

10 HOME IMPROVEMENT TOOLS YOU DIDN'T KNOW YOU NEEDED

# EverydayHome

Spring 2015

## SPRING CLEANING

Quick and easy ways to get  
the job done!

## BACKYARD DESIGNS

From The DIY Network's  
*Yard Crashers*

## 2015's Spring Paint Trends

By The Decorologist

De-Clutter,  
one room  
at a time

## HILARY FARR

Interior Designs From The  
*Love It Or List It*  
Celebrity Designer

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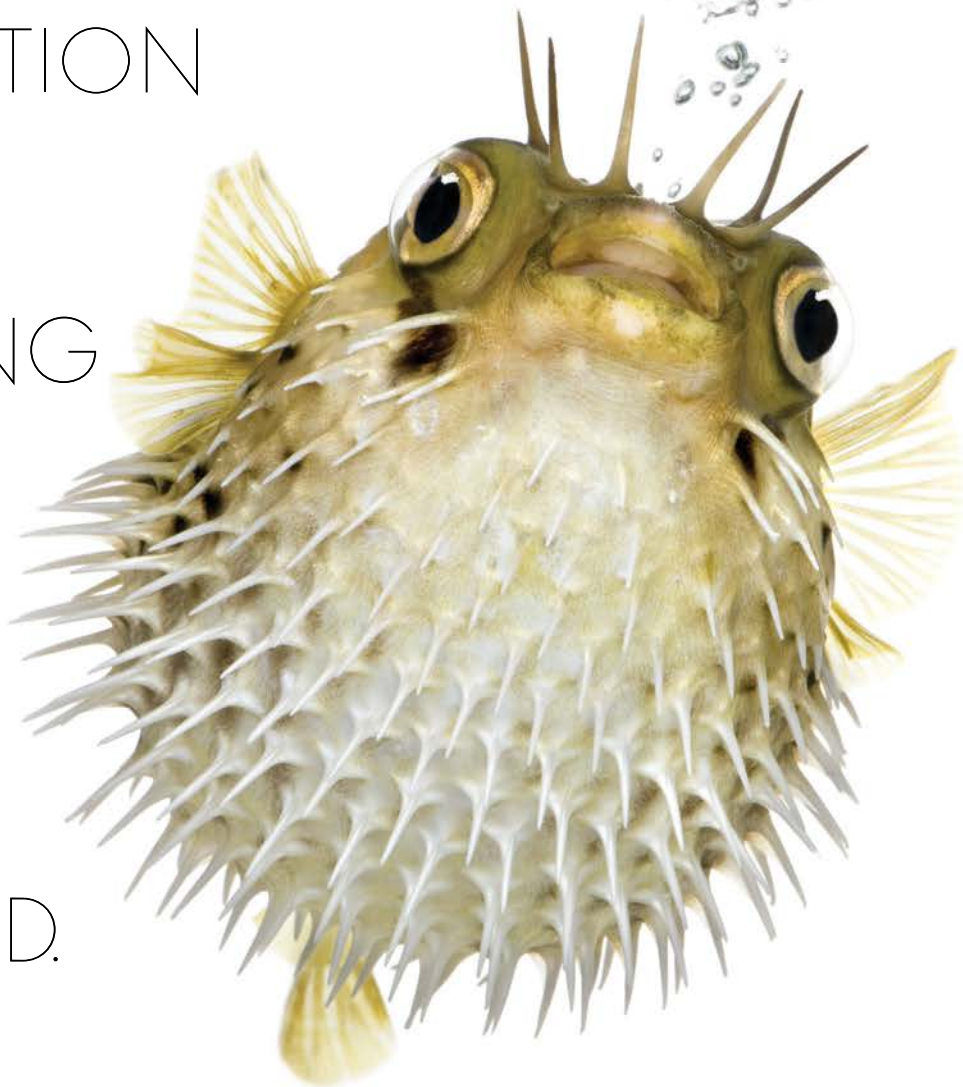
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Chiles Rellenos with  
Vegetable Picadillo pg. 28

AARÓN SÁNCHEZ'S CINCO DE MAYO RECIPES



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HILARY FARR

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AARÓN SÁNCHEZ

Celebrate Cinco de Mayo with your taste buds and try these mouth-watering recipes from Food Network's celebrity chef, Aarón Sánchez.



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Remove the headache from your cleaning duties with these quick and easy ways to get the job done.

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## LAWN & GARDEN

From tending to your garden, to choosing the right outdoor accessories, we've got the secret formula for getting your house to be the talk of the block!

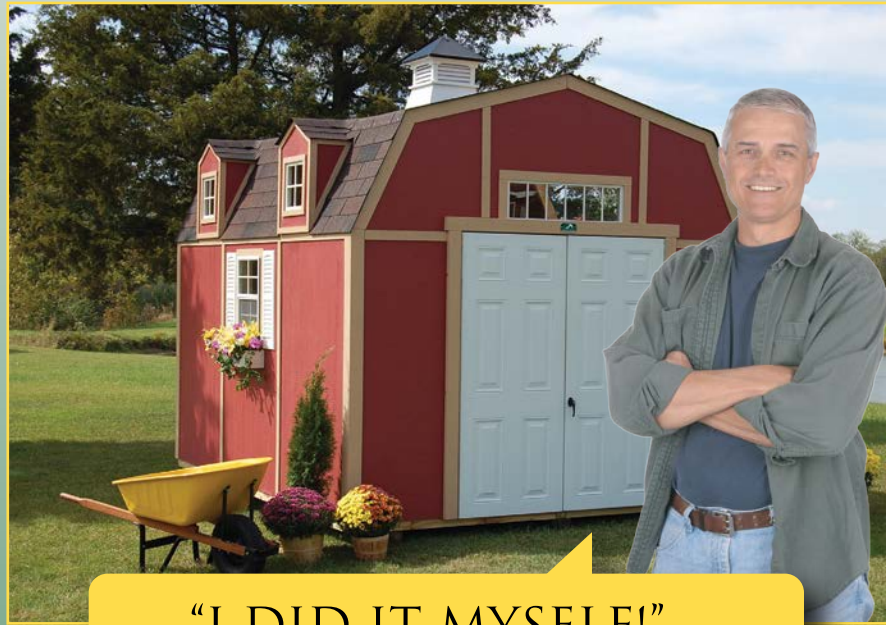




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Save money and Do-It-Yourself!

