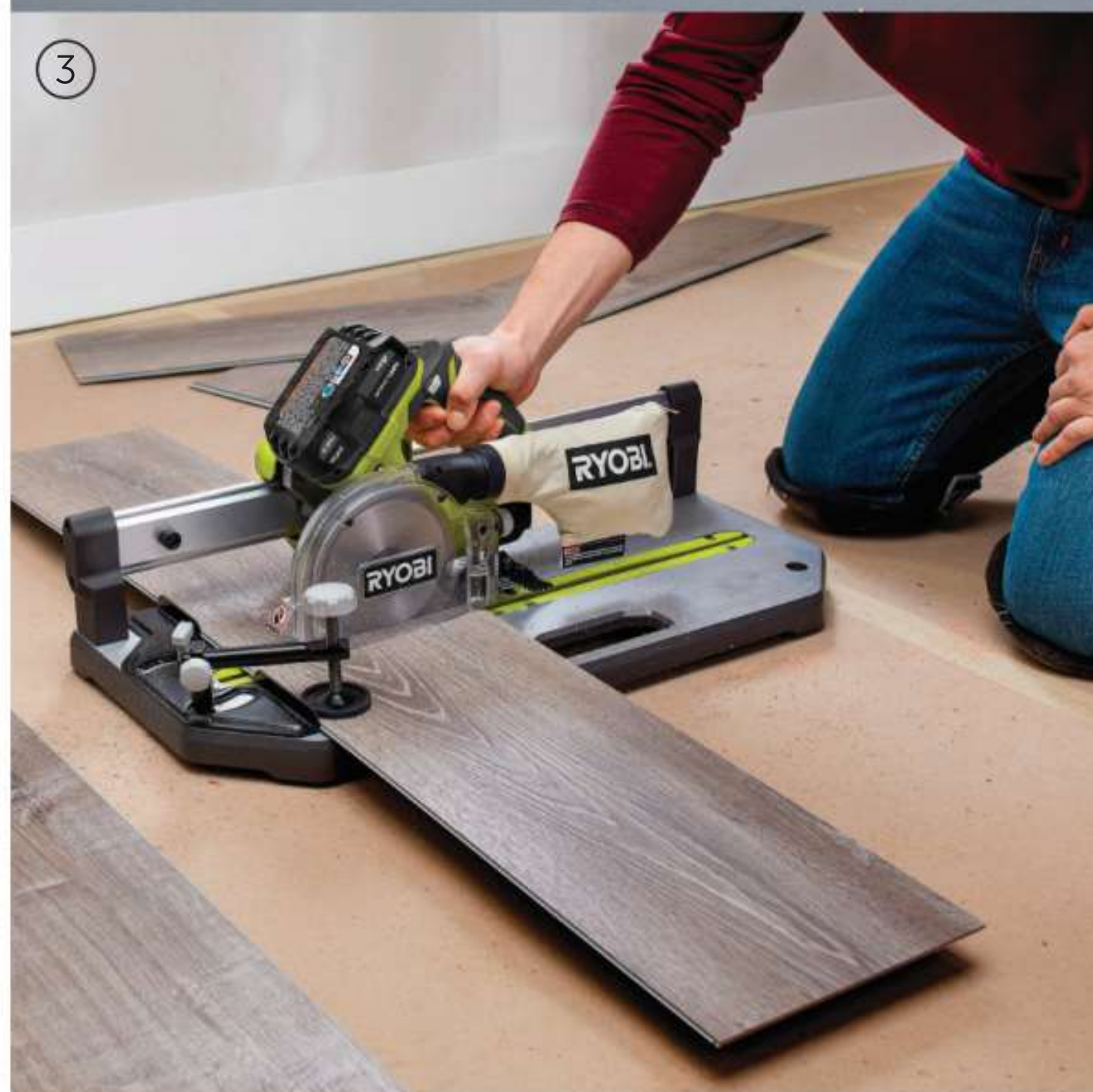
**4.** Turn dried flowers into beautiful preserved creations with help from floral artist Bex Partridge's book, which steps through planting and foraging tips as well as drying and styling techniques—all with an eye toward seasonality and the meditative nature of floral art. ***Everlastings: How to Grow, Harvest and Create with Dried Flowers*, \$19; [hardiegrant.com](https://hardiegrant.com)**

**5.** Stay comfortable in coveralls that detect when your body heat rises and provide an instant cooling sensation while absorbing perspiration. The women's fit includes six pockets and a full-zip front. **Women's Flex Cooling Temp-iQ Short Sleeve Coveralls, \$55; [dickies.com](https://dickies.com)**

**6.** Grow, harvest, and savor your own microgreens in a week—and only water once—with a seed-quilt kit that comes in a reusable tray. Choose from 10 types of greens. **Microgreen Starter Kit, \$35; [hamama.com](https://hamama.com)**



②



③

④



⑤



⑥







7

**7.** This wax-base cream protects the natural beauty of any exterior wood surface by making it water-repellent. Available in more than 20 shades, the hydrophobic cream is breathable and VOC-free, and it won't flake, chip, or form a film over time. **WoodCream, \$22 for a 100-milliliter jar; [rubimonocoatusa.com](http://rubimonocoatusa.com)**



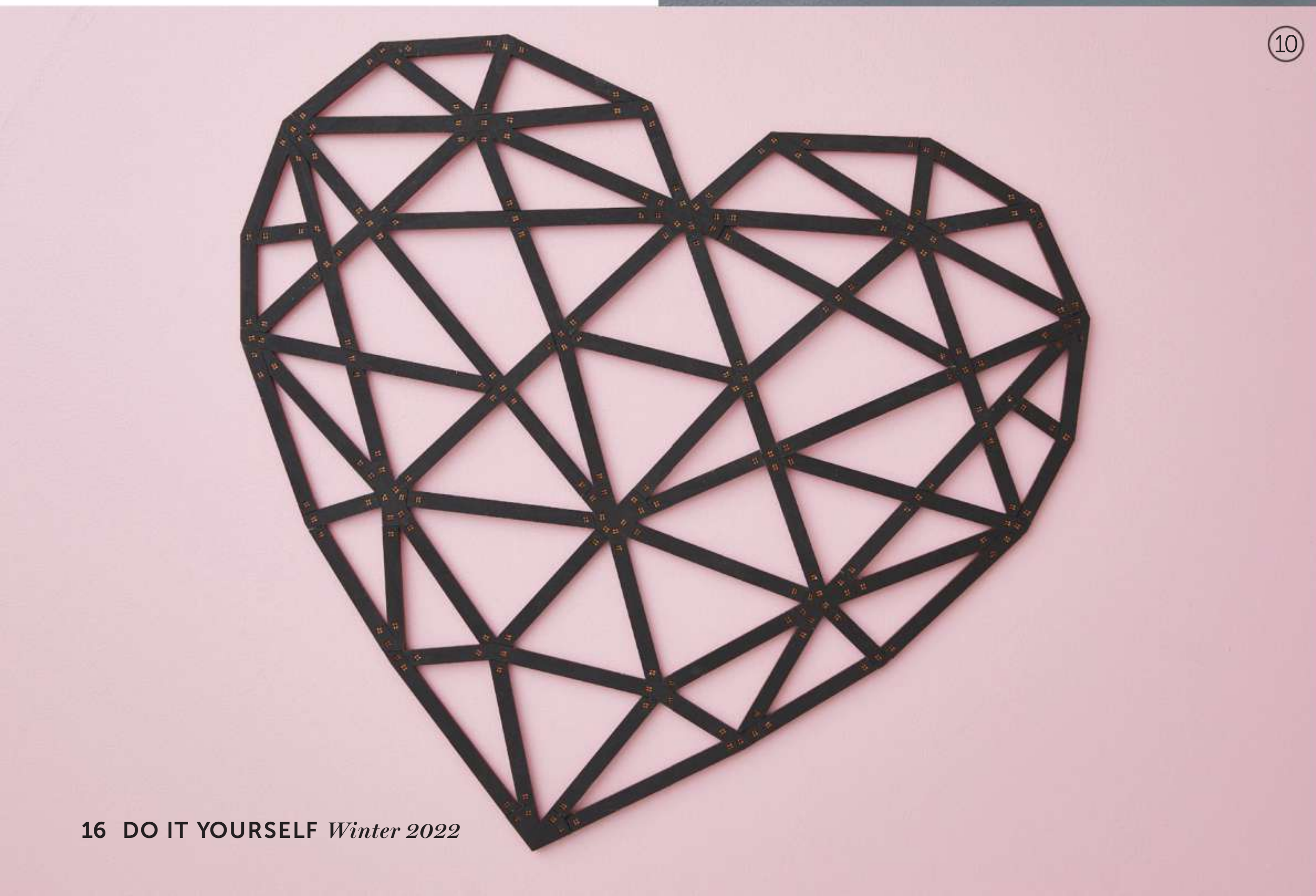
8

**8.** Insert needles into this oh-so-cute sharpener to maintain easy stitching. A handy magnetic side on the macaron shape keeps needles from going missing. **Sweet 'n Sharp Macaron, \$12; [clover-usa.com](http://clover-usa.com)**



9

**9.** Achieve the look of a farmhouse in the city with help from JP Strate and Liz Spillman, creators of The Rehab Life YouTube channel and authors of this handmade furniture guide written for beginners. Create consoles, benches, headboards, and more without woodworking experience or fancy tools. **One-Day DIY: Modern Farmhouse Furniture, \$17; [amazon.com](http://amazon.com)**



10

**10.** Made from sustainably sourced wood, this laser-cut puzzle doubles as three-dimensional wall art. All 169 pieces snap together for a no-glue, no-mess assembly. **Heart Home Decor Puzzle, \$35; [myartventure.com](http://myartventure.com)**



**11.** Want a personalized greeting card? Enter Felt, an app that prints, seals, stamps, and mails customizable handwritten cards (written with your finger on your device) now or on the date of your choosing. **Handwritten Cards, from \$4 each; feltapp.com**

**12.** Brew up your own ginger beer (boozy or nonalcoholic) with a kit that contains everything you need to make a gallon of beer, including the fermentation jug and equipment, sugar, ginger, spices, and brewing yeast. **DIY Ginger Beer Making Kit, \$69; bootlegbotanicals.com**

**13.** Cozy up to family-friendly wilderness tales from naturalists John Muir and Henry David Thoreau, adventurers Alex Honnold and Cheryl Strayed, and other history-making greats in this collection from Pendleton, an American company known for its wool textiles. **The Pendleton Field Guide to Campfire Stories, \$20; chroniclebooks.com**

**14.** Stitch up a bag that will last a lifetime from a kit that offers one of four shades of high-quality leather, solid brass hardware, all the required tools, and detailed instructions. Choose from 12 thread colors. **DIY Mini Tote Leather Kit, \$100; todderusa.com**

**15.** Improve soil health without synthetic fertilizers by applying a sustainable plant food formulated from organic waste that would have gone to a landfill. Now you can feed your plants and reduce methane admissions. **Sustainable Plant Food, \$30; densoils.com**



11



12



13



14



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**16.** Layer this protective coating onto your favorite fabrics to give them a water- and stain-resistant finish similar to oilcloth.

**HeatnBond Liquid Vinyl Gel Coating, \$13; [thermoweb.com](http://thermoweb.com)**

**17.** Build your own miniature winter wonderland with the help of these paper craft templates. Download and print the PDF template and tutorial. **Winter Scenes Hanging Shadow Box Template, \$6; [etsy.com/shop/notjustpaperboutique](http://etsy.com/shop/notjustpaperboutique)**



17



18

**18.** No worries about coloring inside the lines with watercolor artist Kendra Norton's adult coloring book. She's created the colors—your job is to draw the lines. Printed on sturdy, perforated, single-sided paper. **The Reverse Coloring Book, \$15; [workman.com](http://workman.com)**

**19.** Add geometric flair to walls, floors, fireplaces, and backsplashes with a thick, easy-to-use Mylar stencil that replicates the look of cement tile. Available in sizes from 6x6 to 16x16 inches, it includes a grout line stencil for a realistic touch. **Star Tile Stencil, starting at \$10; [cuttingdgestencils.com](http://cuttingdgestencils.com)**



19



20

**20.** Select luxurious leather tiles in an array of shapes and dimensions, then install on a wall with contact adhesive in mere minutes. Choose from traditional shades, patterned varieties, and even hair-on-hide designs. **Klad Simplified Wall Tiles, starting at \$29/square foot; [keleenleathers.com](http://keleenleathers.com)**



**21.** This bright and cheery watering can brings extra joy to caring for your houseplants with its ergonomic handle, 54-ounce capacity, and built-in spray bottle. **2-in-1 Watering Can, \$23; brecks.com**

**22.** Stop guessing which drill bit you should use. This durable stainless-steel gauge is rust-resistant and measures bits from 1/16 inch to 1/2 inch. Sizes are permanently etched into the metal, so you'll never wonder which size is which. **#14 Drill Bit Gauge, \$19; duluthtrading.com**

**23.** Create a concave surface with ease with this sphere burr. Sharp teeth constructed from tungsten carbide leave a surface that's smooth yet handmade in appearance. At an inch in diameter, the burr comes in fine, coarse, and very coarse textures. **Kutzall Sphere Burr, starting at \$23; rockler.com**

**24.** Ditch all the time it takes to install shower tile and grout with a panel waterproof system from Wilsonart. Available in several stone and wood-grain patterns, the panels are scratch- and scuff-resistant and feature an antimicrobial surface to protect against mold and mildew. **Waterproof Wall Panel System, starting at \$725 for a three-piece kit (multiple sizes are available); lowes.com, menards.com, and wetwall.com**



21



22



23



24



# HANDY GIRL

You want your DIY projects to be more eco-friendly, but not sure where to start? Use these tips to make your tasks environmentally wise—and save some green too!

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



*Handy Girls, it's time to think about how we can all amp up the green on our DIYing. Remember: Big goals are great, but small switches add up. Here's how to figure out what you can do, from sweating the small stuff (hello, trash) to diving deep into the big choices (lumber, I'm looking at you).*

Handy Girl

## THE BIG PICTURE

IF YOU START TO DIG INTO THE ECO SIDE OF THE DIY WORLD, YOU MAY HEAR PHRASES LIKE "CRADLE TO GRAVE" AND "CRADLE TO CRADLE." THAT MEANS SIMPLY THINKING ABOUT MORE THAN THE PRODUCT ON THE SHELVES AND THE CHOICE IN FRONT OF YOU. HERE ARE SOME KEY CONSIDERATIONS:

- ➡ What it takes to make a product. What does the manufacturing process look like?
- ➡ What it takes to get a product to you. Is there a locally made or closer-to-you option?
- ➡ What the product does once it's in your home (for example, off-gassing).
- ➡ How long the product will last. How much use will you get out of it?
- ➡ What happens to the product when you're done with it. Can it be transitioned back into the manufacturing stream, or can it return to the earth in a way that doesn't add any trash?



# Green-Greener-Greenest: Gardening

YOU MAY HAVE PUT YOUR GREEN THUMB TO BED FOR THE SEASON, BUT IF YOU'RE LIKE MANY PEOPLE, YOU'RE ALREADY PLANNING FOR NEXT SPRING. KEEP THE FOLLOWING IN MIND FOR NEW PLANTS AND CONTINUING MAINTENANCE.



**GET GREEN:** In the spring, skip the chemical weed controls in favor of a hefty layer of mulch. It'll keep weeds down and conserve water. Plan a weekly swing through your garden to pluck any straggling weeds (go for 10 minutes a night to prevent fatigue and fit it into your schedule).

**GET GREENER:** Plant native or Zone-appropriate plants. Natives are typically adapted to the water, heat, and cold stressors of your climate, and regional-appropriate plants won't die each year (saving you a trip to the greenhouse). If you have to water, consider a drip irrigation system, measure water intake (1 inch a week including rain should do it), and water in the morning or at dusk (so the water doesn't simply evaporate).

**GET YOUR GREENEST:** Add a rain barrel and compost pile/bin to your garden setup. Small-space alternatives are widely available, and your compost serves as a homemade fertilizer for your plants (plus does double duty by reducing your trash load too).

## LABELS THAT MATTER

PRODUCT LABELS CAN BE PURE MARKETING, OR THEY CAN REALLY HELP YOU MAKE GREENER CHOICES. EDUCATE YOURSELF ON WHAT THESE POPULAR CERTIFICATIONS MEAN:

**B Corp:** a business that resolves to follow social and environmental standards

**Cradle to Cradle:** recognition of sustainability metrics on an end-to-end basis

**Energy Star:** the mark of energy efficiency in operation

**Fair Trade:** a nod to companies adhering to specific social, environmental, and economic standards

**FSC:** recognizes wood harvested from forests that are sustainably managed

**Green E:** verifies clean energy and sustainable products and services

**Greenguard:** signifies low emissions, which makes a positive impact on air quality

**LEED:** a rating for a whole building's construction—not for a particular product

**Made Safe:** only safe-for-human ingredients are used in manufacturing of a product, including furniture, purifiers, and cleaners

**WaterSense:** an EPA-verified water and energy saver



# Don't Be Fooled by Greenwashing

Companies make all sorts of eco claims about DIY products and services.  
Keep your eyes peeled for common misstatements and terms that  
aren't really green.



Product claims such as “Free of [insert ingredient]” may not pass muster. For example, a boast of “lead-free paint” isn’t really touting anything: Lead paint was banned in 1978. CFCs (or chlorofluorocarbons) are also banned. Many products are labeled as nontoxic when they contain harmful ingredients. Before you’re swayed by flashy claims, do a bit of research to figure out what’s behind the bright packaging and nifty logo.

Certification on labels may not mean what you think it does. Where’s the certification from? Where does the organization get its funding? Take “certified nontoxic,” for example: No organization or department of the federal government regulates that term. Products can be Energy Star certified but not LEED certified.

Third-party awards may mean something, but also may not. What’s the third party? Is it unbiased? If it’s a nonprofit, who (or what) funds the group?

**Watch for terms that sound good but really don’t mean a thing about a product’s eco-friendliness.**

- All natural, nontoxic, and chemical-free: These terms are not defined and not regulated.
- Biodegradable: Is this about the product (like a cleaning solution) or the packaging? For packaging, see if it’s made with recycled content or PET/HDPE materials.
- Green: Any company can call anything green.

## 4 GREEN THINGS YOU CAN DO TODAY

THESE STEPS WILL GET YOU ON THE ROAD TO ECO-FRIENDLY DIYS FAST.

- 1. Focus on maintenance.** Change filters in appliances regularly to improve their energy efficiency. Take care of your tools. Every time you invest a few extra minutes in maintenance, you’ll save yourself from having to spend extra dollars on new stuff.
- 2. Repair things when they break.** Seems obvious right? But ignore a fix and you’ll have to either spend more on upkeep or on replacement. That can lead to all sorts of non-green costs—you’re buying a new tool and have to throw away packaging.
- 3. Check your DIY stash.** A few spots in my bathroom recently needed a caulk retouch, so when I was at

the hardware store I grabbed another tube. When I was searching for my caulk gun, I found not one, not two, but three tubes of caulk I already had. I ended up wasting not only my dollars but also product and packaging. Always take a quick inventory before you shop—and store like items together so it’s easy to see what you have and what you don’t.

- 4. Be conscious about your trash.** Municipalities want to help you throw away all that icky stuff we use, such as oil-base paints. Local recycling rules are clear about what you can (and cannot) toss into your bin. If you’re in doubt, the internet can help you find where to unload hazardous items.



# SHOULD YOU OR SHOULDN'T YOU?



- ➔ **CHOOSE LED BULBS:** YES! This is a simple way to make a day-to-day change that really does trim your energy and purchase costs. LEDs last longer than other types of bulbs, come in dimmable options, and are available for nearly every use, from outdoor to indoor fixtures.
- ➔ **INSTALL A TANKLESS WATER HEATER:** Probably. Because these supply hot water on demand, you don't waste a lot of energy keeping hot a tank of water that isn't being used.
- ➔ **BUY AN AIR PURIFIER:** Maybe. There's been a huge focus in the last year and a half on indoor air quality, and that's certainly something to take a keen interest in as a DIYer. But it's not a given that you actually need an air purifier. If opening windows is an option, that's a great, no-cost solution for removing indoor air pollutants. (Even in winter, a slightly opened window or two to enable cross-ventilation can help.) If you do decide you want an air purifier, check the filter; it should be a HEPA option. You'll have to size up the purifier for bigger spaces, and remember to change the filter regularly. Finally, look for an AHAM (Association of Home Appliance Manufacturers) Verifide seal.