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Browse through backyard designs from Matt Blashaw, host of DIY Network's *Yard Crashers* and experience the best of BBQ with Myron Mixon, judge on Destination America's *BBQ Pitmasters*. Myron's BBQ recipes can be found on pg. 72



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## 2015 SPRING PAINT TRENDS

Be first to get ahold of spring's hottest colors and combinations from The Decorologist.

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## MAKING SPACE

Becoming a caregiver for a loved one is quite a responsibility. Keep everyone happy and healthy under one roof with these simple guidelines.







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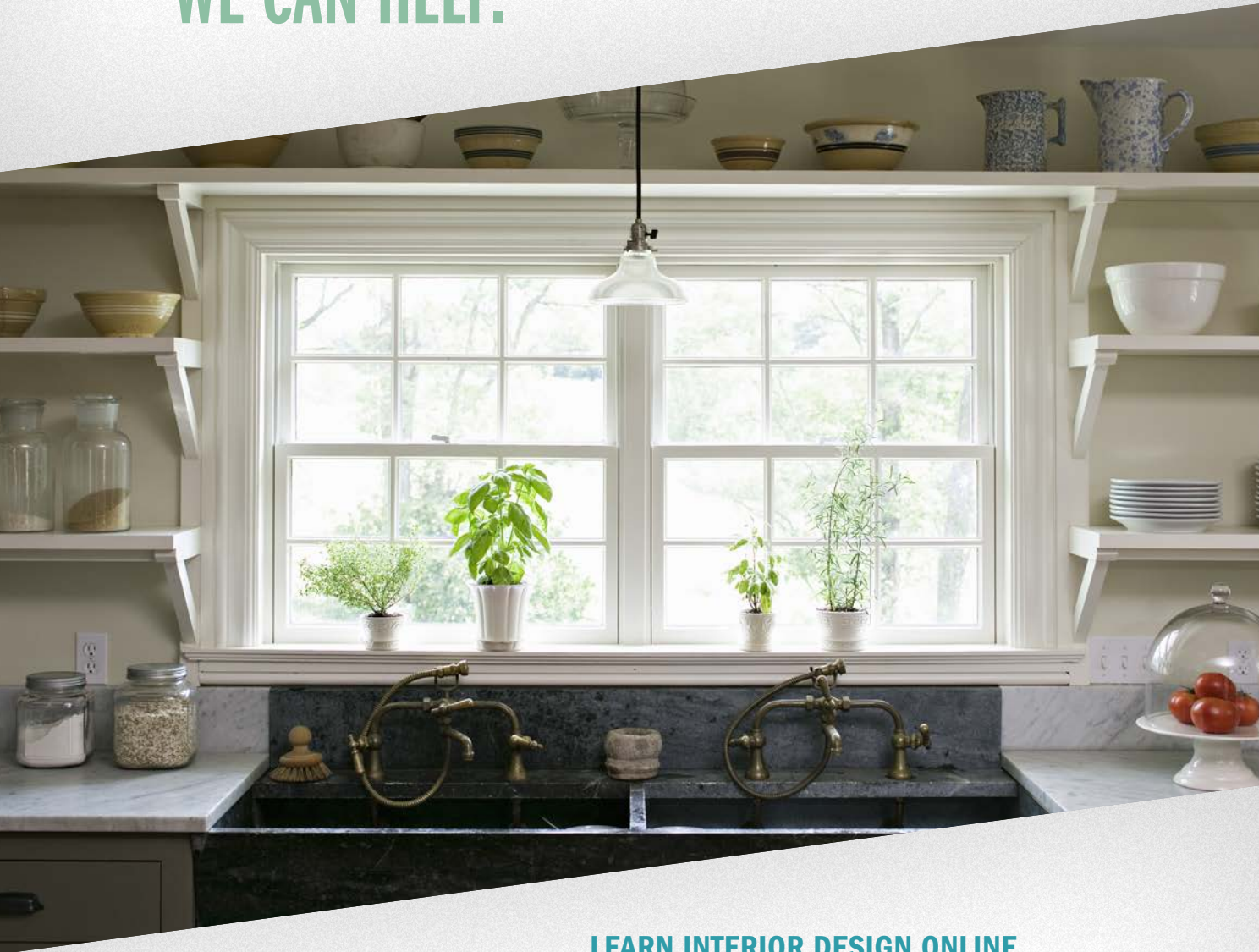
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# Welcome



David-Jacobs Publishing Group is delighted to bring you this spring edition of *Everyday Home Magazine*. In this issue, you will find the latest in modern and classical designs from some of today's top designers. In addition, you will discover organizational tips and spring cleaning tricks, review delicious recipes, explore the hottest trends in home décor, and so much more!

It was a pleasure to work with the chic and fun Hilary Farr. Her talents have turned her into a top celebrity designer, television personality, and co-host of HGTV's hit show *Love It or List It*. Hilary has graced us with a supply of her one-of-a-kind design favorites, from sleek kitchens to spa-like bathrooms, all of which are nothing short of inspirational.

A special thanks to DIY Network's Matt Blashaw, host of *Yard Crashers*, Aarón Sánchez, celebrity chef and guest judge on Food Network's *Chopped*, and Myron Mixon, judge from Destination America's hit show *BBQ Pitmasters*. This issue wouldn't have been complete without their contributions. Be sure to check out Matt's phenomenal backyard designs, Aarón's delicious Chiles Rellenos, and Myron's pulled pork burgers – you won't be disappointed!

Here at *Everyday Home*, we're all about improvement and enjoyment. We strive to provide you with helpful information and unique design concepts that will allow you to express your individual style and turn an ordinary house into your dream home. We hope that you will continue to embrace your inner designer and keep on creating!

*Your Everyday  
Home Team*





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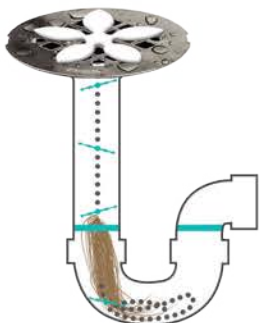
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# Hilary Farr

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*Love It or List It* on Mondays at 9/8c



**LIVING ROOMS**

**Pg. 12**



**KITCHENS & DINING ROOMS**

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**BATHROOMS & BEDROOMS**

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Hilary Farr is the co-star of the long-running hit show *“Love It or List It”* airing on Canada’s W Network, and on HGTV US in The United States and is a sought after speaker for home shows, design, renovation and real estate trade events.