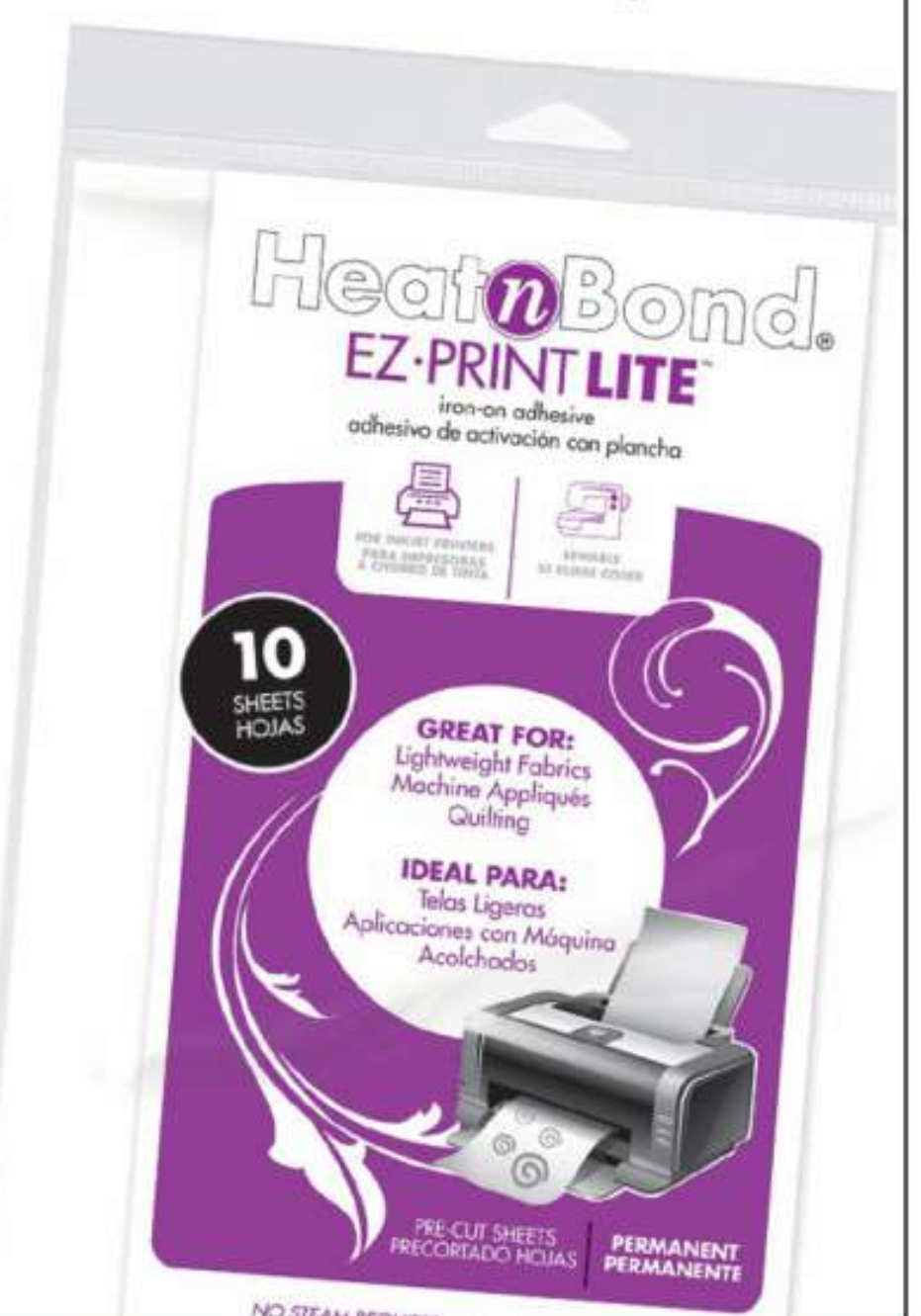
## Celebrate cozy holiday décor you can leave out all winter!



Gather festive fabrics & HeatnBond® Iron-On Adhesives to create easy appliquéd apparel, gifts & décor that stays soft, sewable & oh-so-cozy.

Look for printable HeatnBond® EZ Print Lite Sheets, perfect for downloadable PDF patterns!

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**therm.o.web**  
adhesives, interfacing and more...



MEET THE MAKER

# WEAVING HAND

Cynthia Alberto ties together her love of craft and sustainability by teaching others the healing power of weaving.

WORDS **RACHEL O'BRIEN** PHOTOGRAPHS **MARTY BALDWIN**

THE PORTABLE PEG LOOM KIT IS PERFECT FOR BEGINNERS. IT COMES WITH ENOUGH WARP STRING AND COLORFUL YARN TO COMPLETE ONE PROJECT.







**CYNTHIA ALBERTO STARTED HER CAREER AS A PAINTER, BUT AFTER TAKING CLASSES IN WEAVING SHE FELL IN LOVE WITH FIBER ARTISTRY. IN 2006 SHE OPENED WEAVING HAND, A BROOKLYN SHOP THAT TEACHES CLASSES AND WORKSHOPS, CREATES COMMISSIONS, AND SELLS WEAVING SUPPLIES. CYNTHIA FOCUSES ON HOW WEAVING CAN BE HEALING AND HOW TO CREATE ZERO WASTE AND THINK SUSTAINABLY WHEN MAKING WEAVING PROJECTS.**

## THE MAKER: CYNTHIA ALBERTO

The owner of Weaving Hand focuses on how to bring a community together through fiber crafting.

**Q:** What influences your work?

**A:** My own personal work centers on activism to make sure we are healing the community while infusing how to make fiber arts with zero waste. The value of crafts is being put in a whole different light now—we want to make sure we are preserving them and making them sustainable. We need to make sure that we are passing that knowledge on to the next generations.

**Q:** What is your favorite aspect of teaching classes and workshops?

**A:** I really enjoy passing on the knowledge. Teachers give you the fundamentals—they give you a little bit of themselves and their knowledge. Then it's up to you to take it and make it yours. I think everybody should learn how to weave. Weaving and working with your hands can be very grounding and calming.

**Q:** What do you teach in your workshops and classes?

**A:** Our classes are about learning how to dress the loom and how to read weave structures and create them. The loom comes with the class so you take the loom with you. We teach classes to people of all ages and abilities, showing them how to make anything from tote bags to carpets and pillows.

**Q:** Your materials talk about weaving as a community-building activity. How is Weaving Hand part of the community?

**A:** It's always been the core mission of Weaving Hand to be very inclusive—it's for everybody. Weaving is a craft that's been around since the beginning of time. It's our very basic covering, our very basic necessity—clothes. It's also always been part of healing. It's the whole idea of going back and forth to help soothe your mind with repetitive motion as you weave.



### COMMUNITY CULTIVATION

Weaving Hand positions itself as a place to promote working side by side (1). Cynthia Alberto takes portable looms to schools and gatherings to teach weaving and inspire others to learn more about it (2). Her business also emphasizes sustainability. "We're teaching people that you can actually repurpose old clothes and make new woven yardage out of them," Cynthia says. "We also teach recycling and repurposing to the younger generation to make sure that they're taking care of Mother Earth." Make your own zero-waste project with one of the looms sold at [weavinghand.com/products](https://weavinghand.com/products) (3).





## MAKE IT

# PEG LOOM TAPESTRY

### MATERIALS

- 14-inch wood dowel
- Peg Loom Kit, available for \$30 at [weavinghand.com/products](http://weavinghand.com/products)
- Fork (optional)
- dowel (optional)

*The kit includes:*

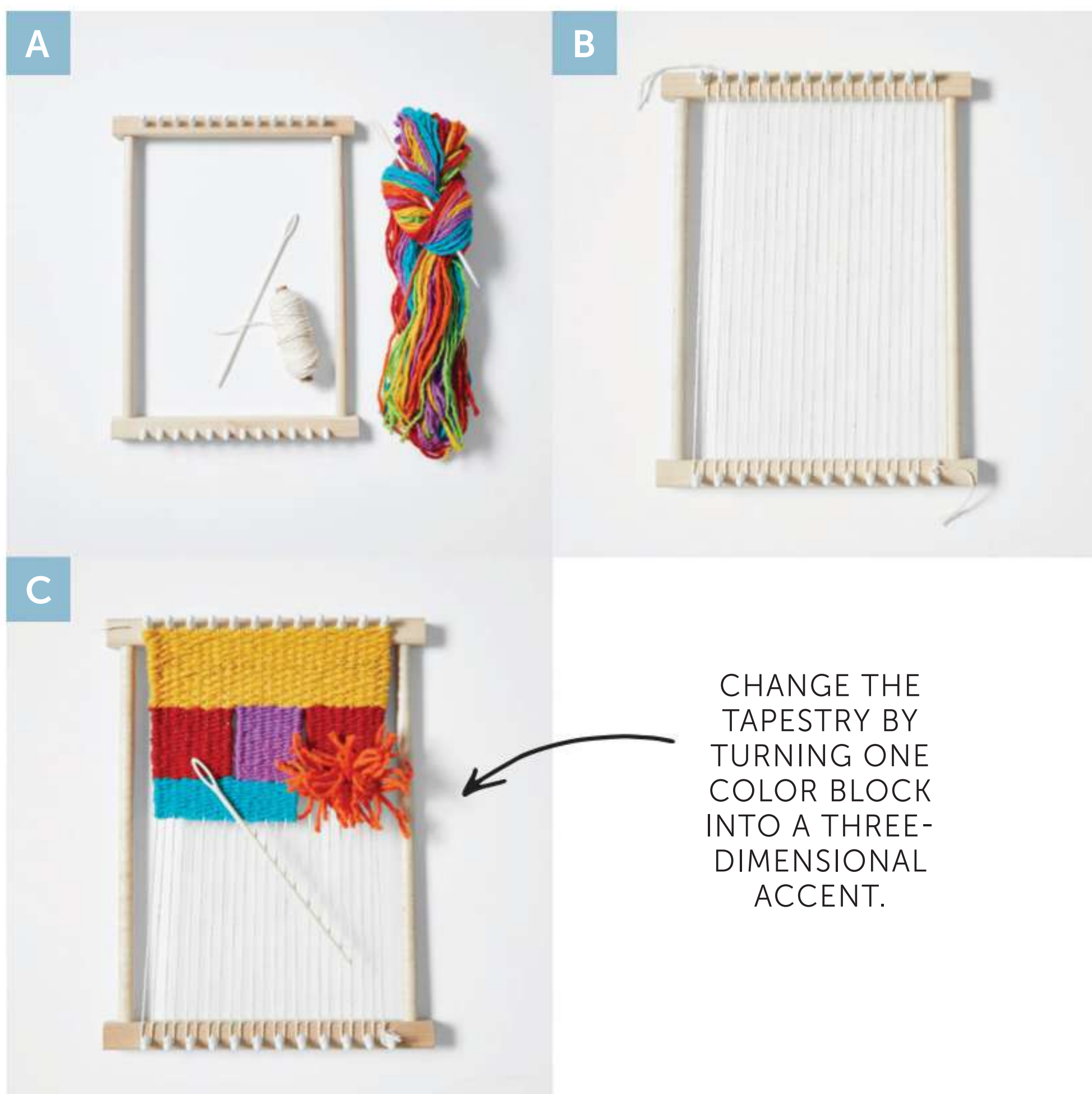
- Peg loom
- Needle
- 6 colors of yarn
- Cotton warp string
- Weaving instruction manual

**Step 1** Lay out your kit supplies, including the loom, needle, yarn, and warp string to create a tapestry with the help of the loom's easy-to-use pegs (A).

**Step 2** Dress your loom. Tie a tight double knot around the top left-hand peg with the end of your warp string. Bring the string down to the bottom left-hand peg and loop it around the peg. Keeping tension in the string, tightly wrap it around each peg, alternating between the top and bottom pegs. Wrap until you get to the bottom right-hand peg. Cut the string and tie a double knot, keeping the string as taut as possible (B).

**Step 3** Thread your first color of yarn through the needle eye and knot. Using the plain-weave technique, weave yarn by alternating the needle over and under the warp strings. Repeat this technique with each color of yarn, leaving enough yarn to tuck in the end pieces when you change yarn colors. Use your fingers or a fork to tap each row against the row before it to keep rows tight. Create texture between colors by tying yarn to the warp strings and then trimming to desired length (C).

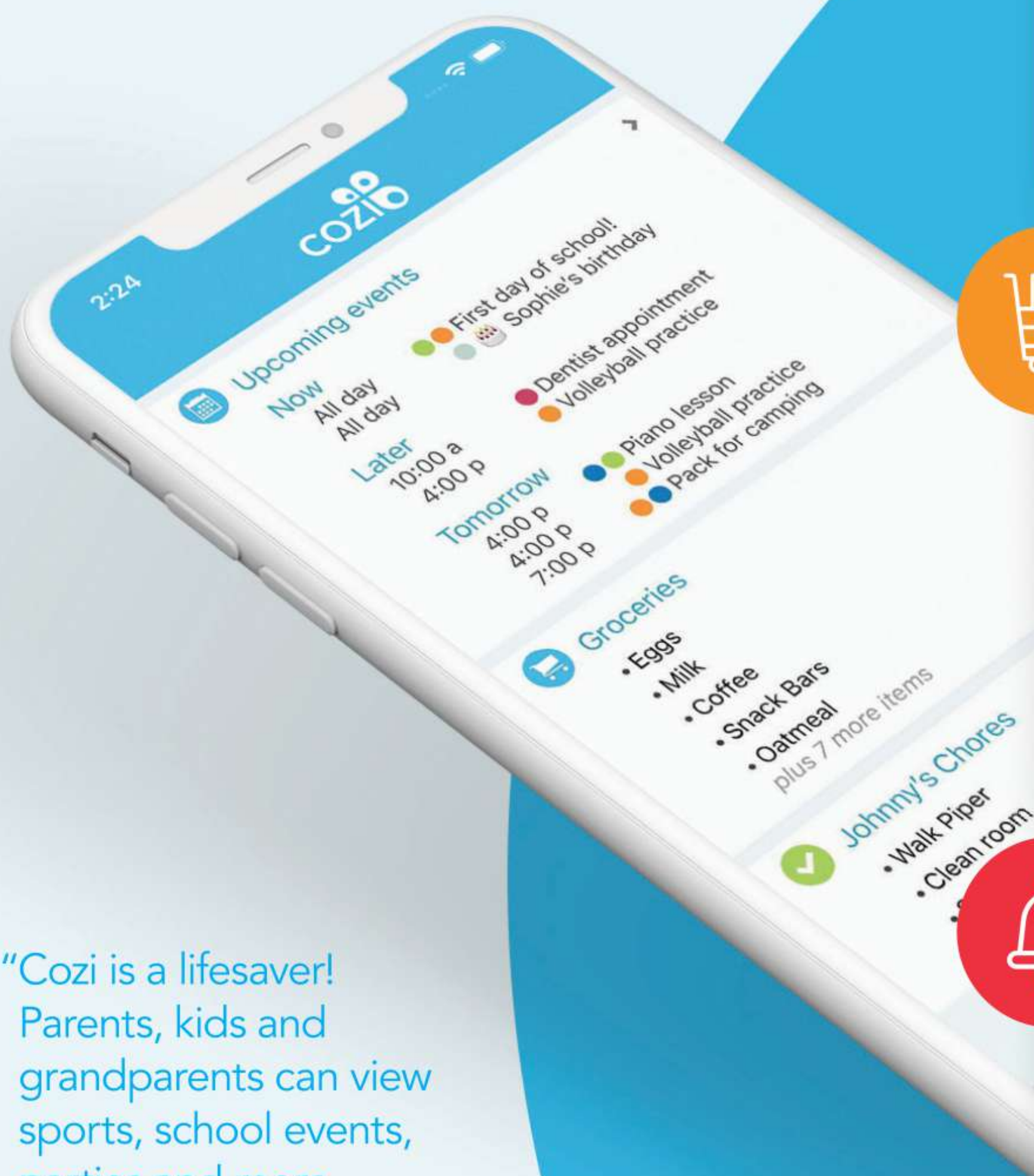
**Step 4** Finish the tapestry by carefully removing the warp loops from the pegs one by one to release your tapestry from the loom. Knot the strings snugly along the top and bottom edges. To add fringe on the bottom of the hanging, knot approximately 2-inch pieces of warp string to each warp loop. Using additional pieces of warp string, tie double knots on the top edge to create three loops. Slide a dowel through the loops to hang the project.



CHANGE THE TAPESTRY BY TURNING ONE COLOR BLOCK INTO A THREE-DIMENSIONAL ACCENT.



# The must-have app for back to school



"Cozi is a lifesaver! Parents, kids and grandparents can view sports, school events, parties and more. We're all in sync."



A color-coded calendar for the whole family to share

## The Williams Family

- Claire >
- Michael >
- Johnny >
- Sophie >
- Piper >



A shared list so anyone can add items and pick up the groceries

### MEAT

☐ Chicken

### PRODUCE

☐ Lime

☐ 2 Green Bell Peppers



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COZI

**9/8 4:00 pm**

Reminder: Carpool pickup



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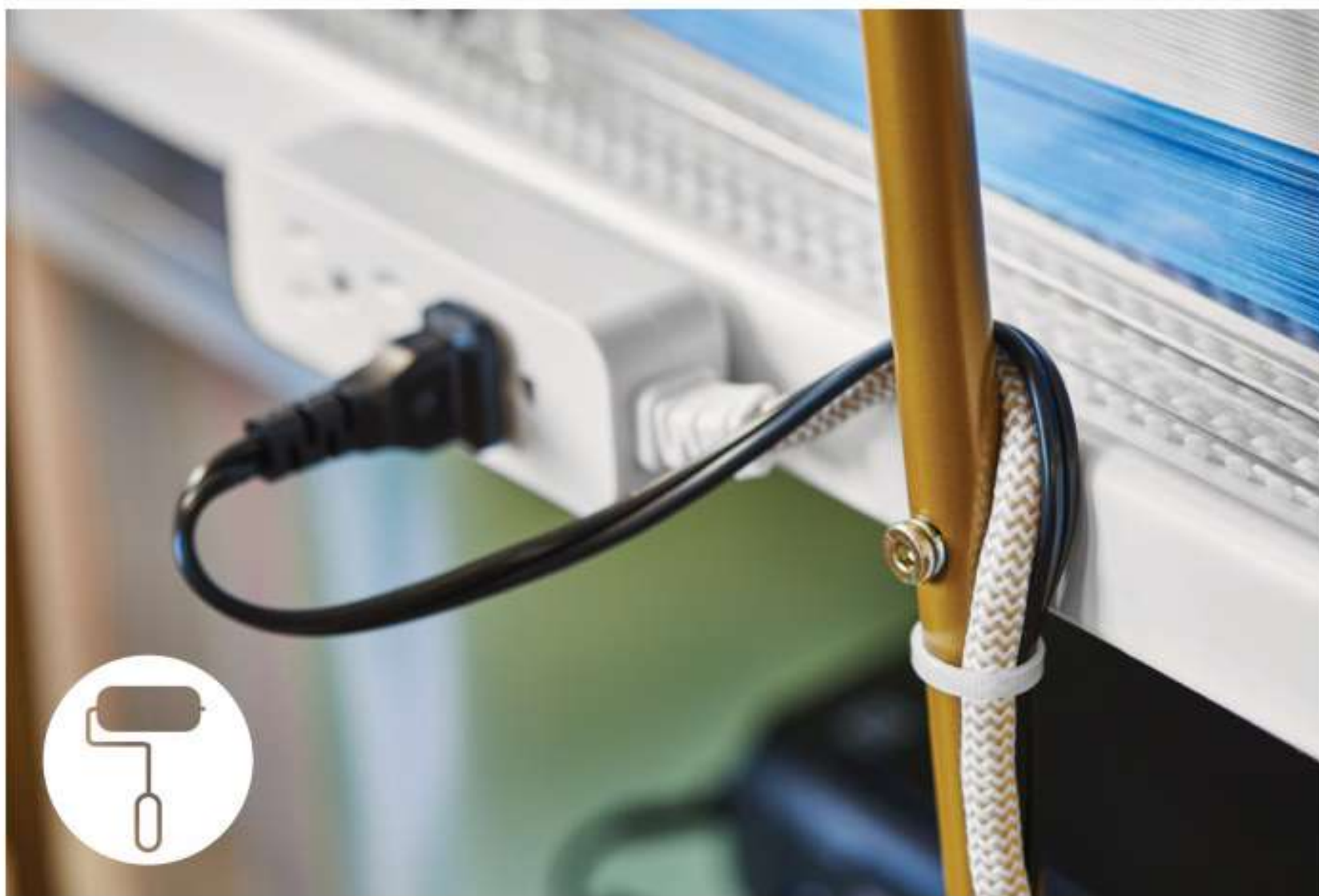


## ORDER IN THE HOUSE

# MOBILE OFFICE

Purposeful upgrades and smart storage hacks convert a basic rolling cart into a movable workstation that gets the job done—anywhere in the house.

PROJECTS **MOLLY REID SINNETT** PHOTOGRAPHS **JASON DONNELLY** WORDS **CHELSEA EVERS**



**THAT'S A WRAP** Keep cord clutter at bay with zip ties. Secure a power strip to the side of the cart with removable hook-and-loop strips, then tie down cords inconspicuously along the railing of the cart for easy access to other supplies.



**SORT & STICK** Made to hold spices and kitchen sundries, these magnetic tins attach to the side of a metal cart and are ideal for corralling small necessities like paper clips or rubber bands. Grundtal container, \$8 for three pieces; [ikea.com](https://www.ikea.com)



**TIDY TROLLEY** Transform a basic metal utility cart into a hardworking portable office with a few effortless add-ons. (For more on the cart, see [page 31](#).) A hanging caddy keeps chargers, pens, and sticky notes within reach, while a tablet stand sets up a second screen. Magnetic canisters, clear bins, and a portable scanner mean you'll have all you need to make your nine-to-five (or five-to-nine) run smoothly.







**FILE STYLE** Keep often-used documents at the ready when you store them in a plate rack on your cart's top. Constructed from solid maple, it features four slots for filing important paperwork. Medium Maple Rack, \$8; [containerstore.com](https://www.containerstore.com)





#### MAKE IT PERSONAL

At just over 2 inches tall, this low-profile printer is ideal for on-the-go printing. It operates wirelessly with a PC, laptop, or smart device—and its cable connections are fixed to one side to save space and sanity. Canon PIXMA TR150 Printer, \$230; [officedepot.com](http://officedepot.com)



**SORT & SEAL** Created for long-term storage in musty attics or moist basements, this air- and watertight stackable file box is just as useful for keeping documents organized and safe from pets and coffee spills. Four locking latches and a urethane foam seal make for rugged, protective storage. Weathertight File Box, \$22; [containerstore.com](http://containerstore.com)



#### HANDY HELPER

To prevent supply spillage, repurpose an over-the-cabinet-door organizer as a hanging caddy. Fill the adjustable bins with sticky notes, tape, scissors, and writing tools. Madesmart Three-Bin Hang It Organizer, \$14, [amazon.com](http://amazon.com)





**SNACK BREAK** Feeling peckish while you're on a deadline? A dedicated snack bin means you won't even have to leave your workstation to fuel up. White Plastic Storage Bins, \$3–\$6; [containerstore.com](https://www.containerstore.com).



**IT'S ELECTRIC** This low-profile plug makes powering up easy. Three grounded outlets and an 8-foot cord prioritize function, while a loom-woven wrap on the kink-resistant cord adds a touch of style. 360 Electrical Grey Habitat Braided Extension Cord, \$16; [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com)



**ON A ROLL** This slim rolling bar cart makes an excellent office stand-in. Raised edges on the tiered shelves keep items from sliding off while in motion, and tapered gold-tone steel legs add a touch of glam. Locking wheels offer a steady surface for work and study sessions. Corinne 3 Tier Bar Cart, \$110; [wayfair.com](https://www.wayfair.com)



SEW EASY

# PILLOWS

Sewing your own covers takes your throw pillow game to the next level (because fabric!). Here's how to craft two dressmaker-detail closures—buttons and zipper.

PROJECTS **LACEY HOWARD & SONJA CARMON**  
PHOTOGRAPHS **MARTY BALDWIN & JACOB FOX** WORDS **LACEY HOWARD**

MAKING THROW PILLOW  
COVERS GIVES YOU CONTROL  
OVER THE SHAPE, SIZE, FABRIC,  
CLOSURE, AND TYPE OF  
INSERT FOR YOUR PILLOWS.





## MAKE IT

# BUTTON FLANGE CLOSURE

### MATERIALS

- Fabric (1 yard is enough for our lumbar pillow)
- Iron
- Pins
- Fabric marker
- Thread
- Sewing machine and buttonhole presser foot
- Buttons
- Pillow insert

**Step 1** We created a 14x22-inch lumbar pillow with a button flange closure, *right*. For this size, cut two pieces of fabric (A), each 15 inches tall and 26½ inches wide (be aware of your fabric's orientation if you are using one with a directional pattern like ours).

**Step 2** On the short end that will be the flange, press a ½-inch fold, then fold 2 inches and press (B). Stitch the fold (C). Do this for both pieces.

**Step 3** Mark buttonholes at desired intervals on one of the pieces. Use pins to mark the stop and start of each finished hole (D).

**Step 4** Using the buttonhole presser foot on the sewing machine, stitch three buttonholes to fit desired buttons (E).

**Step 5** Hand-stitch buttons to inside (wrong side) of flange without button holes (F). Using small scissors, very carefully cut open buttonholes (G).

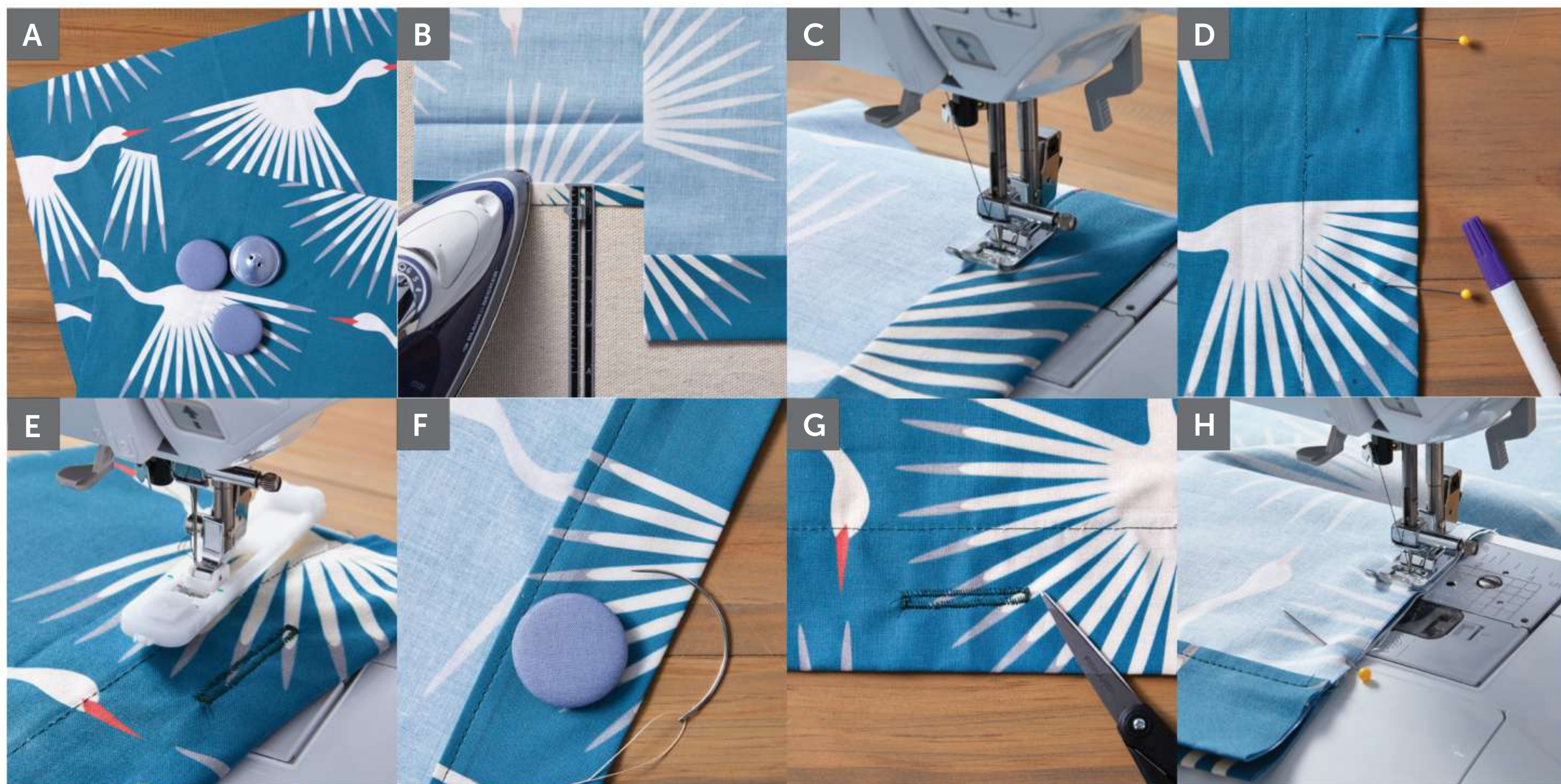


**Step 6** Pin the two pieces of the pillow cover with right sides together. Be sure to align the flange opening. Stitch around three sides with ½-inch seam (H). Be sure to stitch forward, reverse, and forward again at the start and stop of each run.

**Step 7** Turn pillow cover right side out and press.

**Step 8** Insert pillow form and slide buttons through holes.

**Get the look:** To get the same look without making buttonholes, hand-stitch the open end of the pillow cover closed at the flange seam. Hand-sew buttons on top of flanges (catching both top and bottom flange with stitches).







## MAKE IT

# HIDDEN ZIPPER CLOSURE

### MATERIALS

- Fabric (1 yard is enough for our square pillow cover if you are not using a directional fabric)
- Iron
- Invisible zipper
- Pins
- Thread
- Sewing machine and zipper presser foot
- 20-inch pillow insert

**Step 1** We created a square pillow cover with a hidden zipper closure to fit a 20-inch pillow insert, *left*. For this size, cut two 21-inch squares of fabric (A).

**Step 2** Press open the invisible zipper teeth (B). Use a low temperature setting on the iron to press open a tiny fold on the zipper's tape.

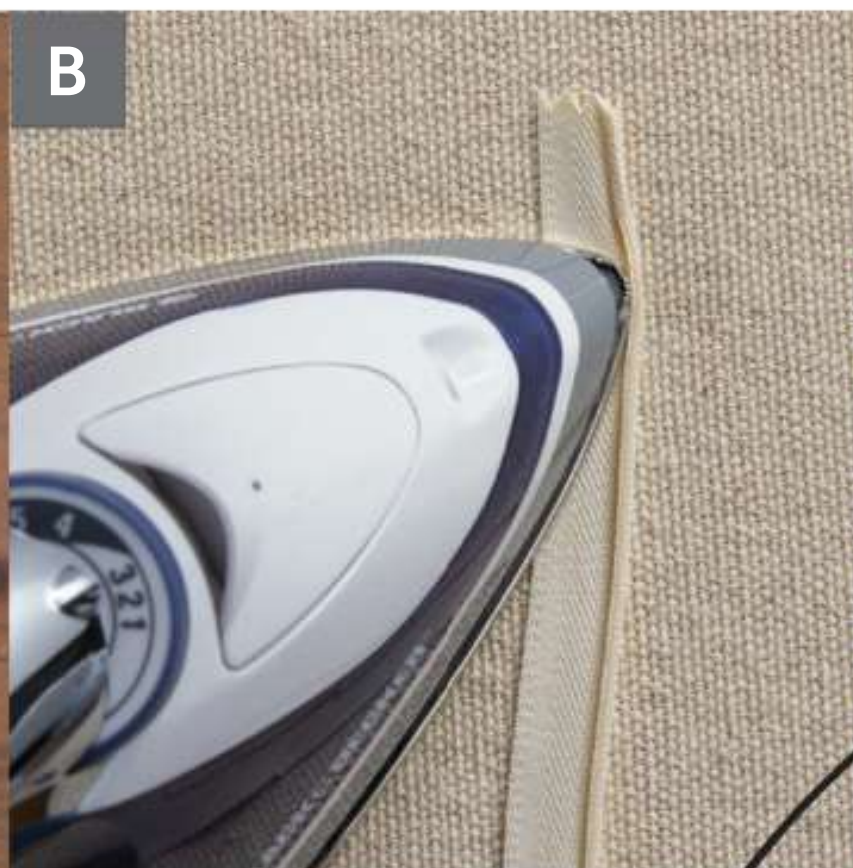
**Step 3** Using the zipper presser foot on your sewing machine and with the zipper open, stitch the zipper to the right side of one piece of fabric at one edge (C). Note: Stitch very close to the zipper's teeth. Start and stop sewing 1 inch from the ends of the fabric. Your zipper may extend past where you stopped stitching. The seam where you sew the fabric together will act as the zipper stop. Close the zipper.

**Step 4** Align (but do not pin) the second piece of fabric with right sides together on top of the piece with the zipper. Pin the zipper's tape to fabric (D) while gently pulling to "ease in" the fabric. Buckles in the fabric are OK in the pinned version. Unzip the zipper carefully (E).

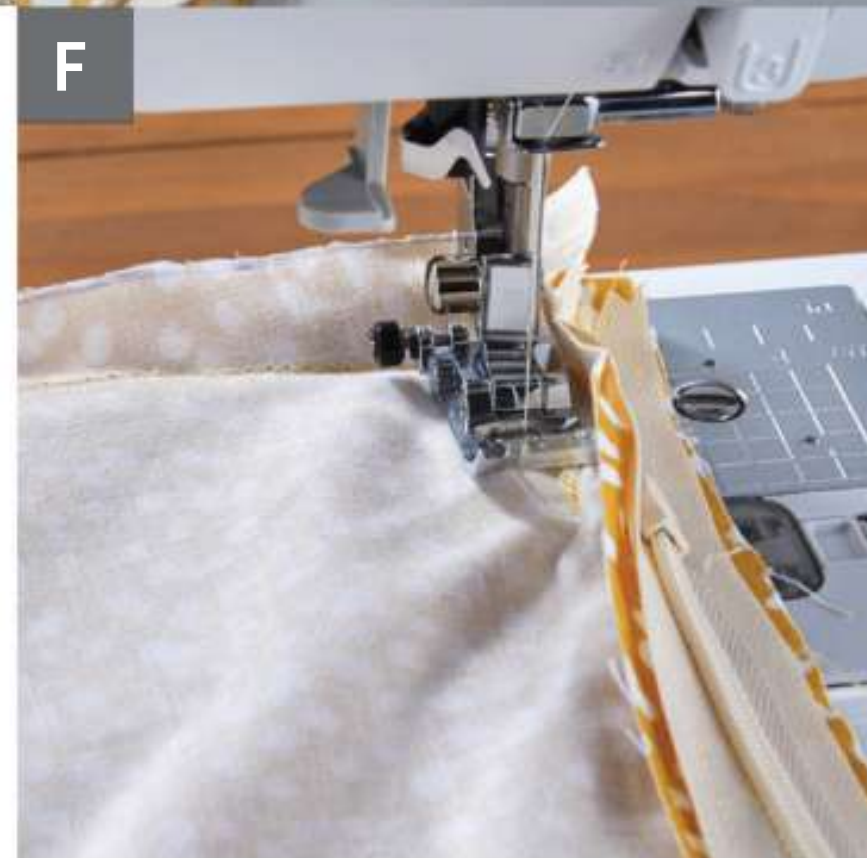
**Step 5** Stitch the zipper's tape to second piece of fabric on the right side of the fabric and ease any wrinkles in the fabric. Close the zipper. Align the two fabric squares right sides together and pin the three unstitched edges.

**Step 6** Stitch around the perimeter. Close to zipper teeth, start stitching about 2 inches from end of zipper, overlapping zipper stitching. Make round corner about 1 inch from fabric corner (F). Continue around three open sides with 1/2-inch seam allowance, rounding corners. After final corner, stitch next to zipper teeth about 2 inches. Be sure to stitch forward, reverse, and forward again at the start and stop of each run.

**Step 7** Clip corners and trim excess zipper (G). Turn cover right side out and push corners gently with the eraser end of a pencil, a chopstick, or a knitting needle. Press pillow cover and insert the pillow form. Zip closed.



THE ZIPPER FOOT ALLOWS THE SEWING MACHINE'S NEEDLE TO STITCH CLOSE TO A RAISED EDGE, SUCH AS THE TEETH OF A ZIPPER OR A THICKNESS OF CORDING.



FOR RESOURCES SEE PAGE 102.





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COOL TOOLS

# HOLIDAY MAKER

Professional elf status is achieved with tools that make the job look easy.

WORDS **LINDSEY M. ROBERTS**

## 1. KRINNER TREE GENIE METAL CHRISTMAS TREE STAND

No more laying on the floor with needles in your face when you put up the tree. Just set your tree into the stand and use the ratcheting foot pedal to lock the trunk into place. Its reservoir holds 2½ gallons and has a water-level indicator. \$110; [acehardware.com](http://acehardware.com)



## 2. HANDS-FREE TAPE DISPENSER

A go-to for any gift-wrapping toolbox, this dispenser holds a roll of tape on your hand so you can always find it. \$5; [containerstore.com](http://containerstore.com)



## 3. UNDER THE ROOF DECORATING VINYL HOOKS

Holding up to 15 pounds, these hooks clip into vinyl siding without damaging it and work with wire, D-rings, sawtooth, or keyhole hangers. \$7; [utrdecorating.com](http://utrdecorating.com)

## 4. FIVE TWO ULTIMATE BAKING TOOL SET

After consulting bakers, Food52 assembled this set of most-needed baking tools: small and large offset spatulas, pastry brush, and a bench scraper with measurement guides—for perfect brownie squares. \$49; [food52.com](http://food52.com)





⑤

### 5. ALL-PURPOSE STORAGE BAGS

Water-resistant polypropylene bags hold wreaths up to 46 inches in diameter—or outdoor furniture cushions and other large seasonal items—keeping them clean and your storage spaces organized. \$7–\$13; [containerstore.com](http://containerstore.com)



⑥



**6. GIFT WRAPPING SET** One, two, three tools make a professional gift wrapper out of anyone. Glide through paper with a gift-wrap cutter, which includes built-in ribbon curler and tape burnisher. Punch a traditional tag shape out of any kind of paper with the lever punch. Make a hole on the tag for ribbon with the hand punch. \$20; [fiskars.com](http://fiskars.com)



⑨

### 9. CUSTOMIZED GIFT WRAP CENTER

Be ready for the holidays—and every birthday and occasion after that—with an underbed box long enough to hold rolls of wrapping paper. Four smaller boxes are included for ribbons, bows, tags, tape, pens, and more. \$34; [containerstore.com](http://containerstore.com)



### 7. ADAPT ADJUSTABLE LENGTH WREATH HANGER

Place your wreath at the right height on any door with this adjustable hanger that extends from 16¼ inches up to 25 inches. \$29; [wayfair.com](http://wayfair.com)



⑦



⑧

### 8. COMMAND OUTDOOR LIGHT CLIPS

Expect no holes and no damage on your house with outdoor Command strips and clips that can hang up to 32 feet of lights. \$12; [staples.com](http://staples.com)



⑩

### 10. EXTENSION POLE AND MULTI-PURPOSE UTILITY HOOK KIT

The telescoping pole means no need for a ladder when hanging and removing—and detangling—string lights. Use the 36 feet of reach year-round to pull debris off the roof. \$95; [homedepot.com](http://homedepot.com)





### 11. DIGITAL RADIO ROAST THERMOMETER

Don't stress; just preset this thermometer according to the type of meat you're cooking and how well done you like it. Real-time updates are sent to a handheld screen by radio so you know when it's ready. \$65; [food52.com](http://food52.com)



### 12. WRAP BUDDIES RED HOLIDAY TABLETOP GIFT WRAP TOOL

Cut your late-night holiday wrapping in half with a special tool that holds both ends of wrapping paper to a surface and includes a tape dispenser on one end. \$26; [acehardware.com](http://acehardware.com)

### 13. SILICONE DOUGH ROLLING BAG

Roll perfectly round pie crusts to the preferred size, from 6 to 12 inches. The best gift? The zipped silicone bag keeps your counters clean. \$16; [oxo.com](http://oxo.com)



### 15. LIGHTKEEPER PRO BATTERY RED LIGHT REPAIR TOOL

Is there anything more frustrating than trying to find a bad bulb? This tool lights up a string set to help you find the dud fast. \$28; [acehardware.com](http://acehardware.com)



### 14. JUMBO FABRIC STORAGE BAG

Artificial Christmas trees are an investment. Protect them with plastic-coated polyester storage bags that have handles on ends and center for easy carrying, as well as double zippers for painless packing and unpacking. \$30; [containerstore.com](http://containerstore.com)



### 16. SIMPLE SET OUTDOOR DIGITAL LIGHTING TIMER

Custom daily on/off times or a preset schedule—whichever you choose, this weather-resistant digital timer saves time, money, and energy on outdoor lights. \$25; [lowes.com](http://lowes.com)





## PROJECTS UNDER \$20

# MAKE IT!

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

Woodburned wall hanging **11**

Woodburned gift tags **12**

Handwritten cards **17**

Winter scene paper ornament templates **18**

Button flange pillow (cost depends on fabric) **33**

Hidden zipper pillow (cost depends on fabric) **34**

Single-flower arrangement on tray **40**

Poinsettia arrangement **42**

Metallic-tip lightbulbs **50**

Butcher-block-remnant floating shelves **51, 55**

Concrete side table **52**

Decorated hurricane lanterns **69**

Clay mushrooms **70**

Twig trees **72**

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Photo frames from natural materials **74**

Cranberry-pinecone swag **75**

Etched bottles **82**

Etched mirrored tray **83**

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Floating shelves from reclaimed wood **86, 90**

Repainted front door **87**

Tongue-and-groove vent hood **88**

Painted window trim **89**

Firewood rack **91**

Repainted bath vanity **92**

Framed silhouette **94**

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WHAT TO DO WITH

# STORE-BOUGHT BLOOMS

Snag a few bouquets from the grocery store, find a pair of sharp shears, and voilà—gorgeous, holiday-ready arrangements sure to impress your guests.