Hilary honed her talent and her skills with properties in, London, England, California, New York and Toronto. She continues to build and design homes. “I love making houses into homes, watching families embrace their new lives, and knowing that I contributed to their happiness. My clients are from both sides of the border, some of whom have been with me from the day they were married to their fourth home and now their fourth child!”

Above all, Hilary prides herself on being a function first, practical designer and listening to and relating to the personalities of her clients. Drama, glamour and functionality are Hilary Farr’s trademarks.

Hilary lives in downtown Toronto with three cats, and her beloved dog, Mimi.

From kitchens to bathrooms, get inspired as Hilary shares a few of her favorite designs throughout the home.

*Photography provided by Hilary Farr and HGTV*



## Hilary Farr living rooms

“

This long and shallow area is the home's main family room. With two small children, **putting the “fun” in function was the main goal.**

**Leather  
Sofa**

A pale, treated leather sofa that is easily cleaned creates a practical space for the kids to hang out, without sacrificing the owners' design preference.

**Built-in  
Cabinets**

Built-in cabinets in a rich, dark stone material are the focus of the room, facing the chimney breast so that the black trim from the TV and fireplace blend into the wall.

**Hidden  
Wiring**

All wiring is hidden in the base cabinets, which are faced with glass fronts to add an element of sophistication in this space.







“

Floating shelves on either side of the fireplace, and a textured screen on the large wall were all used to **make the space feel more open.**

#### Walls

With no windows any room is a challenge, so being a basement living area, interesting walls were a key design element in this living room.

#### Fireplace

The fireplace was essential to bring warmth into the area, both optically and literally.

#### Carpet

A light-colored carpet was installed to bounce some light upward and complete the coziness of the space.



“

This house is 14 feet wide, and attached on both sides.

**To create a wow factor,**

the ceilings on the first floor were raised to 10 feet, and a glass wall was installed by the open stairs.

”



#### Glass Walls

The glass wall defines the space as contemporary, and makes a huge design statement and impact as you walk through the door.

#### Exposures

Since it is attached on both sides, there are only two exposures to work with, north and south.



#### Natural Light

Natural light is a huge focus in the room, thanks to the laminated glass front doors, which make the room feel more spacious. Enlarged front windows and French doors in the back give a sense of visual continuity throughout the space.



# Your solution to finding an Interior Design professional is here.

The **Association of Interior Design Professionals** is a national organization of Interior Designers committed to providing you with the **experience, materials and resources** to create a space tailored to fit your lifestyle. Working with a professional designer provides you with the guidance to make informed selections for your home. See the list of AIDP credited designers in your area.



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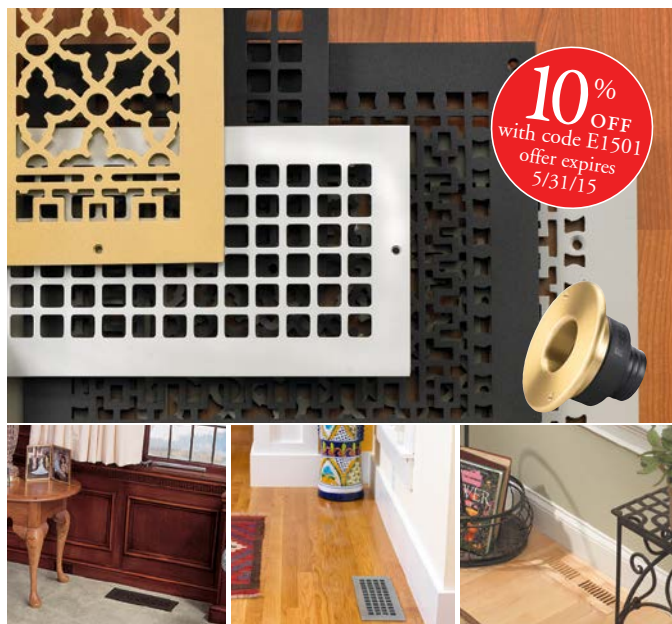
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# Spring Cleaning

Removing the Headache:  
Quick and Easy Ways to Get the Job Done!

We've all got that "to-do list of doom" during the spring season. We hate the idea of losing an entire week (or more) to scrubbing, wiping and disinfecting. Learn how to accomplish the tough jobs with time to spare and eliminate the need for an aspirin afterwards.

## Washers, Dryers and Dishwashers

- 1-2 cups bleach
- 2-3 cups vinegar
- Wire lint remover (made for dryers)
- Sponge and several clean cloths/rags

It may seem counterproductive, but your cleaners need cleaning, too. If the machines are dirty, everything you think they're cleaning will be dirty as well. The washer and dryer can be cleaned simultaneously and with little effort. Start by letting your washer fill at the hottest setting. When full, leave open and **ONLY** pour in the bleach. **DO NOT** pour in the vinegar.

Close your washer and let it agitate for a few moments. Open it back up and let it sit for 30 minutes to an hour. While your washer is soaking in the bleach bath, take time to clean out all of the lint from

your dryer. Remove the grate and run the wire lint remover through the back and around the insides. Once you've removed all the lint possible, put everything back together. Your washer is ready to cycle through now. Close the lid and let it run as normal, until the bleach mixture is gone. Take a clean cloth and wipe out the inside of the washer, **DO NOT** wipe the outside.

Next comes the vinegar bath. Repeat the same process for your washer, adding 2 cups vinegar when the water fills up. Let agitate and sit for another 30 minutes. At this time, take your sponge and dip it into the vinegar mixture in your washer. Wipe down the tops and outside of your washer and dryer with this mixture. Run a clean, dry cloth over them to finish. Let your washer run through another cycle or two to rinse the mixtures out completely before doing a load.



For your dishwasher, let it run through a cycle or begin this process after you've just used it. Take the remaining cup of vinegar and pour into the bottom where the filter and arms are. Close the machine and start a cycle, letting it run halfway through. Stop the machine and crack it open to let the vinegar mixture settle for a few minutes. Close the machine back up and let the cycle finish. Wipe inside with a clean cloth, be sure to pick out any food particles left behind in the grates and arms. Your machines will sparkle and be ready to report for cleaning duties all summer long!



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## Ovens

- 1-2 cups Ammonia
- Several tsp Baking Soda
- 1-2 cups Boiling Water

Preheat oven to 200° then turn it off. Pour ammonia and boiling water into two separate heat-safe dishes. Put ammonia dish on the middle rack and boiling water dish on the bottom rack. Close oven and let it sit overnight. Moisten a sponge with warm water and sprinkle baking soda on it. Wipe the oven clean. Be sure to rinse and add more baking soda to the sponge throughout the process, so as not to spread the grease back onto the clean surface.