PROJECTS **WADE SCHERRER**  
PHOTOGRAPHS **JASON DONNELLY**  
WORDS **NATALIE DAYTON**

**VINTAGE VARIETY** Mismatched glassware is the key to a collected centerpiece, *this photo*. Fill each glass about halfway with water, trim stems, and place one per glass. For flowers and greens, we mixed red carnations with white roses, green spider mums, and evergreen and eucalyptus sprigs.







*ingredients*  
 WHITE HYDRANGEAS  
 RED ROSES  
 SILVER BRUNIA



LOOK FOR BLOOMS  
 THAT CAN BE  
 SEPARATED WHEN  
 BUYING GROCERY-  
 STORE BOUQUETS.  
 THESE RED ROSES  
 AND HYDRANGEAS  
 WILL BE EASY TO  
 PULL APART AND  
 REARRANGE.

**HIGH CONTRAST** Hydrangeas might not seem like a traditional addition to a holiday arrangement, but when mixed with pops of red roses and wintry silver brunia, they certainly look the part, *above*. Position hydrangeas first in a tall pitcher. Nestle the roses and berries among the blooms to complete the look. To keep hydrangeas looking fresh, when the blooms begin to wilt, cut at least an inch off the stem while under running water and get into fresh water immediately.



*ingredients*

POINSETTIA  
BALSAM FIR  
RED HYPERICUM

KEEP THIS  
ARRANGEMENT  
WHERE YOUR FURRY  
FRIENDS CAN'T  
NIBBLE ON IT—  
POINSETTIA LEAVES  
CAN BE TOXIC  
TO PETS.



**ONE AND DONE** Bigger, in this case, *is* better. One large poinsettia steals the show of this arrangement, *above*, and fir sprigs and hypericum stems tuck behind to support the star. Add a floral frog (or make your own from a ball of chicken wire) to support your focal bloom front and center. Fill in behind the poinsettia with stems.



## ORNAMENTAL ARRANGING

While this arrangement looks ornate, *this photo*, it's actually super simple! Shape a floral support from a ball of chicken wire to fit the container. Starting in the middle of your container, tuck cut stems into the support, finishing with shorter stems around the edge. Accentuate the arrangement with green ornaments glued to floral picks.

WHEN YOU GET THE BOUQUET HOME, GIVE THE STEMS A FRESH CUT BEFORE ADDING TO THE VASE TO MAKE THEM LAST AS LONG AS POSSIBLE.



## ingredients

GREEN SPIDER MUMS  
WHITE CARNATIONS  
GREEN HYPERICUM  
BELLS OF IRELAND





**GREEN WITH ENVY** A mix of grocery store greens fills out a low beauty, *this photo*. Find a short, wide vase, and add a floral frog or ball of chicken wire to fit the container. Cut stems short and at an angle. Stick greenery stems into the support, add flowers, and finish with staked gold pinecone ornaments for holiday shimmer.

*ingredients*  
WHITE SPIDER MUMS  
WHITE ROSES  
VARIEGATED  
PITTOSPORUM  
SEEDED EUCALYPTUS  
SHORT-NEEDLE PINE

A BUNDLE OF MIXED GREENS MAKES UP THE MAJORITY OF THIS LOW-RISE ARRANGEMENT.







*ingredients*  
RED ROSES  
RED CARNATIONS  
SHORT-NEEDLE PINE

FOR A MORE  
FORMAL AFFAIR,  
LOOK TO  
URN-SHAPE  
CONTAINERS.



**STATEMENT MAKER** Bold and beautiful. This monochromatic grouping, *above*, is sure to turn heads. Make a floral support out of chicken wire or insert floral foam to fit the desired container (the taller, the better!). Cut stems at an angle, then place a few of the biggest blossoms to begin to map out your arrangement. Add greenery and more large flowers, followed by smaller flowers to fill in gaps. Glue red ornaments to plant stakes and tuck among the stems to finish your arrangement.



# take your pick

When making a from-scratch arrangement, fresh greenery adds the perfect professional finishing touch. Below are a few favorites to mix with purchased bouquets.

## DO IT BETTER

FIND THESE (AND MORE) GREENERY OPTIONS AT MOST LOCAL GROCERY STORES OR FLORAL SHOPS. OR TAKE A PEEK OUTSIDE YOUR WINDOW AND TRIM FROM A NEARBY TREE.

### SILVER BRUNIA

Perfect for a wintry touch in your arrangement, these silver baubles typically are sold in sets of two or three stems.

### RED HYPERICUM

These woody stems add a little color to any bouquet with a sprinkle of red berries.

### GREEN HYPERICUM

Similar to its red cousin, green hypericum berries are long-lasting and add texture to your bouquet.

### VARIEGATED PITTOSPORUM

Technically a shrub, this variegated, rounded foliage helps fill out arrangements with a double dose of green.





# MAKE THEM *last*

- Make sure the vase is clean, and fill with warm water. Mix in the floral food packet or a spoonful of sugar combined with a teaspoon of white vinegar or bleach to help control bacteria.
- Give flowers a fresh cut under running water with

sharp scissors, flower snips, or hand pruners. Cut thick, green stems at an angle. Trim woody stems with an X-shape cut.

- Remove any foliage that sits below the waterline.

- Change the water every couple of days.
- Trim off spent flowers right away.
- Display flowers in a cool area away from vents and out of direct sunlight.

## BELLS OF IRELAND

These unusual cuttings add height and a modern feel with their meandering, chartreuse stems.



## SCOTCH PINE

Nothing says holiday quite like pine. Take trimmings from a nearby tree to fill in and finish your arrangement.



## SEEDED EUCALYPTUS

All eucalyptus varieties are great as greenery additions; seeded eucalyptus has sturdy, malleable stems that work well when mixed with other flowers and greens.



## BALSAM FIR

An added perk of incorporating balsam fir into your bouquet? The piney, holiday smell that comes with it!



FOR RESOURCES  
SEE PAGE 102.



# their OWN PACE

A creative couple took 10 years to renovate their 1955 ranch—using the time to protect their budget, perfect their minimal modern style, and enjoy family life.

WORDS **SARAH EGGE** PHOTOGRAPHS **LAUREY GLENN** STYLING **CATHY STILL MCGOWIN**



**MOD INFLUENCES** Jarrod and Stacy Allen look to Scandinavia, Japan, and Australia for modern design ideas. They built the living room credenza out of IKEA cabinets and mounted it to float above the floor for a clean look sans legs, *this photo*.





FOR ONE OF HIS FIRST HOME PROJECTS, JARROD ALLEN WENT TO THE BANK, HANDED OVER \$5 AND ASKED FOR CHANGE: “CAN I HAVE IT ALL IN NICKELS, PLEASE?” HE ASKED. AFTER YEARS SPENT EMPTYING WALLETS, looking under sofa cushions, and asking kids Jude and Eva to search their piggy banks, the change finally yielded enough five-cent spacers for him to install the kitchen wall planks. Nickels for nickel-gap paneling—not every DIYer leans so much toward authenticity, but Jarrod does. As a product designer, he makes a living smoothing technicalities. His photographer wife, Stacy, is equally detail-oriented. Perhaps it’s no surprise that the renovation of their simple 1955 ranch near Birmingham, Alabama, took 10 years. They talked

about hiring help to speed up the process, but other than the few occasions they needed a pro, they learned from each project and took the time to do it themselves. “There would be an unconventional method that would pop into my head that I wanted to try,” Jarrod says, “or a really important detail that I wanted to be involved in to have it turn out correctly.”

The gradual transformation allowed the couple to research, plan, search for low-cost materials, and learn new skills. There’s been an upside to the slow roll, Stacy says: “It took us a long time, but I’m thankful for that. It helped that we slowed down to create aspects of our house that are timeless.”

**ALL IN** Stacy asked Jarrod to help refinish her grandmother’s dresser on their first date, and from there a DIY-focused marriage was born. They redid their kitchen, *above*, for less than \$10,000. Kids Jude, 12, and Eva, 10, get in on the renovating too. “Both are handy but in different ways,” Jarrod says.

➡ Stacy Allen chronicles this project on her blog at [mtnsidehome.com](https://mtnsidehome.com).



A HAND-RUBBED DANISH OIL APPLICATION DARKENS THE WALNUT INITIALLY, BUT THE WOOD NATURALLY LIGHTENS OVER TIME.

## DO IT BETTER

JARROD USED A NAIL GUN AND NICKELS AS SPACERS BETWEEN 1x6 BOARDS. THE THIN SHADOWS CREATED BY THE SPACES GIVE THE WALLS EXTRA DIMENSION. TO GET CLEAN EDGES AS HE WRAPPED THE CORNERS, JARROD MITERED THE BOARDS AT 45-DEGREE ANGLES.



**TABLE GRACE** Eva perches at the live-edge bar, above, that Jarrod created from a piece of walnut milled by a friend's grandfather. He mounted it by hiding white brackets in notches he cut into the wall paneling and the bottom of the wood. To get the look of high-end metallic-tip bulbs, Stacy bought Edison-style bulbs at Home Depot, taped off the bottom, and spray-painted them with brass-color paint. To make their dining table, left, Stacy and Jarrod bought vintage heart pine from a local reclaimed-wood store and protected it by applying Minwax Paste Finishing Wax. They added hairpin legs bought off Etsy and Eames-style chairs. Stacy shot the family photos; extra-large mats provide a sleek presentation.





**GOOD LINES** Wall paneling runs vertically in the home office for a little extra interest. The desk gets hard use by the whole family for DIY project research, materials ordering, homework, and Stacy's photography business. She and Jarrod formed the desk out of a butcher-block countertop, a storage cabinet from IKEA, and a metal sawhorse-style leg.





**GROWN-UP STYLE** For Christmas last year, Jude got a bedroom redo that included a striking black wall covered in V-groove boards. Jude helped his dad make the concrete side table after they watched a how-to video online.

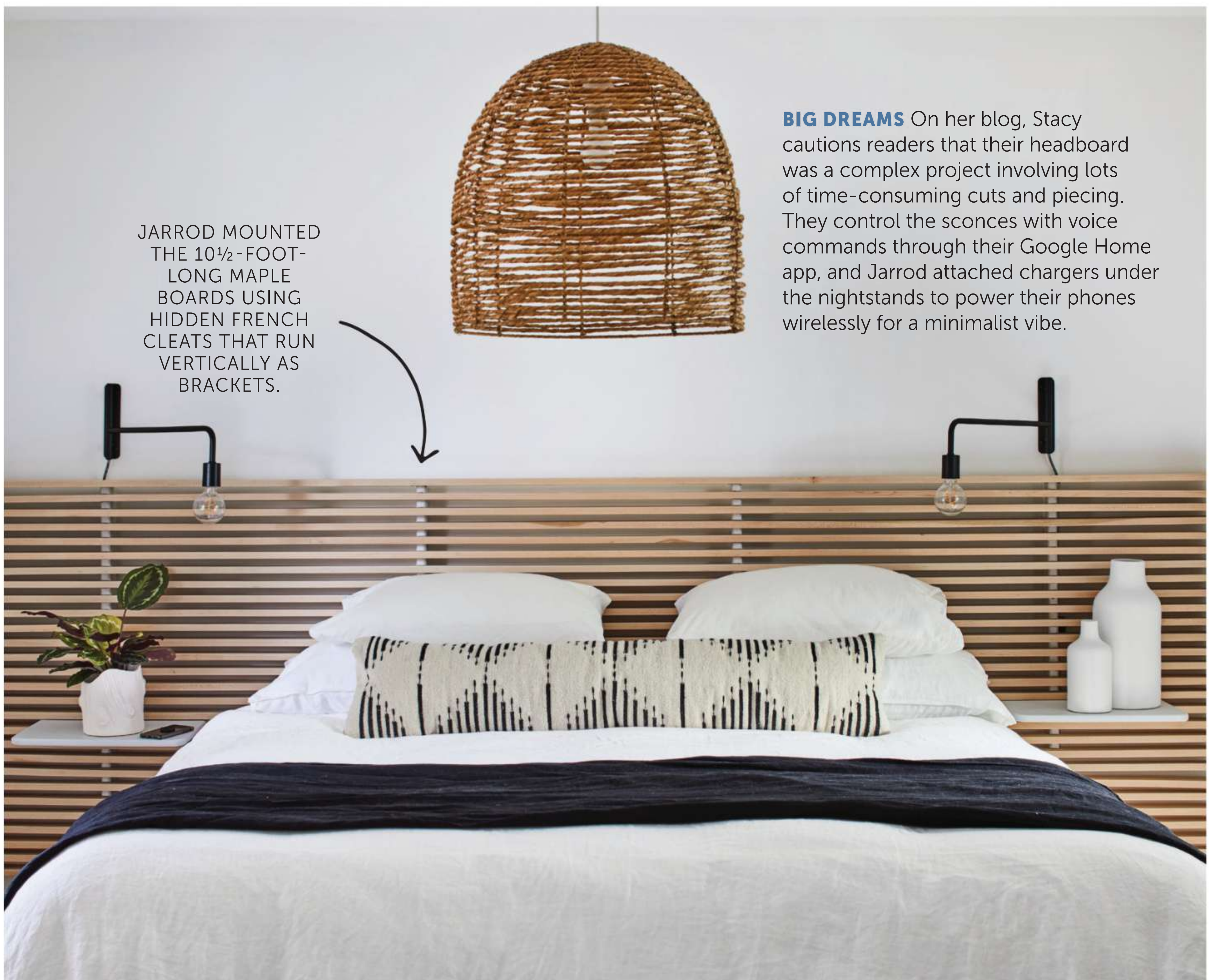
IN SMALL SPACES, A STATEMENT LIGHT HAS HUGE STYLE IMPACT—AND THE FIXTURE DOESN'T HAVE TO BE PRICEY. THIS ONE WAS JUST \$20.



CAVIAR  
SW 6990  
SHERWIN-WILLIAMS.COM







JARROD MOUNTED THE 10½-FOOT-LONG MAPLE BOARDS USING HIDDEN FRENCH CLEATS THAT RUN VERTICALLY AS BRACKETS.

**BIG DREAMS** On her blog, Stacy cautions readers that their headboard was a complex project involving lots of time-consuming cuts and piecing. They control the sconces with voice commands through their Google Home app, and Jarrod attached chargers under the nightstands to power their phones wirelessly for a minimalist vibe.

## SURE & STEADY

Stacy and Jarrod Allen took their time with the renovation of their 1,200-square-foot ranch house and appreciated the benefits of a slow process.

**LESS PANIC** “Deadlines stress Jarrod out, so I’ve learned to be patient and think, *Well, it’s done when it’s done*,” Stacy says. “It’s so much more peaceful to let it unfold as it needs to.”

**BUDGET-FRIENDLY** After saving their tax refunds for years, Stacy and Jarrod had the money to tackle their kitchen. They kept the project under \$10,000 by hiring out only the tiling, electrical, and plumbing work.

**BETTER QUALITY** “I can only work on nights and weekends, so I feel like I need to work until the sun sets. But I’ve learned there’s not a benefit to doing something after there’s nothing left in the tank,” Jarrod says. “If I stop at a reasonable time, take a shower, and eat some dinner with the family, everything goes better.”

**FLEXIBILITY** The Allens offered the contractor for their new master bathroom

the same approach to timing to ensure they got just what they wanted. “We gave grace on the timeline because we wanted things done correctly. We had waited six years for this bathroom, so what’s four months more?” Stacy says. “And since it was an addition, it wasn’t happening in a part of the house where we frequented, so waiting didn’t affect our daily lives.”



**BRIGHT ADD-ON** The large, light-filled, master-bath addition was worth the wait, *this photo*. Jarrod and Stacy hired a contractor to erect the basic structure, then they took it from there. Jarrod found a welder to make the shower frame and a painter to powder-coat it, but he ordered and inserted the glass panels himself and installed the finished unit. The couple mounted the vanity cabinet to the wall, and Jarrod fashioned a waterfall countertop out of butcher block.








**ALL AFLOAT** For this storage nook, *above*, the Allens anchored an IKEA kitchen cabinet to the wall and topped it with a piece of oak. Leftover cuts from butcher-block counters form the floating shelves. “We always order extra countertop to allow for mistakes,” Stacy says.

DO IT  
BETTER  
JARROD COATED  
THE POROUS WOOD  
COUNTERTOP IN WATER-  
BASE CLEAR POLYURETHANE.  
EVERY SIX TO EIGHT MONTHS,  
THEY WIPE THE SURFACE  
WITH MINERAL OIL APPROVED  
FOR FOOD CONTACT. “THAT  
MAKES IT TOOTHBRUSH  
FRIENDLY,” HE SAYS.



**BEYOND BASIC** White 6x6-inch ceramic tile from the home center was an affordable choice to cover the walls and tub surround, *above*. Dark grout defines the tiles and mimics the grid pattern of the shower enclosure. Large charcoal-color tiles on the floor provide contrast in the all-white space.





Get your shine on  
by turning everyday  
items into oh-so cool  
pendants, lamps, and  
wall sconces.

PROJECTS **JENI WRIGHT**  
PHOTOGRAPHS **CARSON DOWNING**  
WORDS **MARIA V. CHARBONNEAUX**

*light* **BRIGHT**




STRENGTHEN AN ORBITAL STRUCTURE BY GLUING BRACES AT EACH CORNER WHERE THE WREATH FORMS INTERSECT.



**CIRCLE STYLE** Add geometric drama with a yarn-wrapped fixture, *this photo*. Glue the top of a 12-inch-diameter wood wreath ring to the inside edge of a 16-inch-diameter ring; clamp until dry. Cut a second set of 12- and 16-inch rings in half. Arrange the halves of the large ring so they're perpendicular to the same-size uncut one; glue and pin-nail in place to hold as the glue dries. Repeat with the small wreath rings. Cut a 1/2-inch square dowel into four 1-inch lengths. To reinforce the build, adhere one dowel length at each corner at the top where the rings converge. Spray-paint in desired color. Once dry, drill a hole the size of the pendant light cord into the top. Cut the plug from the pendant light; feed the cord's cut end through the drilled hole from the bottom. Wrap several colors of yarn around the wood using a figure-eight-style weaving technique in the large gaps, *opposite*. Hot-glue the yarn ends to secure. Install the fixture (see [BHG.com/Light](https://www.bhg.com/diy/light)) and screw in an LED bulb.