Everything will melt off, even the crud-covered racks. For burners, add a 1/3 cup of ammonia to a freezer bag and place one burner inside. Seal and let sit overnight. Repeat the wiping process with the sponge and a bit more baking soda. Rinse and voila!



## Grout, Sinks, and Tubs

- Baking soda
- Vinegar
- Scrub brush with bristles and sponge

For these pesky areas, plain old chemistry is all it takes to remove dirt and grimy build-up. First, sprinkle baking soda along grout grooves, all over sinks and inside of tubs. If your shower is tiled, try coating the area with a splash of warm water before sprinkling on the baking soda, so it sticks. After everything is covered, spritz vinegar generously on top. You'll notice a reaction, which will cause the baking soda to fizz and bubble up. This is completely safe, even the kids can help scrub, which is the next step.

Take your scrubby, or an old toothbrush for the smaller areas, and begin to scrub after the bubbling mixture has been allowed to set in for at least five minutes but no longer than ten. Try not to wipe down muddy areas as you're scrubbing. You'll want the surface to be gritty, letting the mixture work as long as possible. Once you've scrubbed out all the grime, you can now rinse thoroughly and wipe clean with a sponge or moistened rags.



## Ceiling Fans, Light Fixtures and Electronics

- Old towels and/or pillowcases
- All-Purpose Cleaner Spray
- Rags/Microfiber Towels or Paper Towels
- Coffee Filters

Cleaning ceiling fans is always something we dread doing because the dust ends up falling on us. To avoid becoming a dust bunny yourself, simply slide a pillowcase over the blade or wrap the blade in a towel. Apply pressure to grab the clumps of dirt and pull off. The dust is now all inside of the pillowcase (or towel). Turn them inside out, give them a shake in the yard and throw them into the washing machine.



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Go over the blades once more with your choice of cleaner and some paper towels to finish the job. Secure a cloth or microfiber towel to your broom with a rubber band and use the handle to reach inconvenient areas that have collected dust throughout the year, such as around the bases of fixtures and ceiling corners.

Take a rag and run it over all of your electronics to collect the dust once more. Repeat the ceiling fan process by lightly spraying a paper towel with cleaner and going over the surfaces for a complete clean. Finish off by taking a coffee filter and wiping the electronics down to grab any leftover lint and cleaner. For TV screens, only use a coffee filter or microfiber towel, DO NOT spray cleaner on the screen. If you have spots or smudges, it is best to purchase a cleaner designed to be safe for electronics. Use this to freshen up computer monitors, tablets, and other devices with screens as well.

## Blinds, Curtains, and Upholstery

- Steam Cleaner
- Fabric Freshener Spray
- Warm Water and Mild Soap

When cleaning curtains and upholstery, there's nothing better than a steam cleaner. You can rent one but it will be worth every penny if you buy your own. Instead of having to take down your curtains, wash them, iron them out, and hope that this entire process doesn't fade your colors and patterns, a simple steam clean will do the trick in half the time. They work great for carpets, throw pillows and sofas, granite countertops, tile, and much more. For your living room furniture – recliners, sofas and rugs – simply run the steam cleaner as directed and finish off with a fabric freshener. Be sure to spray the freshener on the fabric from a distance, to avoid accidental staining..

For blinds (vertical or mini), take the whole thing down and throw it in the bathtub with some warm water and mild soap of your choice. Allow them to soak for half an hour or so, then wash them with a sponge as if you're doing dishes. The dirt will come off immediately and the process is much easier than standing up and cleaning each blind individually. Allow them to dry by patting them down, hanging them back up, and opening your windows for the day. The breeze will dry the blinds and invite fresh air into the home, freeing you from all your cleaning fumes, and lessening the chance of your getting a literal headache.



*Invest in cleaning tools that will make your chores a lot easier to accomplish, such as extension handles for dusters, microfiber towels, buckets and rubber gloves to keep your hands out of harsh chemicals. Once the cleaning is done, light a few candles and enjoy the freshness. Getting through summer will be a breeze once you've tackled the big messes. Some general tips while you're at it: start from top to bottom, never mix chemicals – even if the internet says it's okay – and play some music and enjoy take-out while going through the motions.*

*Starting from top to bottom will eliminate the need to clean areas twice, as dust will naturally fall down and collect on the lower levels. Mixing chemicals, like vinegar and bleach, will cause a reaction that produces chlorine gas, which is poisonous and can irritate the eyes, nose and throat. Never mix ammonia with anything; it's powerful all by itself. Getting take-out and turning up the tunes will allow you to enjoy your time more and eliminate the need to cook after a long, hard day of chores. Spring cleaning has never been so easy or so stress-free!*





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# 2015 Color Trends



We live in a fast paced world, full of ever- evolving technology, overloaded schedules, and global economic and political stress. We deserve a place to come home at the end of our busy day where the cares of the world fade away - a place surrounded by our favorite things and beautiful colors.

Now more than ever, we need environments doused in color that has the power to delight, inspire, and refresh. Who doesn't need a dose of happy right about now? That's what 2015 holds for us in the world of home décor color. The forecast for home decor includes colors dripping with optimism and hope, candy colors and jewel tones paired with just enough sparkle and warm metallics to keep them grounded, yet energized.





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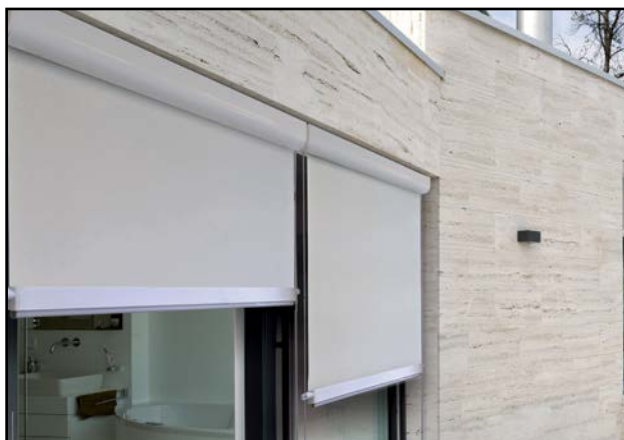


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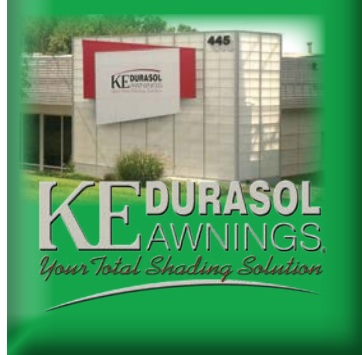
## Gennius



## Retractable



## Solar Screens





# Greens

will be as popular as ever



We'll see happier, cleaner colors paired with white, black, and gray. A bit nostalgic of 1960s Palm Springs and 1980s Preppy, the colors of 2015 include your favorites of yesteryear paired in new and exciting combinations that will look fresh and invigorating.

Greens will be as popular as ever, with trending ones including mint, jade, and emerald. There are indications that the olive greens currently hot in fashion will begin to emerge in décor, but it remains to be seen if enough time has passed since the last olive trend for consumers to really buy into that one. If you see it, it will definitely show up in unexpected combinations with fresher colors like peach, blush pink, and mint green.

While pink and peach beiges fade into our memories, blush pink and true peach will appear in purer renditions. I believe we will see coral hues beginning to replace oranges and reds as accent colors in interiors. Peach and cantaloupe will add the flavor needed to punch up the blues and greens and to enliven grays and blacks in your interior color palette.

“ If gray is the new beige, indigo blue is the new black. ”

If gray is the new beige, indigo blue is the new black. Indigo and navy will be the perfect “neutral” that will ground the fresh, new color palette.

Predictable beige and gray are no longer the only way to go when choosing an upholstery fabric for your sofa. Instead, a sofa in your favorite color is a better choice for the largest piece of upholstered seating in your living or family room. Is your favorite color blue? Then choose a turquoise, royal, or navy sofa. Love yellow? A sunny yellow sofa will never get old – just make sure to choose a solid color and you will be able to change out pillows and blankets in different colors and patterns to change the look in a couple of years.







While you keep your sofa solid, put some pattern on your chairs to keep things interesting. Color pairings like coral and aqua, raspberry and navy, and mint and emerald will look fresh for 2015.

For upholstered chairs, window treatments, and throw pillows, look for traditional patterns in contemporary colorways. Florals, Asian motifs, and deconstructed geometric patterns will be seen in fabrics and rugs in 2015.

To warm up the cleaner, fresher colors, trending metals in 2015 include bold golds, champagne or winter gold, polished nickel, and copper. Wood will continue to be weathered, grayed, and bleached. As for brown paint colors? Not so much. Warm up your space with the real deal – distressed and weathered wood is being applied to walls and ceilings in interesting ways. Classic marble and light-colored quartz are the top choices for

stone this year, particularly in countertop options. Painted kitchen cabinets continue to be the top choice in new home builds, especially in whites and light gray tones.

In spite of the fact that color marketing giant, Pantone, named the burgundy-hued “Marsala” as 2015 Color of the Year, I don’t believe consumers are ready to reintroduce the mauves and wines that dominated home décor in the 1980s and 1990s. Many of my clients are just now banishing those from their homes! While the 2014 Color of the Year was Radiant Orchid, I have yet to see that color on the shelves in home décor stores. Pantone’s Color of the Year tends to have more of an impact on print marketing, fashion, and fingernail polish than it does on residential paint colors and home décor trends, so you shouldn’t put a lot of stock in it for choosing a color for your wall or sofa.



If you are ready for a little happiness in your home décor, 2015 just might be the year for you. Adding color to your life and your rooms can lift your spirits and inspire new ideas for the new year. And don’t forget to pick a new sofa in your favorite color!

*Kristie Barnett is an expert in residential color, home staging, and interior decoration. For all the latest trends in home décor and color trends, you can follow her at [TheDecorologist.com](http://TheDecorologist.com).*

# CHEF

# AARÓN SÁNCHEZ



Aarón Sánchez is the chef/owner of **Palo-ma** in Stamford, CT (opened July 2014) and in November 2014 will open **ALEGRE** in New York, NY. He recently opened **Johnny Sánchez** alongside friend and colleague Chef John Besh in Baltimore, Maryland (August 2014) and New Orleans, LA (October 2014). Aarón is the co-star of Food Network's hit series, **Chopped**, as well as the star of FOX Life's cooking series **3 Minutos con Aarón** and the travel-food series **MOTOCHEFS**. The son of celebrated Mexican cooking authority Zarela Martinez, Aarón's passion, commitment and skills have placed him among the country's leading contemporary Latin chefs.

Celebrated by critics and contemporaries alike, Aarón recently appeared at the White House as a guest chef and received the "National Award" at the Flavors of Passion Awards, honoring the nation's best Latin chefs. He has also starred on multiple Food Network shows including: **Chopped**, **Heat Seekers**, **Chefs vs. City**, **Best Thing I Ever Ate** and **Next Iron Chef**. In 2011, he appeared on the debut season of **The Best Thing I Ever Made**, where Food Network stars share their culinary secrets.

In addition to being a restaurateur, television personality, consultant and spokesperson, Aarón is an author and entrepreneur. His first book, **La Comida del**

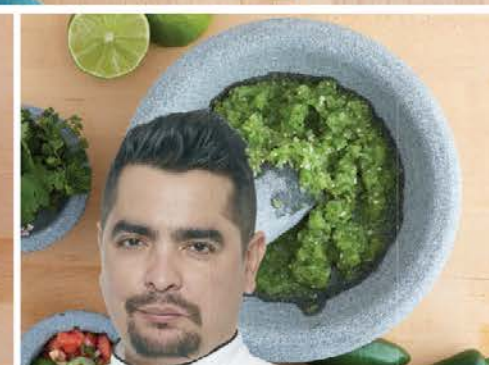
**Barrio**, was published in May 2003. His second book, **Simple Food, Big Flavor: Unforgettable Mexican-Inspired Recipes from My Kitchen to Yours**, was released in October 2011. Aarón also designed a line of cookware products in collaboration with IMUSA and is a spokesperson for their "Global Kitchen" line. He is also a Chef Ambassador for "Why Hunger," a leader in building the movement to end hunger and poverty.

Aarón's creativity extends far beyond the kitchen. He is a partner at Daredevil Tattoo in NYC and is an avid music lover; he enjoys cooking to the sounds of Alabama Shakes, Amos Lee, Sade, and The Cure. Aarón lives in Brooklyn, New York.