TO SECURE THE BOWLS, APPLY A HEAVY-DUTY ADHESIVE LIKE E6000 AROUND THE RIM.

**DISH IT UP** Ceramic and wire bowls team up to create mod fixtures, *this photo*. To make the pendants, use a ceramic drill bit the same width as the cord to make holes in the bottom center of each bowl. Cut off the light kit's plug and feed the cord end through the open end of the largest bowl and then through each smaller one until the socket is snug inside the bottom bowl. For the tabletop lamp, select items to create your desired shape. We used (from bottom to top) a shallow and wide plastic pasta bowl, a tall drinking cup, a gold candleholder, and a cereal bowl. Drill a cord-size hole through the center of each item (except the top bowl) and through the back of the bottom bowl. Drill a socket-size hole through the top bowl. Cut off the plug from the pendant light kit. Starting at the top, feed the cord end through each item and then out the side of the bottom bowl. Wire a new plug onto the cord according to manufacturer's instructions.



NO WIRING NEEDED:  
PLACE A BATTERY-  
OPERATED LED  
PUCK LIGHT FACING  
UPWARD INSIDE THE  
PLANTER.



**UP AGAINST A WALL** Reimagine metal half-round wall planters as a pair of sconces, *this photo*. Lightly sand and spray-paint the planters in your desired color. Hot-gluing the ends of cotton rope in place, wrap rope around adjacent wires to create several 1½-inch sections. Repeat with rope in two other thicknesses, alternating until you are pleased with the design. Hang sconces using screws or drywall anchors, and insert puck lights.



# VERDIGREEN

SW 9042

SHERWIN-WILLIAMS.COM

**CUBIC ENERGY** This geometric wall sconce doubles as a lighting source and a statement piece, *opposite* and *right*. Using a chop saw, cut  $\frac{3}{4}$ -inch square dowels into four each of the following lengths in inches: 24, 22, 20, 16, 14, 12, 10, and 8. Sand the cut edges. To assemble the largest frame, lay two 24-inch lengths parallel to one another on your work surface. Place the remaining two 24-inch dowels atop the first two to form a square. Position for an overlap of about 1 inch at all corners (A). Add a dab of wood glue at each corner. In a similar fashion, layer horizontal 22-inch lengths atop the 24-inch frame; glue in place. Add the remaining 22-inch lengths to finish the square. Repeat with the 20-inch lengths to complete the outer frame. To make the inner frame, repeat the process using the 16-, 14-, 12-, 10-, and 8-inch lengths. Allow both assemblies to dry before hanging.



DO IT  
BETTER  
TO MAKE SURE YOUR  
LIGHT'S FRAMES ARE  
SQUARE AND EVENLY  
SPACED, WORK ON A  
CUTTING MAT MARKED  
WITH GRIDS AND  
MEASUREMENTS.



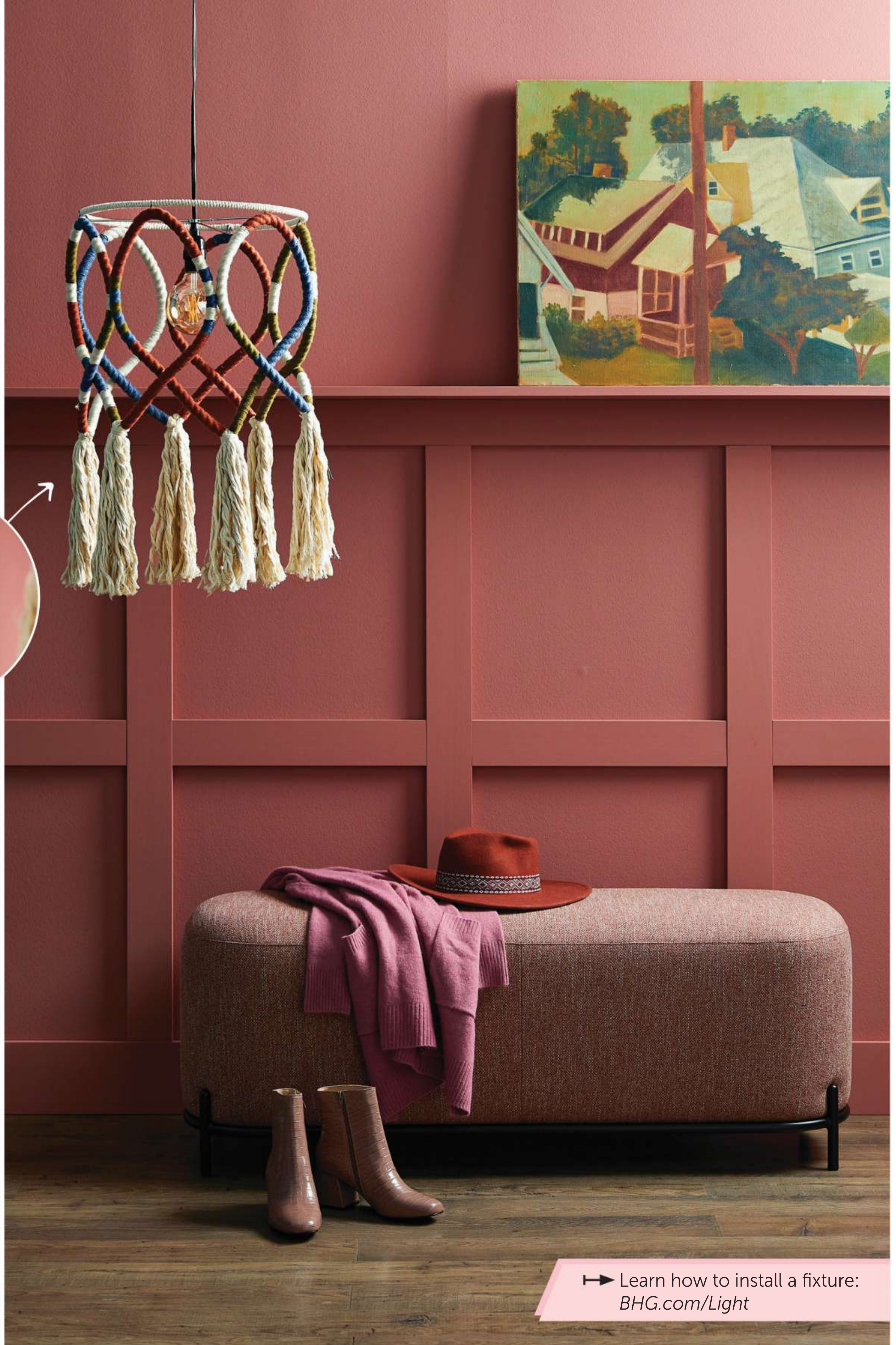
**HANG IT** When the frame is complete, hard wire a light socket to your wall scone box. If you don't already have a wall scone box, consult with an electrician to add one. Hang your inner and outer frames on nails in the wall, making sure they're level. For extra flair, opt for a decorative gold-tip bulb, *this photo*. Find them online from home retailers like West Elm or CB2 or from specialty light retailers. If you want to skip the hard wiring, use a battery-operated puck light.







TO COMBINE TWO TASSELS INTO ONE LARGER TASSEL, TIGHTLY WRAP A SHORT LENGTH OF CREAM YARN AT THE TOP.



➔ Learn how to install a fixture:  
[BHG.com/Light](https://www.bhg.com/light)

**FRINGE BENEFITS** Repurpose the top ring of a lampshade frame to create this casual pendant, *above*. Wrap  $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch twisted cotton rope around the ring, securing the ends with hot glue. Cut six 30-inch lengths of  $\frac{3}{4}$ -inch twisted cotton rope. Neatly wrap yarn around each length to cover the natural color, leaving 11 inches exposed at each end. Switch yarn colors as desired, securing ends with hot glue as needed. Unravel the ends of the rope to create tassels. Use painters tape to mark six evenly spaced points on the lampshade ring. Fold the yarn-covered ropes in half, and use a small piece of yarn in the color that matches the rope's midpoint to tie rope to the frame at each point. Overlap the two ends of the rope, whipstitching where they intersect using a needle and thread. Join the tassels of adjacent ropes.





HOLD THE BASKET  
PENDANTS LIKE  
AN UPSIDE-DOWN  
BOUQUET AND  
PLAY WITH THE  
ARRANGEMENT  
UNTIL THEY ARE  
VISUALLY BALANCED.

**BASKET CASE** Fashion this boho-inspired cluster light, *this photo*, from a multiple-light pendant kit available online. Disassemble the light, removing each wire from the canopy. (Snap a pic of the wiring before so you can remember how to reassemble it.)

Select baskets that are fairly similar in size and coloring but include open and tight-weave styles. Using a drill bit that's the same size as the pendant light cord, add holes at the bottom center of each basket. Feed a pendant cord through each basket so the socket tucks snugly inside. Measure how far down you want the fixture to hang from the ceiling, trim away any excess cord, and reassemble the cord ends in the canopy. Install and screw in bulbs.





**SET IN CONCRETE** Get the look of a high-end floor lamp, *this photo*, using humble building supplies: countertop concrete mix, an oak board, and a dowel. Safety cones serve as the molds. Top the lamp with a 15x18-inch drum shade—the tall proportions enhance the designer look. See the how-to instructions for the concrete floor lamp, *opposite*.



AN OAK DOWEL AND BASE ADD THE HEIGHT FOR A FLOOR LAMP, WHILE A LAMP KIT INCLUDES ALL THE COMPONENTS.





## MAKE IT

# CONCRETE LAMP

### MATERIALS

- 2x4s
- Chop saw
- Wood glue
- 2½-inch screws
- Drill
- Two 36-inch safety cones
- Duct tape
- Utility knife
- Rubber gloves
- Plastic tub to mix concrete
- White countertop concrete mix
- Nonstick cooking spray
- Pebbles or other filler
- File
- ½-inch extra-long concrete drill bit
- 1x12 oak board
- 1¼-inch-diameter round oak dowel
- Wood clamps
- Sandpaper
- Wood stain
- Cotton rag
- Semigloss acrylic polyurethane
- Paintbrush
- ½-inch wood drill bit
- Drill press (optional)
- Two 30x⅜-inch threaded lamp rods
- Threaded lamp rod connector
- Nuts for threaded lamp rod
- Lamp kit
- Wire cutters
- 15x18-inch lampshade

**Step 1** Cut 2x4s into four each of the following lengths: 36, 18, and 11½ inches. Glue and screw the face sides of two 18-inch boards to the ends of two 36-inch boards to create a rectangular side; repeat to create a second side. Toenail-screw (at an angle) the four 11½-inch boards between the two sides to make a freestanding structure. Stand upright, and insert a safety cone upside down through the top opening. Cover the hole at the cone tip with duct tape.

**Step 2** Cut off the rigid base of the second cone using a utility knife. Tape the hole at the tip of the second cone.

**Step 3** Wearing gloves, mix two bags of concrete mix with water in a plastic tub according to the manufacturer's instructions. Spray the inside of the outer safety cone and the outside of the inner safety cone with cooking spray. Fill the outer cone halfway with the concrete mix.



**Step 4** Push the second cone into the first cone until the concrete is about 2 inches thick. Fill the second cone with landscape pebbles, sand, or pieces of rigid foam to prevent it from collapsing from the pressure of the concrete. Top off with any remaining concrete mix as needed so the concrete is level with the top of the outer cone. Tape the cones together at the top to hold the inner cone in place. Allow to dry for 24 hours.

**Step 5** Once dry, remove the tape and the inner cone. Lift the outer cone out of the 2x4 rack, and gently slide the cone off the concrete. File the bottom so it's level.

**Step 6** Using a concrete bit that's slightly wider than the threaded rod, drill through the tip of the concrete cone.

**Step 7** To build the base, cut the oak 1x12 into one 12-inch length for the top, one 10½-inch support block, two 3¼-inch outer legs, and two 2½-inch inner legs. Center the support block on the bottom of the top rectangle, and glue and clamp in place. Once dry, glue and clamp the inner legs to the outer legs with face sides together and bottom edges flush. Once dry, glue and clamp the leg set to either side of the

BUILD A STURDY BASE FROM 2x4S TO HOLD THE CONE UPRIGHT WHILE IT'S FILLED WITH CONCRETE.



base assembly with edges aligned to the larger block to form a bridge shape. Let dry. Cut a 10-inch dowel length. Sand, stain, and seal the base and the dowel.

**Step 8** Using a ½x12-inch extra-long bit and drill or drill press, drill holes through the center points of the base and the dowel to accommodate the threaded rod. If you use a handheld drill to drill the dowel, we recommend you make a temporary jig: clamp long scrap lengths of wood to a table on either side of the dowel to keep it steady and straight as you drill through its tip. You can even clamp your cordless drill upside down to the table using scrap blocks to hold it in place so your drill tip is perfectly centered on the dowel. Flip the dowel and drill through the other end, if needed, to connect the two holes if your bit won't reach.

**Step 9** Assemble the floor lamp: Connect threaded lamp rods to one another with the connector. Feed the cord through the rod, and then feed the rod through the wood base, the concrete body, and the dowel. Install the lamp kit according to manufacturer's instructions. Top with the lampshade.





**BOX FRAME** At only 24 inches tall, this low-profile boxy floor lamp offers intimate uplighting as grass-cloth wallpaper painted for a gradient effect filters the light, *this photo*. The frame is constructed from square dowels, and the side spindles are cut from round dowels. We painted this frame for a punch of color, but you could leave the wood natural for a more neutral look. See the step-by-step instructions for the floor lamp, *opposite*.



A PINWHEEL-STYLE FRAMEWORK OFFERS A SNUG FIT AS THE PENDANT LIGHT'S SOCKET SUPPORT WITH THE CORD TRAILING OUT THE BACK.



FOR RESOURCES  
SEE PAGE 102.

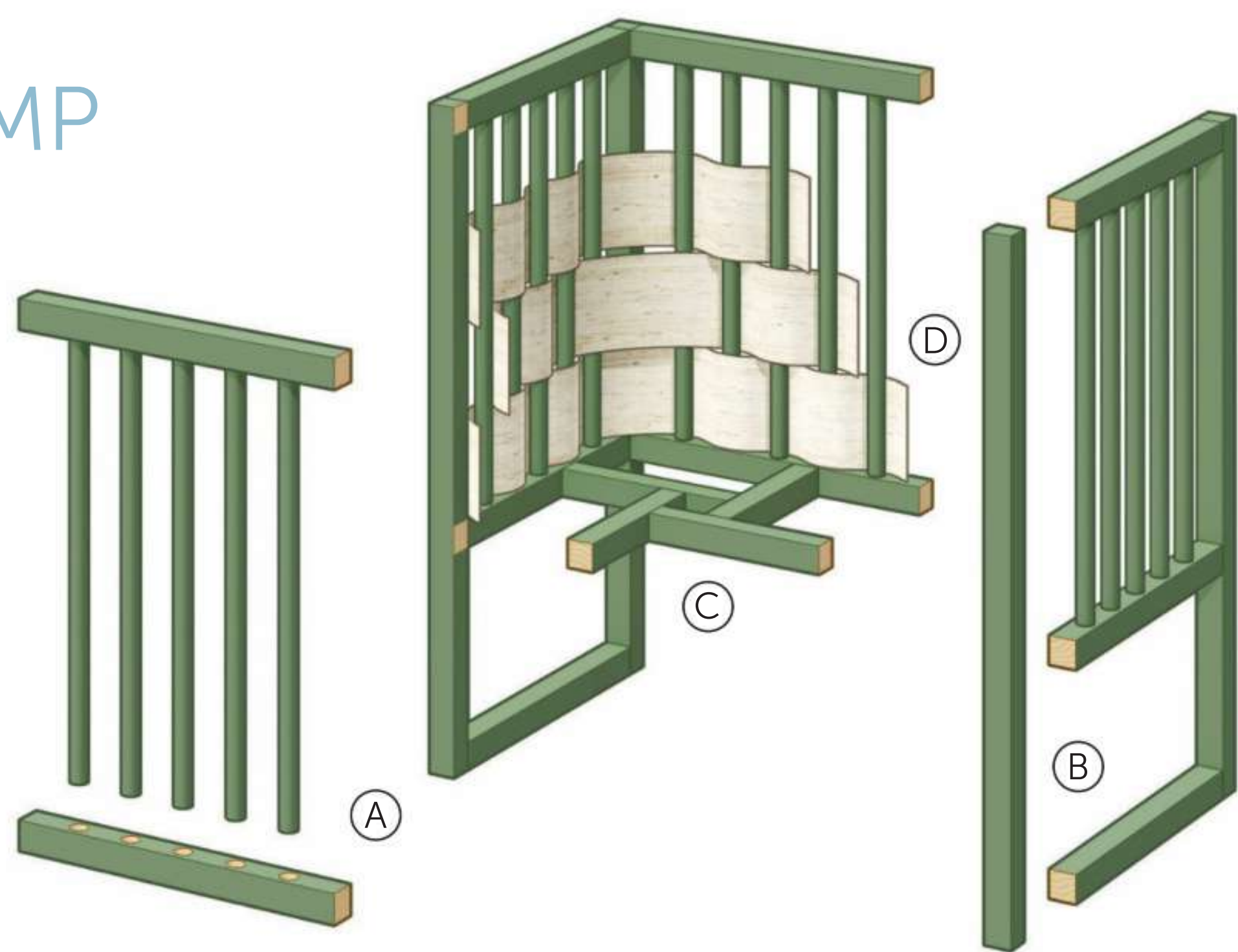


MAKE IT

WOVEN FLOOR LAMP

MATERIALS

- 1-inch square dowels
- 5/8-inch round dowels
- Cream grass-cloth wallpaper
- Crafts knife
- Straightedge
- Chop saw or miter saw
- 5/8-inch drill bit
- Drill or drill press
- Wood glue
- Pin nailer
- Sandpaper
- Spray primer/paint in green and matte white
- Hot-glue gun and glue sticks



**Step 1** Cut dowels and wallpaper according to Cut List, below.

**Step 2** Using a drill press or a drill and bit, make five 1/2-inch-deep, 5/8-inch-diameter holes in eight of the horizontal braces at the 2-, 4-, 6-, 8-, and 10-inch marks (A).

**Step 3** Apply glue to the ends of five round spindles and insert them into the predrilled holes of one of the braces. Glue the opposite ends of the dowels and insert them into the holes of another predrilled brace. Repeat with the remaining predrilled braces and spindles to create three more side panels.

**Step 4** Place a 24-inch leg at one end of a side panel and a 12-inch horizontal brace perpendicular to the leg, making sure they're aligned and flush. Glue and pin-nail them in place (B). Add another 24-inch leg to the opposite side of the panel, and glue and pin-nail in place

to create a frame-style leg. Repeat with another side panel and the two remaining legs and horizontal brace to create a second frame-style leg. Secure remaining side panels to the frame-style legs to create a freestanding box.

**Step 5** To assemble the socket support, lay one 7-inch-long square dowel on a flat surface, and then lay another perpendicular to and 1 3/4-inch from one end; glue and pin-nail in place to create half of the socket support. Repeat with the remaining two 7-inch lengths to form the second half. Connect the two halves, leaving a 1 3/4-inch square in the middle for the socket, gluing and pin-nailing in place. Install the socket support assembly by gluing and pin-nailing it to the lower elevated braces (C).

**Step 6** Sand and paint the lamp frame.

**Step 7** Lay wallpaper strips in two sets of four. Using matte white paint, spray the

bottom strips more heavily, then taper off as you move up to the other three strips in each set for a vertical gradient effect.

**Step 8** Once dry, hot-glue one end of a bottom strip to the back of one round dowel, and weave it through the round dowels (D). When you run out of paper, glue it to the back of a round dowel and finish the woven row with the bottom painted strip from the second pair. Trim the excess.

**Step 9** Working your way up and alternating as you go, continue weaving the remaining strips through the dowels.

**Step 10** Feed the cord of the pendant light kit through the socket holder and position the socket in the center of the unit; allow the cord to trail out the back. Screw in a lightbulb.

CUT LIST  
(IN INCHES)

#	PART	MATERIAL	LENGTH
4	LEG	1-INCH-SQUARE DOWEL	24
10	HORIZONTAL BRACE	1-INCH-SQUARE DOWEL	12
4	SOCKET SUPPORT	1-INCH-SQUARE DOWEL	7
20	SPINDLE	5/8-INCH-ROUND DOWEL	15
8	WOVEN STRIPS	WALLPAPER	3 1/2 X 54



# gathered NATURALLY

Take a walk in the woods—  
or even your yard—to find  
ingredients for easy decor  
starring materials from nature.

PROJECTS **MATTHEW MEAD**  
PHOTOGRAPHS **KRITSADA**  
WORDS **SAMANTHA S. THORPE**

**GOOD TIDINGS** Look to nature for fresh items that don't cost a bundle, *this photo*. Evergreens, tallow and hypericum berries, moss, eucalyptus, pinecones, cranberries, birch branches, and cinnamon sticks bring outdoor beauty inside. What you can't find on a walk is sold online or at crafts stores.





**DO IT  
BETTER**  
FIND INEXPENSIVE  
HURRICANES AT THRIFT  
SHOPS, OR SHOP ONLINE  
MARKETPLACES OR THE  
WEDDING SECTION OF  
CRAFTS STORES. GET A  
SIMILAR LOOK BY PLACING  
CANDLES IN GLASS VASES  
AND JARS.

USE THIN FABRIC-  
WRAPPED WIRE TO  
MAKE THE GARLAND.  
IT'S EASIER TO  
BEND INTO THE  
DESIRED SHAPE  
THAN TRADITIONAL  
FLORISTS WIRE.

**MAKE SPIRITS BRIGHT** Everyday hurricane lanterns take on a cheerful glow in minutes with fresh crowns of greens and berries, *above*. Wire favorite greenery and white berries into a garland or weave in juniper berries or fresh herbs for a sweet scent.



## MAKE IT

# MUSHROOM ORNAMENTS



### MATERIALS

- Jar caps in variety of sizes
- Paintable molding clay
- Roller
- Hot-glue gun and glue sticks
- Acrylic crafts paint in red, orange, yellow, green, and brown
- Paintbrush
- Furniture wax
- Decoupage medium (We used Mod Podge.)
- Glitter
- Screw eyes



### TOADLY MAGICAL

Go for a whimsical, woodland moment by adorning a miniature tree with playful mushrooms made from easy-to-work-with modeling clay.



WE USED CRAYOLA MODEL MAGIC TO MAKE THE MUSHROOMS. IT'S PLIABLE AND PAINTABLE AND COMES IN AN ARRAY OF COLORS.



**Step 1** Use jar lids in a variety of sizes to cut out mushroom caps.

**Step 2** Roll clay into logs to make 3- to 5-inch stems. Play with the clay and work with your fingers to add details like curves, twists, and imperfections in the stems and caps for a realistic appearance. Let the shapes

air-dry overnight—they won't completely harden but this step will help them hold their shape. Then hot-glue the caps and stems together.

**Step 3** Paint caps in shades of red, orange, yellow, and green, then dab on random touches of brown paint to create an

organic effect on the stems and underside of the caps.

**Step 4** Rub with furniture wax to create imperfections, then brush tops with decoupage medium and sprinkle with glitter; let dry.

**Step 5** Insert a screw eye into the top of each cap for hanging.



THESE ORNAMENTS  
CAN DOUBLE AS A  
CENTERPIECE. PLACE  
THEM ON A WOOD  
SLICE AND ACCENT  
WITH EUCALYPTUS  
LEAVES AND WHITE  
TALLOW BERRIES.



**BEAUTIFUL BRANCHES** Create your own version of O Tannenbaum by fashioning mini Christmas tree ornaments, above. Hot-glue two 4- to 6-inch twigs together to create the tree's trunk. Cut additional twigs in graduated lengths and hot-glue them to the trunk. Adorn with a garland by asymmetrically crisscrossing the twigs with gold twine. Knot the twine on the back of the tree and hot-glue in place. Form a loop from the same twine and glue to the top of the tree for hanging. Tip: For a little shimmer, spray lightly with gold paint; let dry.





FOR LESS SHEDDING, MIX ARBORVITAE BRANCHES INTO YOUR WREATH ALONGSIDE OTHER EVERGREENS—OR USE THEM ON THEIR OWN. THEY WON'T DROP NEEDLES AND ARE READILY AVAILABLE.

#### STAR OF WONDER

Greet everyone at your front step with a wreath crafted from a star-shape form and evergreen boughs, *left*.

## MAKE IT

# EVERGREEN STAR

### MATERIALS

- Fresh evergreens
- Wood or foam star-shape form
- Twine
- Hot-glue gun and glue sticks
- Heavy adhesive spray
- Epsom salts
- White glitter
- Sawtooth picture hanger or U-shape florists pin and wire

**Step 1** Cut evergreens to desired sizes to cover form.

**Step 2** Wrap wood form's arms and center with twine for tucking in greenery, *right*. Hot-glue greenery

to fill in shape. An alternative is to pin greenery onto a foam star form; hot-glue evergreen pieces to fill in holes.

**Step 3** Spray finished wreath with heavy adhesive, then sprinkle with Epsom salts and white glitter.

**Step 4** Nail a sawtooth hanger to the back of the wood form or anchor a florists wire loop to the foam form with a U-shape florists pin.





**FOUND GIFTS** Transform a collection of twigs, moss, freeze-dried cranberries, hypericum berries, rose hips, and woodland finds into ornaments, *below*, for the tree or to use on packages or as party favors. To create wreaths, attach natural elements with hot glue to cardboard shapes. Try drying pinecone scales of similar colors and sizes for a tiny wreath. Glue on extra embellishments. Add a little shimmer by lightly painting on golden highlights where desired. Glue cord loops to the back to hang.



**LASTING MEMORIES** Treasure favorite vintage photos in handmade pinecone frames, *above*. Cut cardboard into shapes such as circles, squares, and diamonds. Pull scales off dried pinecones (see drying tip, *below*) using needle-nose pliers, and sort into groups of similar size and color. Hot-glue to edge of cardboard in an overlapping fashion. Cut photocopies of photos to fit frames and affix to cardboard. If desired, hot-glue decorated cardboard to a set of twigs doubled up and lashed with twine to create a rectangular accent. Glue cord loops to the back to hang.

TO DRY FRESH  
PINECONES, LAY THEM  
ON A SCREEN AND SET  
IN A SUNNY INDOOR  
SPOT FOR A WEEK  
UNTIL THE CONES ARE  
FULLY OPEN.





## DO IT BETTER

PAIR THESE SWAGS WITH VINTAGE WHITE IRONSTONE OR RED TRANSFERWARE PIECES. THEY'LL LEND A FEELING OF TIMELESSNESS TO YOUR CHRISTMAS DECOR.

**JOLLY SWAG** String the cranberries, *above*, then wire in pinecones to make woodland swags that will bring fa-la-la-las to a cabinet front, doorway, or window. Anchor the ends with bundles of eucalyptus branches.

FOR RESOURCES SEE PAGE 102.





# suite DREAMS

Wrap your sleep space in the warm embrace of velvet, and sweet visions are sure to follow.

PROJECTS **LESLIE POYZER**  
PHOTOGRAPHS **MARTY BALDWIN**  
WORDS **LACEY HOWARD**

## PICK YOUR PARTS

Combine several smaller projects to create a luxe headboard for a queen-size bed, *right*. Our design spans a 10-foot wall and sports 18-inch-deep wings on either side, but you can size yours to fit your bed, room, or personal style. The main portion of our design begins with five 34-inch-tall medium-density fiberboard (MDF) panels upholstered in velvet. We then topped each panel with two velvet-wrapped bolsters (see *page 78*) and a white oak art ledge. We extended the coziness by upholstering part of a simple box frame for the mattress to sit on (see *page 79*) and added sconces and floating nightstands as finishing touches. Read on for all the details.



MIX AND MATCH  
OUR WRAPAROUND  
HEADBOARD'S  
PROJECTS TO SUIT  
YOUR STYLE, SPACE,  
AND SKILLS.





**WRAP ARTIST** From MDF, cut the headboard's wall panels. (We cut one panel at 64x34 inches, two at 26x34 inches, and two at 18x34 inches.) Then cut MDF panels for the bolsters. (We cut two at 4x64 inches, four at 4x26 inches, and four at 4x18 inches.) Arrange your work space so you start with the largest pieces. Spray each front of the wall panels with spray adhesive and lay one layer of standard upholstery batting on top. Cut excess batting around panel edges with scissors for a rounded look. Lay the velvet facedown on a large flat area. Position all MDF panels batting side down and in the same direction on the fabric so the grain of the velvet will go the same way for each piece. Cut the fabric to the size of the panel plus 5 inches for the width and length. You'll have 2½ inches of extra fabric on each side to wrap to the back of the panel and staple. Wrap the fabric around each panel and, starting with a long side, staple the fabric along the length of the board. Next, pull the parallel side of the fabric taut and staple, keeping fabric smooth. Repeat for short sides. For corners, wrap like a gift. Staple into place, keeping fabric as smooth and flat as possible. Repeat for all wall panels. For the bolsters that top the wall panels, use an electric knife to cut 2-inch-thick upholstery foam to the same sizes as the 4-inch MDF panels. Use each panel as a template, mark the foam, then cut. Spray each MDF panel with adhesive and attach the matching foam piece. Let dry. Then cut the corners from the foam's long sides at 45-degree angles (A). Upholster as you did the panels. (To include sconces, see *page 80*.) Install the panels to the wall using French cleats, securing to studs or use wall anchors. Use heavy-duty hook-and-loop fasteners to attach bolsters to the wall.

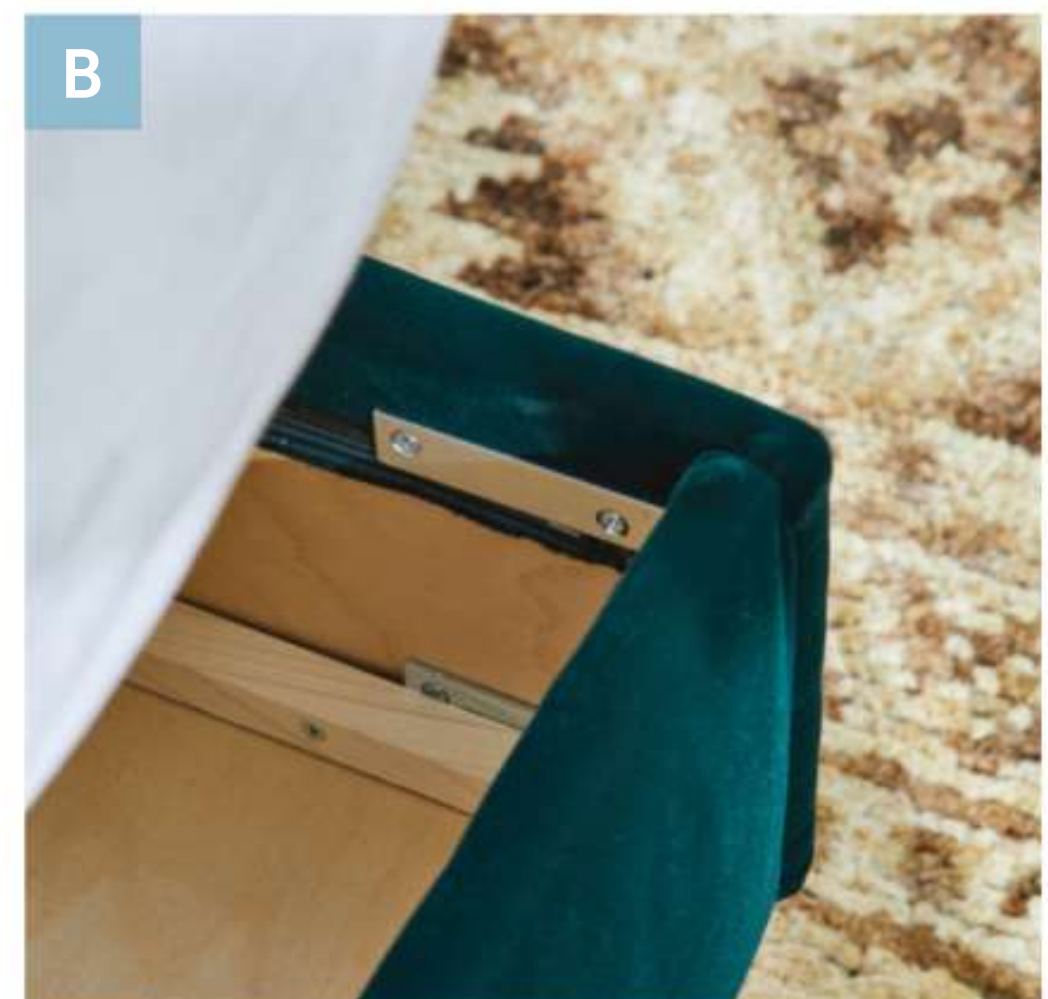






box frame

**BOXED IN** Cut the box frame panels from MDF. For a queen-size mattress, cut two at 9x64 inches and two at 9x82 inches. Upholster three of the box frame pieces, leaving one 9x64-inch piece unupholstered because it sits against the headboard and isn't seen. Cut the frame's solid bottom (what the mattress rests on) from ½-inch-thick plywood: two at 62½x40¼ inches. Cut the bed base from 1x6 white oak: two at 61 inches, two at 77½ inches. Sand the oak pieces and apply clear coat. Build the box frame for the mattress. Use ¾x3½-inch L brackets to fasten the upholstered MDF panels into a box with brackets 1¾ inches from the top and bottom of each panel. Cut two 62-inch and two 78-inch braces from ½-inch trim; screw these pieces ½ inch from the bottom of the panels. These will hold the plywood base. Turn the assembly over and set the two plywood pieces into place inside the upholstered frame, resting on the trim pieces. Screw into place into the trim pieces along the perimeter of the box (B). Next, build the oak base. The box frame will overhang the base 6 inches on all sides except for the head of the bed, where the base will sit flush against the headboard. Form butt joints so the long sides are flush against the short pieces. Secure the corners of the oak box with 6-inch pieces of ½-inch trim. Secure the oak box to the plywood on the box frame (C) with additional pieces of ½-inch trim.







MEASURE AND CUT HOLES FOR THE WIRING OF THE SCONCES (TOP) AND OUTLETS ON THE 26x34-INCH WALL PANELS. THE MIDDLE HOLE IS FOR THE SCONCE CORDS TO FEED TO THE FRONT AND PLUG IN.



*sconces  
&  
shelves*



INSTALL A FLOATING SHELF AS A SPACE-SAVING STAND-IN FOR A NIGHTSTAND. IT ALSO HIDES THE OUTLET BELOW.

**BRIGHT ACCOUTREMENTS** Each wall sconce on our design is centered at the top of a 26x34-inch wall panel. Measure 14 inches from the edge of the panel that will touch the wall and 4 inches from the center top of the panel. Drill a 1½-inch-diameter hole on center (A). Plan for the top of the shelf to hang 20 inches from the floor. Drill a second, lower hole to accommodate the thickness of your shelf. Ours is about 10 inches below the first, 14 inches from the panel's edge. Use this hole to pass the sconce cord from behind the wall panel and plug into the outlet. Measure the location and size of your electrical outlet, and translate it to the panel by cutting an opening.



**PICTURE THIS** Cut the art ledge pieces from white oak: one 1x3 at 120 inches, two 1x3 at 18 inches, one 1x2 at 120 inches, two 1x2 at 18 inches. Sand the oak pieces and apply clear coat. Glue and nail the 1x2 pieces to the 1x3 pieces to make an L shape. Fill nail holes with wood putty. Install the ledge by drilling down into the MDF backing of the top bolsters using 1-inch screws.

art ledge



CREATE MOD  
ARTWORK WITH  
LEFTOVER WALL  
PAINT, WHITE INK,  
A BRAYER, AND TISSUE  
PAPER ON WOOD  
CANVASES.



# lasting EXPRESSIONS

For less than \$20 and in under 20 minutes, you can etch glass objects into works of art for your tabletop or bar cart. (P.S. They make great holiday gifts.)

PROJECTS **AMBER WAGNER** PHOTOGRAPHS **BLAINE MOATS**  
STYLING **CHRISTY BROKENS** WORDS **BETH ESLINGER**

## **BOTANICAL FLAIR**

Purchased stencils and etching cream are the secret to updating affordable glass bottles, *this photo*. (These are less than \$2 each from [specialtybottle.com](http://specialtybottle.com).) Practice the technique using cast-off glassware before moving on to your final project.







## DO IT BETTER

REMOVE ANY CLUMPS IN THE ETCHING CREAM BY SHAKING THE BOTTLE BEFORE STARTING TO ETCH. PRACTICE FIRST TO DETERMINE THE IDEAL AMOUNT OF CREAM TO APPLY.

### SERVED IN STYLE

Enhance a sparkly holiday drink station by using a self-adhesive stencil to make a patterned mirrored tray (which could also become a great centerpiece). Once the tray is finished, reuse the stencil to embellish other projects, including fabric options like matching napkins. (See Resources on [page 102](#) for the designs used here.)



# ETCHING 101

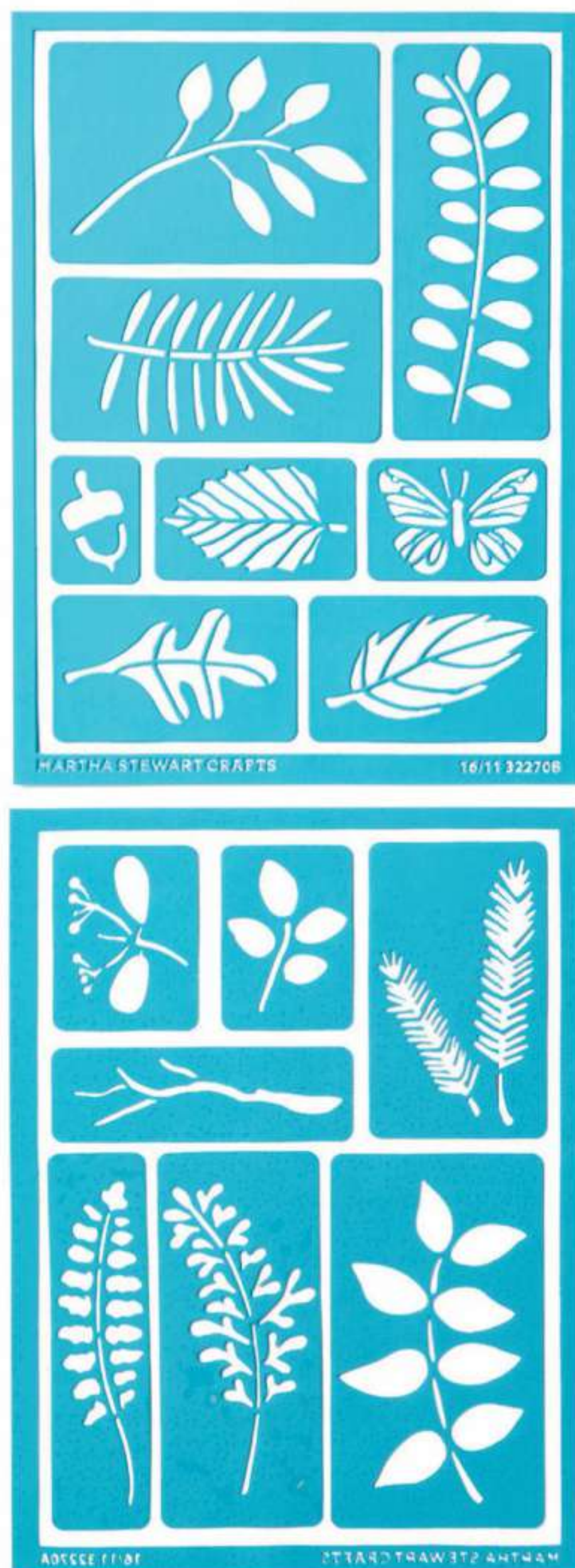
Before you begin, gather all your supplies, including glassware, Armour Etch cream, protective gloves and eyewear, several sizes of artists brushes, and a plastic sheet to protect the work surface and cleanup space. The cream can damage porcelain and enamel sinks, so use a plastic bucket or utility sink for all cleaning and rinsing. Always apply in well-ventilated spaces.