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# CHILES RELLENOS WITH VEGETABLE PICADILLO

Aarón Sánchez for Simple Food, Big Flavor



**Serves 4**  
*as an appetizer*

## INGREDIENTS

4 large poblano chiles  
1 tablespoon canola oil  
¼ cup finely chopped white onion  
¼ cup finely chopped red bell pepper  
¼ cup corn kernels, fresh or frozen  
2 tablespoons chopped fresh cilantro  
½ cup diced queso blanco or Jack cheese  
1 tablespoon Cilantro-Cotija Pesto

## DIRECTIONS

1. Turn two of your stove's burners to medium-high. Place 2 poblano chiles on each burner and roast them, turning them occasionally with tongs, until they're charred all over and soft but not mushy, about 7 minutes. Transfer them to a big bowl or soup pot, cover it tightly with plastic wrap, and let the chiles steam for 10 minutes. Peel them, being careful to keep them intact. Rub off the skins; don't rinse under water.
2. Preheat the oven to 350°F. Heat the oil in a skillet over medium heat. Add the onion, bell pepper, and corn and cook until the onion has softened and the pepper is just cooked through, about 5 minutes. Stir in the cilantro and transfer the mixture to a large bowl to cool slightly. Add the cheese and Cotija-Cotija Pesto and mix well.
3. Cut a lengthwise slit in each pepper, pull out and discard the seeds and veins, but keep the stem on. Divide the filling among the chiles. Lay them in a 1-quart baking dish and bake for 10 to 12 minutes, until the cheese is melting. Serve at once.

**Note:** If you don't have a gas stove, put your peppers on a baking sheet and cook them under the broiler until they char, turning several times, about 10 minutes all together.



## CILANTRO-COTIJA PESTO

Aarón Sánchez for Simple Food, Big Flavor

**Makes 2 Cups**

## INGREDIENTS

1 cup unsalted raw or roasted pumpkin seeds  
½ bunch fresh cilantro, stems trimmed 2 inches from the bottom  
1 cup fresh basil leaves  
1 cup olive oil, plus extra for storage  
½ serrano chile or 1 jalapeno, coarsely chopped (include seeds for additional spice)  
2 garlic cloves, coarsely chopped  
½ crumbled cotija (preferably Cacique brand) or shredded pecorino or Parmesan  
Salt and freshly ground black pepper

## DIRECTIONS

4. Preheat the oven to 400°F
5. Spread the pumpkin seeds in an even layer on a dry baking sheet. Put the sheet in the oven and bake, checking them and shaking the pan every 3 minutes, until they start to dance, puff up and brown lightly, about 10 minutes. Take the pan out of the oven, transfer the seeds to a bowl and let cool to room temperature.
6. Put the cilantro, basil and olive oil into a food processor, and puree for 2 minutes. Add the chile, garlic, pumpkin seeds and cotija and pulse until you have a coarse puree. Season with salt and pepper to taste.
7. To store, put it into a container with a tight-fitting lid and pour ¼ inch of olive oil over the surface to keep out the air. Each time you use it, stir that oil in, and replace with another ¼ inch of oil before closing the container, this makes an airtight seal that will keep it tasting fresh for up to 10 days.



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# BIRRIA

## (MEXICAN STEW)



**Serves 6**



### INGREDIENTS

2 tablespoons olive oil  
1 pound beef top round, cubed for stew  
1 pound baby back pork ribs, cut into 1-inch pieces by your butcher  
2 ½ quarts beef or chicken stock (low-sodium store-bought is fine)  
1 medium white or yellow onion, coarsely chopped  
6 whole garlic cloves, peeled  
1 cup Chile Colorado Sauce  
2 fresh or dried bay leaves  
Finely chopped leaves of 6 sprigs fresh thyme  
1 tablespoon dried whole oregano (preferably Mexican)  
Salt and freshly ground black pepper  
2 limes, cut into wedges, for serving

### DIRECTIONS

1. Heat a large, deep heavy pot or Dutch oven over medium heat. Pour in the olive oil, and working in batches to avoid crowding your pan, brown the beef and ribs on all sides, transferring the meat to a plate as it's browned.
2. Pour in the stock and stir in the onion and garlic, scraping the browned bits from the pan with a wooden spoon. Return all the meat to the pot, bring to a boil, then reduce the heat and cook at a gentle simmer for 1 hour, until the meats are almost tender.
3. Stir in the Chile Colorado Sauce, bay leaves, thyme, oregano, and salt and pepper to taste. Simmer until the meat is tender, about 30 minutes or more. Add more salt if necessary.
4. Serve the stew in big bowls with lime wedges on the side for squeezing.

### CHILE COLORADO SAUCE

## Makes 2 Quarts

### INGREDIENTS

3 medium Spanish or white onions, quartered  
8 medium fresh tomatillos, husked and washed  
4 plum tomatoes, cored and quartered  
8 whole garlic cloves, peeled  
Olive oil, for drizzling  
1 ancho chile (½ ounce), stemmed, seeded, and deveined  
2 guajillo chiles (½ ounce), stemmed, seeded, and deveined  
1 quart chicken stock (low-sodium store-bought is fine)  
Salt and freshly ground black pepper

### DIRECTIONS

1. Preheat the broiler.
2. Put the onion, tomatillos, tomatoes and garlic on a baking pan and drizzle them with olive oil. Put the baking sheet under the broiler and cook without turning until the vegetables start to get charred, about 7 minutes. Remove, set aside, and let cool to room temperature.
3. In a large dry skillet over medium-low heat, toast the guajillos, turning them over halfway through, just until they smell great, about 1 minute. Transfer them to a bowl, cover them with hot water and let them soak until they're soft, about 30 minutes. Drain the chiles and discard the soaking water.
4. Combine the vegetables and chiles in a blender with the chicken stock (you'll have to work in batches) and puree until the mixture is very smooth. Transfer each batch to a bowl as it's done, and stir the batches together well. Season with salt and pepper to taste.
5. Store it in an airtight container in the refrigerator for up to a week or in the freezer for up to a month.



# PALOMA MARGARITA



## Flavor profile:

*rich flavors, soft acidity, solid kick,  
gently sweet (color - dark pink/  
light red, from Hibiscus)*

## Glass:

coupe, rim with lime, tajin or sea salt  
rim, lime wheel garnish

## INGREDIENTS

2oz chinaco silver tequila  
1oz Fresh Lime Juice  
½ oz House Orange tincture (or triple sec)  
½ oz grand marnier  
½ oz hibiscus nectar (or a splash of cassis)

## DIRECTIONS

Shake, double strain.

# TAMALES

## DE MOLE AMARILLO



**Product:**  
16 Quart Steamer



### INGREDIENTS

10 dried corn husks  
1½ cup masa harina  
1¼ cup chicken stock  
1 teaspoon salt  
1 cup shredded cooked chicken  
*Amarillo Mole*

### DIRECTIONS

1. In a large mixing bowl soak the corn husks for 30 minutes.
2. In another bowl, add the masa harina and salt and with a whisk, mix well. Slowly add the chicken stock to the masa harina and mix well until a dough-like consistency. Make 10 ping-pong ball size balls of dough.
3. In a plastic-lined tortilla press (both sides), press out each ball of dough to form a 5-inch round. Carefully remove the tortilla, and place a spoonful of amarillo mole sauce, a spoonful of shredded cooked chicken. Fold each side of the tortilla and place in a corn husk length-wise. Secure both ends with a string or part of the husk used as a string, and repeat process.
4. Steam for 30 minutes.

### MOLE AMARILLO

#### INGREDIENTS

3 guajillo chiles, seeded and deveined  
1 ancho chile, seeded and deveined  
1 medium onion  
4 garlic cloves  
5 medium tomatillos  
2 medium green tomatoes  
15 black peppercorns  
7 whole cloves  
3 large Hoja Santa leaves or 5 dried Hoja Santa leaves  
3 tablespoons lard or vegetable oil  
3 tablespoons masa harina  
3 tablespoons water

#### DIRECTIONS

1. Toast chiles on a griddle. Remove and place in a bowl. Cover with boiling water and let stand for 20 minutes.
2. In a hot cast iron pan, roast the onion, garlic, tomatillos, and green tomatoes. Roast until well charred on all sides. Place in a bowl and let cool.
3. Meanwhile grind peppercorns and cloves in coffee grinder. When the vegetables are cool enough to handle peel off the charred skin and puree them in a blender with the hoja santa leaves, drained chiles, and spices.
4. In hot pot, heat the lard, add the pureed strained sauce, and cook for 5 minutes.
5. In a small bowl, add the masa harina and water. Mix until well blended. Add this mixture to the sauce and cook for 5 minutes more, until done.



# Get Organized!

## *De-Clutter*, One Room at a Time

*Every room has a purpose. Yet, more often than not, we find ourselves doing paperwork in the kitchen and eating dinner in the living room. This year, spend some time de-cluttering so each area goes back to being functional for its specific duty, and you go back to enjoying that room for what it's intended to be.*

### *Bathroom* - Vanities & Linen Closets

Linen closets and bathroom vanities can fill up over time and before we know it, we're rummaging through piles of junk to get to what we need. By installing a few convertible shelves and throwing away items no longer needed, you'll save space and restore functionality in minutes.

First, take everything out of the closet. Spread all the items out so that you can easily group them together by size and purpose, and of course you'll be making a "throw away" pile for expired medications and make-up, as well as things you simply don't use anymore. Once you've sorted through your items, take a few minutes to wipe down the shelves and remove any dust off of the items themselves.

Install cabinet shelving or a removable cubby system into the closet for small items, such as perfume bottles, hand towels, and nail polish. These shelves will help you keep everything front and center, easy to reach and no longer hidden from view. For the bigger items, such as towels and packages of bathroom tissue, make sure they're neatly stacked on the bottom shelves. The rule of thumb here: start from top to bottom, organizing from smallest to largest.

Now on to the vanity. For most of us, this is simply the bathroom counter, where all of our daily-use items live. To organize this space, buy a make-up carousel for storing tiny items like eye-shadow and tweezers. Keep hair bows, brushes, and moisturizers in small shelf bins. Line everything up neatly along the back of your counter. Wipe it clean and add a few candles or a bowl of potpourri and presto! Your vanity looks as good as a model home's.



### *Bedroom* - Closet & Dresser

If there is one thing we hate about cleaning our bedrooms, it's going through our closets and dressers. There's just so much stuff! Shoes we never wear (but might!), and boxes of who-knows-what's in them. It's time to reorganize and refresh your belongings.



## *Kitchen -* Pantry, Fridge & Countertops

First, start by going shopping. Not at a store, but in your own closet. Take a bag and thumb through your hangers and shelves. If you spot garments and accessories that you don't see yourself wearing, or they don't fit anymore, toss them into your bag. Granted, this "shopping bag" won't be yours when you're done with it; it goes to charity, or you can sell your items online or to Plato's Closet for some extra cash.

Next, you'll want to take out those mystery junk boxes. We all have them. Some of us think we know what's in there, most of us will admit we have no idea. Nevertheless, open them and sort. Throw items out if they're useless. Keepsakes and holiday decorations do not belong in your personal closet, so set these types of boxes aside to be put in the attic or garage (we'll get to that later).

Finally, focus on the accessories and the dresser. Place belts and handbags on a hanger or install hooks for a more functional, organized look. Use plastic bins to store gloves, undies, and other small accessories. As for the dresser, focus on one drawer at a time. Get rid of anything you don't wear or need, such as old pajamas and socks with holes in them. Reorganize by hanging up any items that are wrinkled and be sure to sanitize the drawers before filling them back up; your dresser will thank you for it.

The kitchen is the heart of the home, thus making it a high-traffic area. There's usually always some type of clutter in the kitchen because it is constantly being used. Here are some tips for organizing the hub of the house.

Start with the pantry. Have you ever gone to the store and purchased an ingredient that you already had at home but didn't notice because it was buried deep in your pantry? Eliminate that from happening again in five minutes. First, remove everything and wipe off the shelves. Install a spice rack (they're unbelievably functional) and create more space by adding storage bins on the floor of your pantry as well.

If you have an overload of canned/packaged goods that you haven't used and probably won't in the near future, put them in a bag and donate them. The same rule of thumb as before also applies here: top to bottom, smallest to largest. Canned goods should be stored somewhere in between (you don't want a can from the top shelf falling on your toe!). Extra paper goods, like napkins, and lightweight items should be placed on the higher shelves. Make use of that Tupperware you have but can't find the lid to by placing loose items like gravy and oatmeal packets in them.

Most refrigerators follow that rule of thumb as well: the higher shelves are smaller, the ones on the bottom are larger, reserved for milk jugs and such. Keep it this way for maximum safety and space. A helpful tip while sorting: organize by "use by" date. Things that are going to last a while can be stored in the back, while you should have your soon-to-expire items up front so you'll use them first. Take out anything on the door of your refrigerator that you haven't used in the last 6 months and throw it away, it's only taking up space!