**TEST FIRST** To make sure the cream adheres to your glass (it doesn't work on plastic and some Pyrex), dab a small amount on the bottom of your glass with an artists brush. Wait 5 minutes and rinse to see if the cream worked.

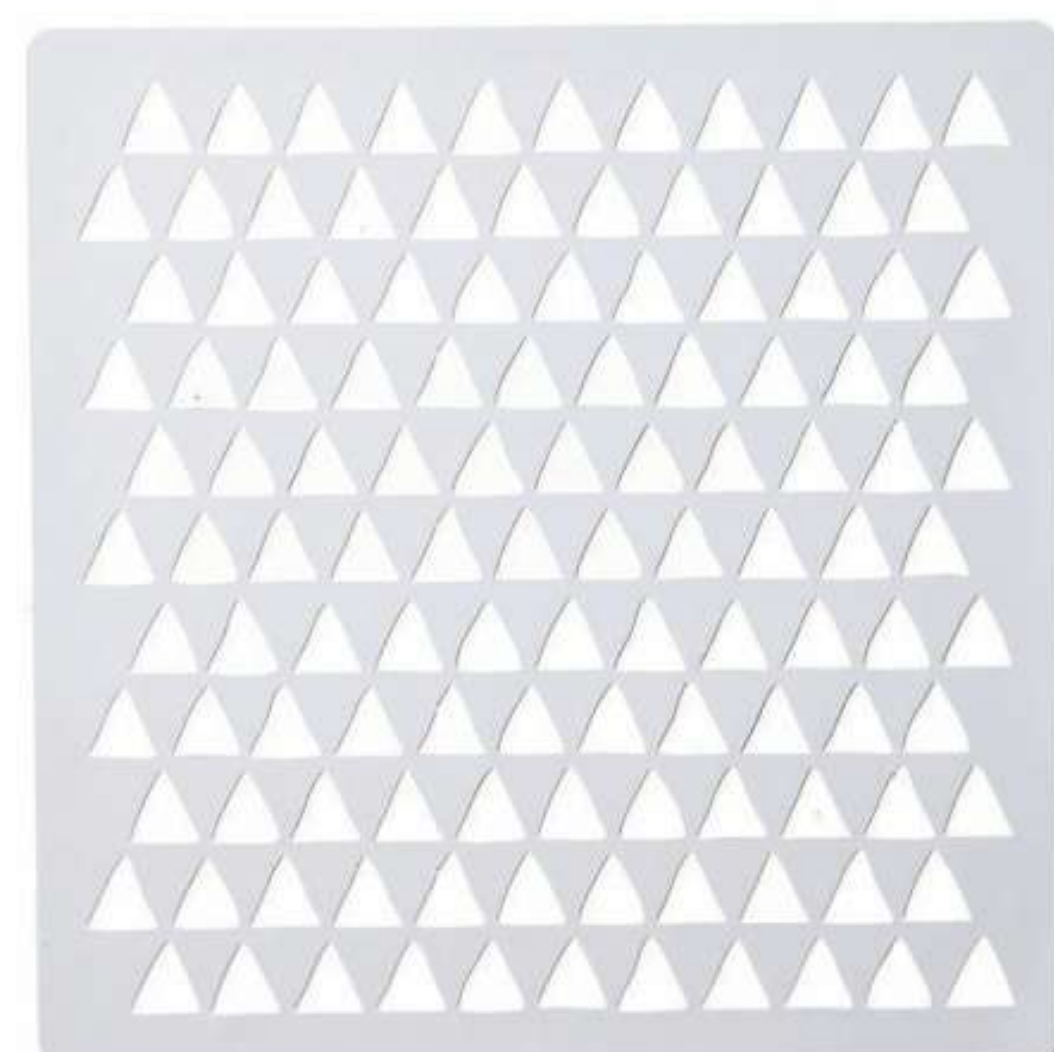
**ADHERE THE STENCIL** Clean your glass with hot, soapy water and let dry. If using a self-adhesive stencil, pull off the paper backing and adhere to the glass surface, removing any air bubbles by pressing with a finger. Stencils can be cut to fit your piece. Tape off the glass around the stencil to prevent accidental drips. If working with stencils that aren't adhesive, attach the design using temporary stencil adhesive or painters tape.

**BRUSH WITH CONTROL** Wearing protective gloves and glasses, apply an even, thick layer of the cream in one direction, either horizontally or vertically. Wait 10 minutes.

**RINSE** Using running water in a utility sink or a plastic tub and still wearing gloves and glasses, rinse off the etching cream from the project. Remove the stencil and clean it with soap and water. Let dry and store the stencil flat.



SELF-ADHESIVE STENCILS ARE EASY TO USE. LOOK ONLINE TO FIND DESIGNS TO MATCH YOUR STYLE, INCLUDING BOTANICALS, GRAPHICS, TYPOGRAPHY, AND MORE.




**PRACTICAL IMPACT** Etched designs like the ones on the bowls, *opposite*, are permanent and don't require sealants. Designs work on glassware (including colored), glass jars, glass trays, and more. Read through all of the etching cream instructions before starting your project.

FIND ARMOUR ETCH GLASS ETCHING CREAM STARTING AT \$10 FOR A 10-OUNCE BOTTLE. CHECK OUT KITS FOR BEGINNERS AND MORE EXPERIENCED CRAFTERS, PLUS ADDITIONAL PROJECT IDEAS AT [ARMOURPRODUCTS.COM](http://ARMOURPRODUCTS.COM).







**SAVVY PICKS** Look in your cupboards for inexpensive glassware to dress up with simple designs, or find glass pieces at thrift, discount, crafts, or dollar stores. Try stripes or graphic looks to create a collection across different pieces. A simple pattern like the one used on these small serving bowls, *this photo*, makes a lasting impact.



ABOUT 12 TREES NEEDED  
TO BE CLEARED FROM  
THE PROPERTY, SO  
JEFF WHITTAKER PAID  
SOMEONE \$300 TO BRING  
A PORTABLE SAWMILL  
AND CUT THE PINES INTO  
SHELVING, A FIREPLACE  
MANTEL, AND MORE.



①

②



# THE THREE



This industrious North Carolina couple coaxed their woefully dated ranch out of 1973 with the triumvirate of renovation: rescuing, refreshing, and reusing.

WORDS **SARAH HALVERSON** PHOTOGRAPHS **BRIE WILLIAMS** STYLING **ANDREA CAUGHEY**



THERE'S NOT A WALL, FLOOR, OR WINDOW THAT DIDN'T RECEIVE SOME TLC FROM JEFF AND CATHERINE WHITTAKER

when they overhauled their Charlotte ranch. The couple honored the home's '70s heritage (and saved major money) by rescuing vintage furniture from thrift stores and estate sales, refreshing scores from Craigslist and Facebook, and reusing existing pieces for the couple and their three girls, Hazel, 8, and 6-year-old twins Margot and Louise.

"We tried to blend new and old in our renovation and in decorating the house—a mix of modern and vintage just gives you a collected feel that's really unique," says Catherine, an interior designer with Design Post Interiors. "Jeff and I are of the mind-set that if you can incorporate even a few pieces of vintage furniture or elements original to the house, it's worth it to add interest."

"Plus, older houses have so much character," Jeff says. "For me, the older the house, generally the better."

Their 1970s ranch was a time capsule for its era, and every room needed updates. The Whittakers pulled up gold and brown shag carpet and particleboard subfloors, closed some doorways and moved others to finesse the layout, vaulted ceilings, painted walls, overhauled the kitchen, and scoured secondhand sources for furniture and accessories.

"Our biggest goal was to make the house feel bright and open," Catherine says. "We wanted it bright and happy and really livable." The result is a sunny ranch that's befitting the 2020s.

**1** Jeff and Catherine Whittaker considered IKEA cabinets for their kitchen, but a local shop had better prices. Because Jeff is handy and loves a project, he and his brother installed them over four days. **2** Jeff tweaked a pair of over-refrigerator cabinets to fit under the apron-front sink in the island. **3** The Whittakers kept the best '70s elements, including this slate porch that extends into the entry.







ALL THE WINDOWS ARE ORIGINAL, BUT CATHERINE AND JEFF PAINTED THE FRAMES AND MUNTINS BLACK TO CONTRAST WITH THE WHITE WALLS. STUNNING!



INSTEAD OF WHITE SHAKER-STYLE PANELS LIKE ON THE REST OF THE CABINETRY, STAINED TONGUE-AND-GROOVE BOARDS DRESS ONE SIDE OF THE ISLAND.



JEFF BUILT A WINE RACK OUT OF 1x LUMBER TO UTILIZE A NARROW SPOT BETWEEN THE CABINETS AND BEVERAGE FRIDGE.

- 4** This storage bank consists of six upper cabinets stacked two wide and three tall. Jeff built a wood platform to elevate them off the floor.
- 5** Catherine found one of these chandeliers at a neighbor's garage sale for free. She commissioned a local lighting shop to create another to match it. Two for the price of one!
- 6** The vent hood of tongue-and-groove boards is a Jeff original.
- 7** The hardwood floors were professionally installed, but to cut down on labor costs, Jeff ripped up the old vinyl and crumbling subfloor himself.
- 8** Jeff converted this corner of the kitchen into a dry bar and drink station, complete with beverage fridge.





CATHERINE COMMISSIONED THIS PAINTING FROM A LOCAL ARTIST SHE DISCOVERED ON FACEBOOK. "I LOVE ORIGINAL ART," SHE SAYS. "IT'S A WORTHWHILE INVESTMENT."



**9** In very groovy '70s fashion, this corner featured a wet bar behind bifold doors. The Whittakers converted the space to built-ins for display and storage. **10** White paint everywhere turned the room from dark and dreary to bright and fresh. **11** Jeff built a slim rack next to the hearth to keep firewood in easy reach. **12** The furniture—a mix of new and vintage—is family-friendly for twins, Margot and Louise, and older sister Hazel. Catherine checks consignment stores to find higher-end pieces at great prices, including this sofa and chairs that were in great shape.





VAULTING THE CEILING  
REVEALED THAT CINDER  
BLOCKS MET THE ROOF LINE  
INSTEAD OF THE FIREPLACE  
BRICKS. JEFF SHEATHED  
THE WALL IN WHITE-  
PAINTED TONGUE-AND-  
GROOVE BOARDS FOR A  
COHESIVE LOOK.

10



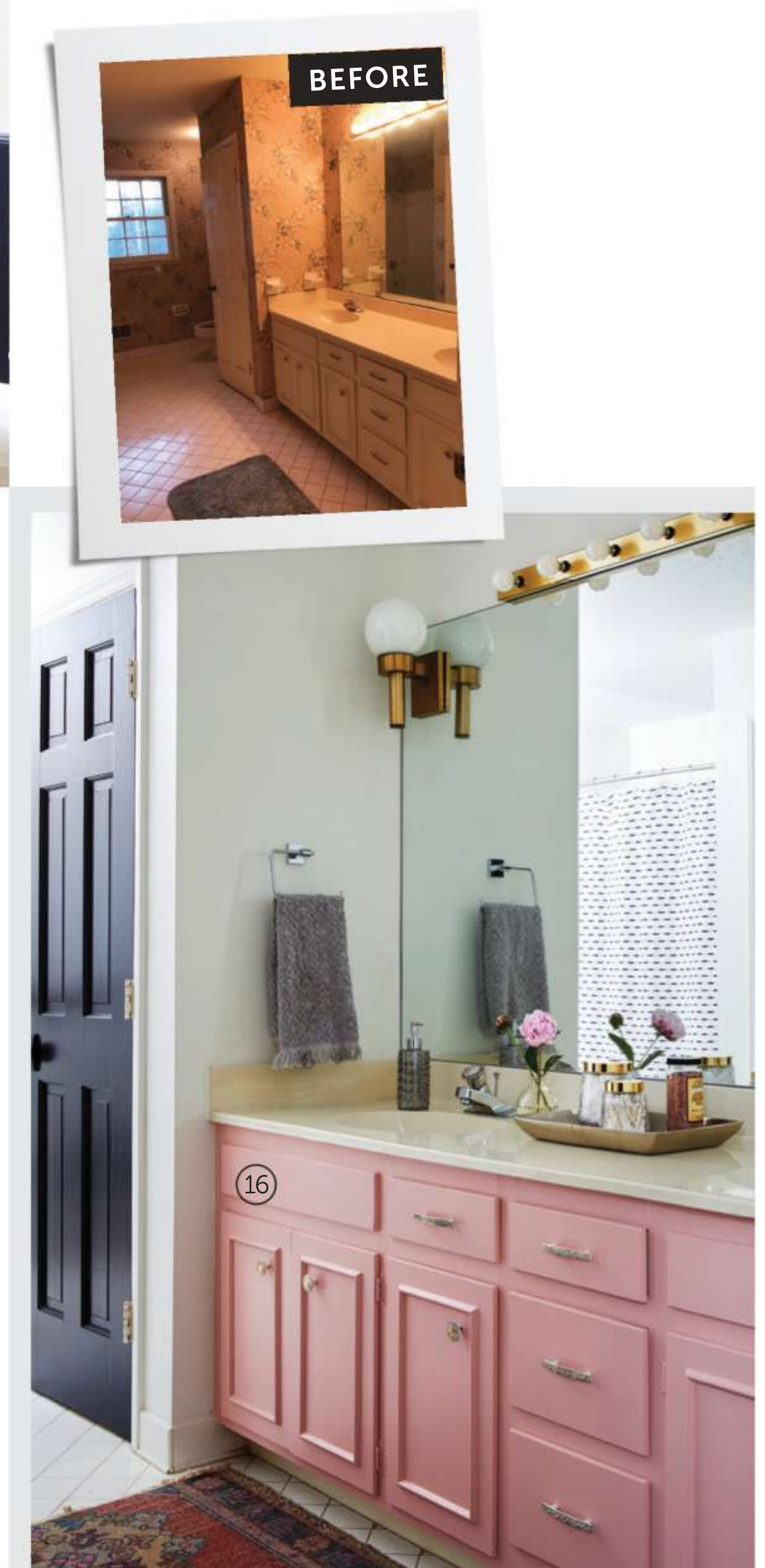
11







- 13** The Whittakers modernized the living room's French doors to the sunroom with black paint.
- 14** Catherine nabbed this Lucite-and-glass table at a local thrift store.
- 15** The octagon mirror has that retro shape and nods to the house's age, but it's new: It came from a Pottery Barn outlet.
- 16** The hallway bathroom got a light facelift instead of a major overhaul: The countertops, vanity, and hardware all stayed put, but the vanity got a coat of cheery pink paint and the dated wallpaper was stripped in favor of white paint.
- 17** Inspired by a swatch of green velvet, Catherine asked a local upholstery shop to create a headboard with the height and vertical channeling she wanted for the master bedroom.
- 18** Catherine snapped up this pricey burlwood nightstand for a song at a thrift store because its drawer was broken. It was an easy fix.





# SMART SHOPPING

Jeff and Catherine Whittaker are shopping sleuths, unearthing treasures wherever and everywhere they look! We picked their brains for tips on finding the best deals.

**SHOP LOCALLY** The Whittakers scored big on a few items in their home by finding them nearby rather than at big-box stores: The kitchen counters, cabinets, a chandelier over the island, their upholstered bed, and several other furniture pieces all hail from local places. Shopping at small businesses lets you check out prospective purchases in person. If you're a regular, owners may be inclined to

contact you when a find you have been looking for comes in.

**SHOP OFTEN** It's not realistic to think a single trip to a thrift store will yield a bounty (though it certainly could). Instead, Jeff and Catherine make regular trips to a circuit of stores so they're looking for furnishings and accessories for the house

often. That consistency pays off with big bargains.

**SHOP EVERYWHERE** If they're planning a road trip, Catherine will scope out Craigslist and Facebook Marketplace for the cities they're going through, and once they arrive at their destination, they'll drop into local thrift shops and markets to snoop around. "You have to cast a wide net," Catherine says.







A NEIGHBOR WHO IS A GRAPHIC DESIGNER WHIPPED UP SILHOUETTES OF 6-YEAR-OLD TWINS MARGOT AND LOUISE IN PHOTOSHOP. CATHERINE FRAMED AND HUNG THEM OVER THEIR BEDS.

20

19

"KIDS ROOMS ARE SUCH AN OPPORTUNITY TO DO SOMETHING FUN AND COLORFUL, BUT AT THE SAME TIME KEEP IT COHESIVE WITH HOW THE REST OF THE HOUSE FEELS."

CATHERINE WHITTAKER, HOMEOWNER AND INTERIOR DESIGNER





21

## DO IT BETTER

RATHER THAN OVERWHELM THE TWINS' ROOM WITH PINK, CATHERINE MADE SURE THE COLOR ENJOYED A FEW BIG POPS, THEN BALANCED IT THROUGHOUT WITH NEUTRALS.



22

**19** Catherine hunted high and low for matching vintage spindle beds. She finally found two similar Jenny Lind beds from different sellers and painted them white to unify them.

**20** The pink curtains were a Facebook find. Catherine let out some of the pleats so they're wide enough to cover the big window.

**21** The hanging chair is another Facebook score. "It's vintage and so fun!" Catherine says.

**22** In 8-year-old Hazel's bedroom, a gleaming brass bed takes center stage. "It was really tarnished when I bought it," Catherine says, "so I spent a couple of days in the driveway with Bar Keepers Friend and the bed. It shined up just enough and kept a beautiful patina."

FOR RESOURCES SEE PAGE 102.



# light matters

Partner houseplants and herbs with their preferred light and get ready to bask in your own windowsill paradise.

PRODUCER **JESSICA THOMAS**  
PHOTOGRAPHS **ADAM ALBRIGHT**  
WORDS **MEGAN McCONNELL HUGHES**



*south window*

#### FLAVORFUL LEAVES

Hours of bright, direct sunlight make south-facing windows ideal for growing favorite culinary herbs. Maximize growing space in a small window with the help of shelves, *this photo*. Polished-edge glass shelves balanced on simple matte-brass brackets keep the attention on the plants. Fill a variety of pots with herbs like mint, sage, thyme, and parsley, as well as microgreens. You'll create a bright focal point that also makes for easy snipping.

MICROGREENS ARE  
READY TO HARVEST  
JUST TWO WEEKS  
AFTER SOWING.







*east window*

**GROW A STAYCATION** Large east-facing windows welcome soft morning light, perfect for growing your own tropical getaway year-round, *above*. When choosing plants for your window jungle, diversity is key to creating a tropical vibe. Aim to bring together a mix of leaf shapes, sizes, and patterns. A few dramatically large plants—such as bird-of-paradise (far left) and elephant's ear (far right)—anchor this setting, while smaller ones like the round-leaf Chinese money plant (at center on bench) and trailers such as the golden pothos (on stool, lower right) add texture and pattern.



### LIGHT SHINES BRIGHT

Hours of afternoon sunshine are ideal for light-loving air plants and succulents, *this photo*. These low-maintenance plants fit right into hardworking spaces like your home office, laundry room, or entryway, where water needs might be occasionally overlooked. Hang plants from a curtain rod, and mix structured ones like ghost plant (hanging, far left) with trailers like string of bananas (center) for a naturally balanced, living curtain of greenery.

TIE PLANTERS TO A CURTAIN ROD OR HANG FROM S HOOKS. THE ROD SHOULD BE STURDY AND WELL-ANCHORED.

*west window*

➡ *More plants!* Learn how to multiply plants: [BHG.com/GrowMore](https://www.bhg.com/growmore)



**CURATE A COLLECTION** The limited light coming in north-facing windows is just right for cyclamen, begonias, orchids, and many types of ferns, *this photo*. Gather low-light foliage and blooming plants to create a mini botanical garden, varying plant heights with the help of pottery, trays, and stacks of books. Count on cyclamen (far left) and orchids (center) to bloom for several weeks from midwinter until spring. Patterned begonia foliage, along with the texture-rich ferns, will make the collection fascinating year-round.

## north window

MOST HOUSEPLANTS  
LOVE HUMIDITY.  
NATURALLY INCREASE  
THE HUMIDITY BY  
CLUSTERING THEM;  
THEY'LL COLLECTIVELY  
BOOST THE MOISTURE  
IN THE AIR.



FOR RESOURCES  
SEE PAGE 102.





# HOUSEPLANT INTEL

Tend an indoor garden with a little TLC plus some plant know-how to make your garden grow!

**POT** Drainage holes in the bottom of a container are essential to easy plant care. If your pot doesn't have drainage, add holes or choose another vessel.

**SOIL** Set up new houseplants for success by repotting them in a soil mix designed for indoor plants. Look for soil options at your local garden center. Fertilizer is optional, but if you want plants to grow vigorously, feed at quarter or eighth strength each time you water during the growing season—typically March through September.

**LIGHT** If the plant's tag indicates a need for bright

light, put the plant near a south- or west-facing window. Place low-light plants by an east or north window. Some bright-light plants do fine at an eastern exposure, but if they start to lean toward the window, it's a sign they need more light.

**WATER** It's time to water when the soil is dry. Assess by sticking your finger in to about your second knuckle. If it's dry, give the plant a soak in the sink—or, even better, the shower so you can rinse the leaves at the same time—until water runs out the pot's drainage holes.



## 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 website.

### ON THE COVER

**Bed** custom—Carpenter's Furniture Upholstery; 704/266-9808. **Green velvet fabric**—Calico; [calicocorners.com](http://calicocorners.com). **Nightstand with tassel pulls, pair of architectural prints, rattan bench**—vintage. **Duvet cover and shams**—Brooklinen; [brooklinen.com](http://brooklinen.com). **Vase with flowers, mud cloth pillow**—Target Stores; [target.com](http://target.com) [V]. **Small glass dome**—Pier 1; [pier1.com](http://pier1.com). **Bone boxes on nightstands, white planter, blanket**—HomeGoods; [homegoods.com](http://homegoods.com). **Rug**—Loloi Rugs; [loloirugs.com](http://loloirugs.com).

### TRY IT: WOODBURNING

PAGES 6–13

THROUGHOUT

**Wood-burning tool** Creative Woodburner 41992, **wood supplies**—Walnut Hollow; [walnuthollow.com](http://walnuthollow.com).

PAGES 6–7

**Vases** Distressed Wood Vase—Hobby Lobby; [hobbylobby.com](http://hobbylobby.com). **Dried and preserved floral in vases**—Wild Flower; [wildflowerdsm.com](http://wildflowerdsm.com). **Wood caddy** Sierra Pacific Crafts Wood Tray with Center Handle—Walmart; [walmart.com](http://walmart.com). **Yarn**—Hobby Lobby; [hobbylobby.com](http://hobbylobby.com).

PAGES 8–9

**Cutting boards** Smäåta—IKEA; [ikea.com](http://ikea.com). **Basswood circles** Circle Basswood Panel—Walnut Hollow; [walnuthollow.com](http://walnuthollow.com). **Place mat hung behind wall art**—Anthropologie; [anthropologie.com](http://anthropologie.com).

PAGES 10–11

**Pine chest with drawers** Ivar, **basket next to boots**—IKEA; [ikea.com](http://ikea.com). **Legs for chest**—Prettypicks; [prettypicks.com](http://prettypicks.com). **White round stacked vase** Stepped Form Ceramic Vases, **area rug in front of chest**—West Elm; [westelm.com](http://westelm.com). **Mirror over chest** Opalhouse Top and Bottom Peak Mirror in Natural, **scarf hanging from hook, wrapping paper on presents**—Target Stores; [target.com](http://target.com) [V]. **Wall art in front of mirror** Cove—Juniper; [juniperprintshop.com](http://juniperprintshop.com). **Side chair next to chest** Gwyneth Ivory Boucle Chair—CB2; [cb2.com](http://cb2.com). **Cork for wall hanging, knobs for wall hooks** Rustic White Elephant Knobs—Hobby Lobby; [hobbylobby.com](http://hobbylobby.com). **Area rug in front of bench**—Anthropologie; [anthropologie.com](http://anthropologie.com). **Bench** Hemlock—Industry West; [industrywest.com](http://industrywest.com). **Boots**—Nordstrom Rack; [nordstromrack.com](http://nordstromrack.com). **Pillow on bench**—HomeGoods; [homegoods.com](http://homegoods.com).

PAGES 12–13

**Wood rounds for tags**—Michaels; [michaels.com](http://michaels.com); and Woodworks; [craftparts.com](http://craftparts.com). **Scarf hanging from hook, wrapping paper on presents**—Target Stores; [target.com](http://target.com) [V]. **Knobs for wall hooks** Rustic White Elephant Knobs—Hobby Lobby; [hobbylobby.com](http://hobbylobby.com).

### SEW EASY: PILLOWS

PAGES 32–34

**Yellow pillow fabric** Mustard Painted Yellow Dots by Charlotte Winter, **bird pillow fabric** Art Deco Cranes in Large by Kate Rhee, **gray striped pillow fabric** Marker Stripes Gray—Spoonflower; [spoonflower.com](http://spoonflower.com). **Buttons** Solid Colors Fabric Covered Buttons Size 60 in Gray—Merrysewingfabric; [etsy.com/shop/merrysewingfabric](http://etsy.com/shop/merrysewingfabric). **Sofa**—Article; [article.com](http://article.com). **Throw**—Jo-Ann Stores; [joann.com](http://joann.com). **Lamp**—World Market; [worldmarket.com](http://worldmarket.com). **Vase**—Hobby Lobby; [hobbylobby.com](http://hobbylobby.com).

### THEIR OWN PACE

PAGES 48–55

Follow Stacy Allen on Instagram, @stacykallen, and on her *Mountainside Home* blog, [mtnsidehome.com](http://mtnsidehome.com).

THROUGHOUT

**White paint** Extra White SW 7006, Arcade White SW 7100—The Sherwin-Williams Co.; 800/474-3794; [sherwin-williams.com](http://sherwin-williams.com) [P].

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**Cabinet, sofa**—IKEA; [ikea.com](http://ikea.com). **Round hanging mirror**—West Elm; [westelm.com](http://westelm.com). **Moon artwork**—Elizabeth Hales Design; [elizabethhalesdesign.com](http://elizabethhalesdesign.com). **Photos leaning on cabinet**—Artifact Uprising; [artifactuprising.com](http://artifactuprising.com). **Rug**—Rugs USA; [rugsusa.com](http://rugsusa.com).

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**Kitchen cabinets** Sektion in Veddinge White, **countertop** Barkaboda in Walnut Herringbone, **oven, stove**—IKEA; [ikea.com](http://ikea.com). **Cabinet hardware**—eBay; [ebay.com](http://ebay.com). **Barstools**—Blu Dot; [bluedot.com](http://bluedot.com). **Floor tile** Marazzi by Nature Calacatta Glazed Ceramic Wall Tile—The Home Depot; [homedepot.com](http://homedepot.com). **Gold pendant light**—West Elm; [westelm.com](http://westelm.com). **Black pendants over bar** Fjord Rod Pendant in Matte Black—Cedar and Moss; [cedarandmoss.com](http://cedarandmoss.com). **Kitchen towel on stove, black-and-white bowls on bar**—World Market; [worldmarket.com](http://worldmarket.com).

PAGES 50–51

**Wood for tabletop**—Magic City Woodworks; [magiccitywoodworks.org](http://magiccitywoodworks.org). **Legs for dining table**—The Hairpin Leg Co.; [thehairpinlegcompany.com](http://thehairpinlegcompany.com). **Black chairs** EdgeMod Vortex Side Chair with Walnut Legs—Amazon; [amazon.com](http://amazon.com) [V]. **Frames for family photos**—IKEA; [ikea.com](http://ikea.com). **Pendant over table**—West Elm; [westelm.com](http://westelm.com). **Hanging sconces over desk area**—Cedar and Moss; [cedarandmoss.com](http://cedarandmoss.com). **Area rug under dining table**—FLOR; [flor.com](http://flor.com). **Area rug in home office**—World Market; [worldmarket.com](http://worldmarket.com). **Colorful pencils, cactus pens**—Target Stores; [target.com](http://target.com) [V].

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**Statement wall paint** Caviar SW 6990—The Sherwin-Williams Co.; 800/474-3794; [\[williams.com\]\(http://williams.com\) \[P\]. \*\*Bed, hanging light fixture, bedside sconces\*\*—IKEA; \[ikea.com\]\(http://ikea.com\). \*\*Woven wall hanging\*\*—Bonnybee Designs; Instagram, @bonnybeedesigns. \*\*Pillow shams\*\*—World Market; \[worldmarket.com\]\(http://worldmarket.com\).](http://sherwin-</a></p>
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**Mattress** Saatva Classic Mattress—Saatva; [saatva.com](http://saatva.com). **Duvet** Washed Linen Duvet Cover Set—H&M; [hm.com](http://hm.com). **Lumbar pillow** Viento—The Citizenry; [the-citizenry.com](http://the-citizenry.com). **Beehive pendant**—Anthropologie; [anthropologie.com](http://anthropologie.com). **Sconces**—CB2; [cb2.com](http://cb2.com). **White containers on bedside table**—West Elm; [westelm.com](http://westelm.com).

PAGES 54–55

**Vanity** Godmorgon in High Gloss White, **countertop and floating shelves** Karlby, **leather cabinet pulls** Östernäs, **storage nook cabinet**—IKEA; [ikea.com](http://ikea.com). **Floor tile** Cosmopolitan Charcoal Porcelain Floor and Wall Tile by Emser, **shower tile** Restore Bright White Ceramic Wall Tile by Daltile—The Home Depot; [homedepot.com](http://homedepot.com). **Sink faucet** Delta Faucet Trinsic Wall Mount in Matte Black, **shower trim** Delta Trinsic 14 Series Single-Function Shower Trim Kit, **black-and-white towel on bar** Sualla Aegean Turkish Towel—Amazon; [amazon.com](http://amazon.com) [V]. **Sinks** Kraus Square Single Bowl Sink—eFaucets; [efaucets.com](http://efaucets.com). **Pendants** Sculptural Glass Pendant—West Elm; [westelm.com](http://westelm.com). **Towels on hooks, round woven discs, baskets on floating shelves, rug in front of cabinet, soap on counter**—World Market; [worldmarket.com](http://worldmarket.com). **Cabinet in nook**—IKEA; [ikea.com](http://ikea.com).

### LIGHT BRIGHT

PAGES 56–67

PAGES 56–57

**Container with lid**—Hobby Lobby; [hobbylobby.com](http://hobbylobby.com). **Medium vase**—West Elm; [westelm.com](http://westelm.com). **Hat, sunglasses**—Target Stores; [target.com](http://target.com) [V]. **Dried and preserved florals**—Wildflower; [wildflowerdsm.com](http://wildflowerdsm.com).

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**Jewelry boxes**—West Elm; [westelm.com](http://westelm.com). **Art with woman's head, small print, small pot**—Porch Light Iowa; [porchlightiowa.com](http://porchlightiowa.com).

PAGES 60–61

**Wall paint** Verdigreen SW 9042—The Sherwin-Williams Co.; [sherwin-williams.com](http://sherwin-williams.com).

PAGES 62–63

**Bench**—Industry West; [industrywest.com](http://industrywest.com). **Hat, sweater, bedding**—Target Stores; [target.com](http://target.com) [V]. **Boots**—Von Maur; [vonmaur.com](http://vonmaur.com). **Painting**—The Brass Armadillo Antique Mall; [brassarmadillo.com](http://brassarmadillo.com).

PAGES 64–65

**Chair**—West Elm; [westelm.com](http://westelm.com). **Area rug**—Target Stores; [target.com](http://target.com) [V]. **Blue dried leaves**—Wildflower; [wildflowerdsm.com](http://wildflowerdsm.com).

PAGES 66–67

**Chair**—West Elm; [westelm.com](http://westelm.com).

### GATHERED NATURALLY

PAGES 68–75

**Glass luminaries, candles**—Hobby Lobby; [hobbylobby.com](http://hobbylobby.com). **Clay, glitter, Mod Podge, acrylic paint, reindeer moss, pinecones, wreath**



forms, hot glue, spray adhesive, tallow berries, birch logs, twigs—Michaels Stores; *michaels.com*. Hazelnuts, freeze-dried cranberries—Nuts.com; *nuts.com*.

SUITE DREAMS

PAGES 76—81

**Fabric for bed panel** Solid Triple Velvet Nylon in Hunter Green—Big Z Fabric; *bigzfabric.com*. **Floating shelf** Brighton Floating Wood Shelves—Pottery Barn; *potterybarn.com*. **Bedding** Muslin Duvet Cover Set and Cotton Duvet Cover Set, **tassel pillows** Tasseled Cushion Cover in Natural White, **gold tray on night stand**—H&M; *hm.com*. **Throw** Casaluna Chunky Knit Bed Blanket—Target Stores; *target.com* [V]. **Sconce** Salma 1-Light Sconce with Smoked Amber Glass Shade by Globe Electric—The Home Depot; *homedepot.com*. **Fabric for Roman shade**—Hobby Lobby; *hobbylobby.com*. **Framed landscape art**—Dan Hobday Art; *etsy.com/shop/danhobdayart*. **Area rug** Chateau Hand Knotted Jute Rug—Dash & Albert, an Annie Selke company; *annieselke.com*. **Brass box on nightstand**—HomeGoods; *homegoods.com*. **Round vase on nightstand**—Creative Co-Op; *creativecoop.com*.

THE THREE Rs

PAGES 86—95

**Design:** Catherine Whittaker, Design Post Interiors, Charlotte; *whittaker.ch@gmail.com*; *designpostinteriors.com*; Instagram, @catherinewhittakerdesign. **THROUGHOUT** **Paint for window panes, interior doors, French doors** Tricorn Black SW 6258, **wall paint** color-matched Dunn-Edwards Paints in Milk Glass DEW358 #FAF7F0—The Sherwin-Williams Co.; *sherwin-williams.com*. **PAGE 86**

**Tulip table** by Burke, midcentury modern **bench**—vintage. **Bistro chairs**—Wayfair; *wayfair.com*. **Black pendant**—Rejuvenation; *rejuvenation.com*. **Wood vase**—Target Stores; *target.com* [V]. **PAGES 88—89**

**Cabinets**—Premium Cabinets; *premiumcabinets.com*. **Drawers and cabinet hardware** Goldenwarm Black Square Cabinet Pull Drawer Handle—Amazon; *amazon.com* [V]. **Countertops** Calacatta Maya Quartz—Universal Stone Inc.; *universalstone-inc.com*. **Double ovens, refrigerator**—Frigidaire Gallery from Lowe’s; *lowes.com*. **Backsplash** subway tile—Floor & Décor; *flooranddecor.com*. **Pendants over island** match to found—Dilworth Lighting; *dilworthantiquelighting.com*. **Barstools**—Target Stores; *target.com* [V]. **Cutting boards behind canisters**—HomeGoods; *homegoods.com*. **Large, round cutting board**—Cotswold Market Place; *cotswoldmarketplace.com*. **White plates on shelves and countertop**—Crate and Barrel; *crateandbarrel.com*. **Textured white bowls on shelves**—West Elm; *westelm.com*. **Green glasses**—Anthropologie; *anthropologie.com*. **Area rug** vintage—South End Exchange, Charlotte; 704/353-4600. **Frames for art**—Framebridge; *framebridge.com*. **Dry bar cabinets**—Premium Cabinets; *premiumcabinets.com*. **Countertops** Calacatta Maya Quartz—Universal Stone Inc.; *universalstone-inc.com*. **Backsplash** subway tile—Floor & Décor; *flooranddecor.com*. **Round rattan tray**—World Market; *worldmarket.com*. **Wood bowl with limes,**

**cow towel holder, cocktail shaker, horn bottle opener, silver teapot, blue-and-white ginger jar, white cake stands, blue and white teacups, gold-and-blue tumblers, silver gravy boat**—vintage. **Glass terrarium**—Blackhawk Hardware; *blackhawkhardware.com*. **Silver pitcher and china**—homeowners’ collection. **PAGES 90—91**

**Built-in cabinets**—Premium Cabinets; *premiumcabinets.com*. **Drawers and cabinet hardware** Goldenwarm Black Square Cabinet Pull Drawer Handle—Amazon; *amazon.com* [V]. **White marble side table, wood vase**—vintage. **Rug**—Hall’s Flooring; *hallsflooring.com*. **Marble coasters**—World Market; *worldmarket.com*. **Artwork over fireplace**—Hannah Duerden Art; *hannahjoy25@gmail.com*; Instagram, @hannahduerdenart. **Small framed artwork on bookshelf**—Renée Bouchon; *reneeabouchon.com*. **Striped blanket**—HomeGoods; *homegoods.com*. **PAGE 92**

**Lucite-and-glass console table, rug in front of vanity**—vintage. **Striped lamp**—HomeGoods; *homegoods.com*. **Octagon mirror**—Pottery Barn; *potterybarn.com* [V]. **Rug in front of console table** vintage—Crisp Interiors Home; *crispinteriorshome.com*. **Vanity, countertops, vanity hardware, brass sconces**—original to the home. **Paint for vanity** Quartz Blush HGSW 2056—The Sherwin-Williams Co.; *sherwin-williams.com*. **Canisters, towels**—Target Stores; 800/800-8800; *target.com* [V]. **Hand lotion**—World Market; *worldmarket.com*. **PAGE 93**

**Bed custom**—Carpenter’s Furniture Upholstery; 704/266-9808. **Green velvet fabric**—Calico; *calicocorners.com*. **Nightstand with tassel pulls, pair of architectural prints, rattan bench**—vintage. **Duvet cover and shams**—Brooklinen; *brooklinen.com*. **Vase with flowers, mud cloth pillow**—Target Stores; *target.com* [V]. **Small glass dome**—Pier 1; *pier1.com*. **Small marble box on nightstand shelf**—Cotswold Market Place; *cotswoldmarketplace.com*. **Bone boxes on nightstands, white planter, blanket**—HomeGoods; *homegoods.com*. **Rug**—Loloi Rugs; *loloirugs.com*. **PAGES 94—95**

**Hanging rattan chair**—vintage. **Nightstand, striped duvet**—Pottery Barn; *potterybarn.com* [V]. **White pillow in chair**—World Market; *worldmarket.com*. **Blue patterned pillow in chair**—HomeGoods; *homegoods.com*. **Patterned pillows on beds, patterned sheets**—Target Stores; *target.com* [V]. **Blue-patterned pillow covers on beds**—KLineDeco; *etsy.com/shop/klinedeco*. **Silhouettes**—Ashley E. Foote, Digital Design; 858/354-4436; *ashley.e.foote@ashleyfoote.com*. **Frames for silhouettes**—IKEA; *ikea.com*. **Yellow alarm clock, small dollhouse**—Amazon; *amazon.com*. **Gray diamond rug**—West Elm; *westelm.com*. **Sheepskin rug**—Costco; *costco.com* [V].

LIGHT MATTERS

PAGES 96—101

PAGES 96—97

**Wallcovering** Borosan EasyUp—Scandinavian Wallpaper; *scandinavianwallpaper.com*. **Table** Simple Living Modern Dining Table—Overstock; *overstock.com*. **Chair**—AllModern; *allmodern.com*. **PAGE 98** **Wallcovering** Graphic Palm Wallpaper—similar

available, Ballard Designs; *ballarddesigns.com*. **Bench** Branch—Blu Dot; *bludot.com*. **Chair** Venice Rattan Chair—Serena & Lily; *serenaandlily.com*. **Bamboo and rope side tables**—Burke Decor; *burkedecor.com*. **PAGE 99** **Desk** Stash in Olive on Ash—Blue Dot; *bludot.com*. **File cabinet** Modera Oak—Article; *article.com*. **Midcentury modern chair**—Overstock; *overstock.com*. **Adjustable desk lamp**—McNally Jackson; *mcnallyjackson.com*. **Radio**—Tivoli Audio; *tivoliaudio.com*. **Wood tray**—CB2; *cb2.com*. **Curtain rod**—West Elm; *westelm.com*. **PAGE 100** **Round dining table**—Pier 1; *pier1.com*.

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