Your kitchen counters probably serve the biggest purpose in the space. They provide you with a workspace, a place to set your groceries, an area to set up serving trays, and more. So why take away space from yourself by cluttering your countertops with things you don't use every day. Take all small appliances that you haven't used in the last week off of your counters and store them in a cabinet or give them away if you don't ever put them to use. Mix 2 cups of hot water with a tablespoon of concentrated bleach, and disinfect the countertops, making sure to reach all corners. Once bleached, go back over the counters with just hot water. Put a shallow, decorative bowl at the end of your countertop as a designated spot for mail, keys, cards, and anything else that normally ends up sprawled across the counter.





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## *Living Room -*

Entertainment Center & Kids' Play Area

Every entertainment center could use some reorganizing, and if you have children, you know their area of the living room is always a little awry. Invest in storage ottomans. They appear to be extra seating tucked away in a corner, but open the tops and you've got a large box for use as a toy chest. Place all of your children's toys inside and put the top back on. Your guests will never know they're sitting on Legos.

You can designate a storage-seat to each child, so only his or her toys will be stored in there, and it will be their job to keep it organized. A good way to section off the play area is with a rug. Lay one down (make it a fun color or odd shape) in their corner, add a small work table (or large chest that can double as more storage) with the seating, and they'll feel like they have their own living room altogether.

The entertainment center has those convenient doors that we like to close to hide the mess. It is time to open those doors and deal with the clutter that lurks behind them. Start by grabbing some twist-ties and gather up all the extra cords and wires spilling from your electronics. Tying them all together and hiding with cord covers is a good way to reduce the eye sore. Wipe down all the shelving and add small candles or another decorative items to make the space more inviting when the doors are open. For DVDs and music, be sure to buy a storage rack to keep them neatly stacked and easy to retrieve. Reserve drawers at the bottom for game system controls and other add-ons for your entertainment system you don't want to lose.

## *Home Office*

Whether you work from home or just have a computer room, chances are it is probably in need of organization. The best way to organize this small, yet significant space is by investing in actual office supplies.

Wireless is the way to go. Wireless keyboards, a wireless mouse and printer, and wireless routers are the best for eliminating all those cords that clutter the area. For the remaining essential wires, invest in cord covers and place a plastic office mat under your desk and where your chair is going to roll around. Not only will it be easier to maneuver, but by placing the computer tower, paper shredder, and any other electrical equipment you have on the mat, you will reduce the risk of electrical fires and shock or power surge dangers.

Another thing that will keep you in tip-top organizational shape is a filing cabinet. Most are fireproof and come with locks, so you can keep important documents like passports and children's birth certificates in them. Insert filing folders into the drawers and color-code the sections so you know what goes where. For example, medical files may be in red and pay stubs and tax information may be coded in green.





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## Get Organized!



### Attic

The attic is usually where all the stuff we never use goes. Why do we keep it? The best way to organize this spot is to get rid of anything up there that you haven't used for the past year. Old boxes, especially cardboard, attract insects such as termites and roaches, and can make your home an unpleasant place. Take everything out of those cardboard boxes and put it all in plastic bins instead. If the bins aren't clear, make sure you label each one, so you know what you're reaching for when it comes time to use a seasonal item.

If you have old furniture up there, such as a table or a dresser, you can make use of it, instead of letting it collect dust. Wipe the furniture clean and place miscellaneous items in the drawers or on the tabletop in bins by purpose and function, such as Christmas decorations, labeled accordingly. Those mystery boxes you had in your personal clothes closet belong up here, in the attic. If you're storing photos or other keepsakes, make sure they are in an airtight container and sealed to maintain preservation.



### Garage

The garage is a multi-purpose space, holding everything from your cars to your lawn and garden tools. Garage shelving is one of the most important things to install in your home. Take time out to organize and group your items according to purpose, then place them on the shelves in a functional manner. For example, all of your hardware tools should be in one place (install a tool wall with hooks to save the most space), so you don't end up looking for the pesticide and actually finding a hammer.

Once you've started organizing your shelves, make sure the dangerous chemicals are up high and out of reach of pets and children, while the heavy and dangerous equipment is on the floor or close to the ground. You don't want a bottle of rat poison readily available for the dog to get into and you don't want a chainsaw on the top shelf in case it falls. Place vinyl coverings over your work surfaces so they're easier to wipe clean. Small items, such as screws and bottles of superglue can be stored in bins to save space. Sporting goods should have their own corner, complete with the installation of racks to hang bicycles and other equipment up and out of the way. With these organizational tools, your garage will be safer and feel bigger.

---

Mopping and dusting are important chores, but without organization, you're really only cleaning around the mess. By de-cluttering these rooms, you're not only saving space and increasing functionality, but you're cleaning your entire house without meaning to. If you've got a bunch of extra stuff to get rid of, consider having a yard sale and making some extra cash to put towards more storage bins and shelving units!

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# Hilary Farr Kitchens

## Open Concept

To create an open concept layout, the wall between the kitchen and living area was removed.

## Neutral Cabinetry

Neutral cabinetry was installed to create a traditional design.



“

An island and portal cutout chairs were added as a dimensional centerpiece to **compliment the décor in the rest of the house.**





# Professional Tools



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# Hilary Farr Kitchens

## Contrasting Elements

This kitchen emulates style and sophistication with contrasting elements in a grand open space.

## Variety of Accents

Wide plank, matte-finish floors offset the shiny kitchen finishes, giving the space a variety of accents that mesh several styles into one complete look.

## A Personal Touch

The choice and placement of light fixtures work with the general aesthetic of the house, while adding a personal touch and appealing to the owners' unique taste.



“  
The framed ceiling  
**defines the space**  
and mimics the look of a  
coffered ceiling.”





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# Hilary Farr Kitchens



“

The stools add a nice pop of color and **make a design statement on their own** by adding versatility and flair

## Welcoming

Fun, inviting, and edgy, this kitchen welcomes youth

## Enhanced Shelving

The black walls, both a bold and practical color choice, enhance the shelving and highlight the light fixtures, which cast a soft, golden glow over the island to warm the space.







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# Hilary Farr Kitchens

## The Challenge & Solution

The challenge: he likes modern, she likes traditional. The solution: A farmhouse sink, shaker cabinetry, and a simple faucet for her; contemporary lights and chairs, a sleek backsplash, and a range hood for him.

### Countertops

White quartz Countertops tie the two looks together.

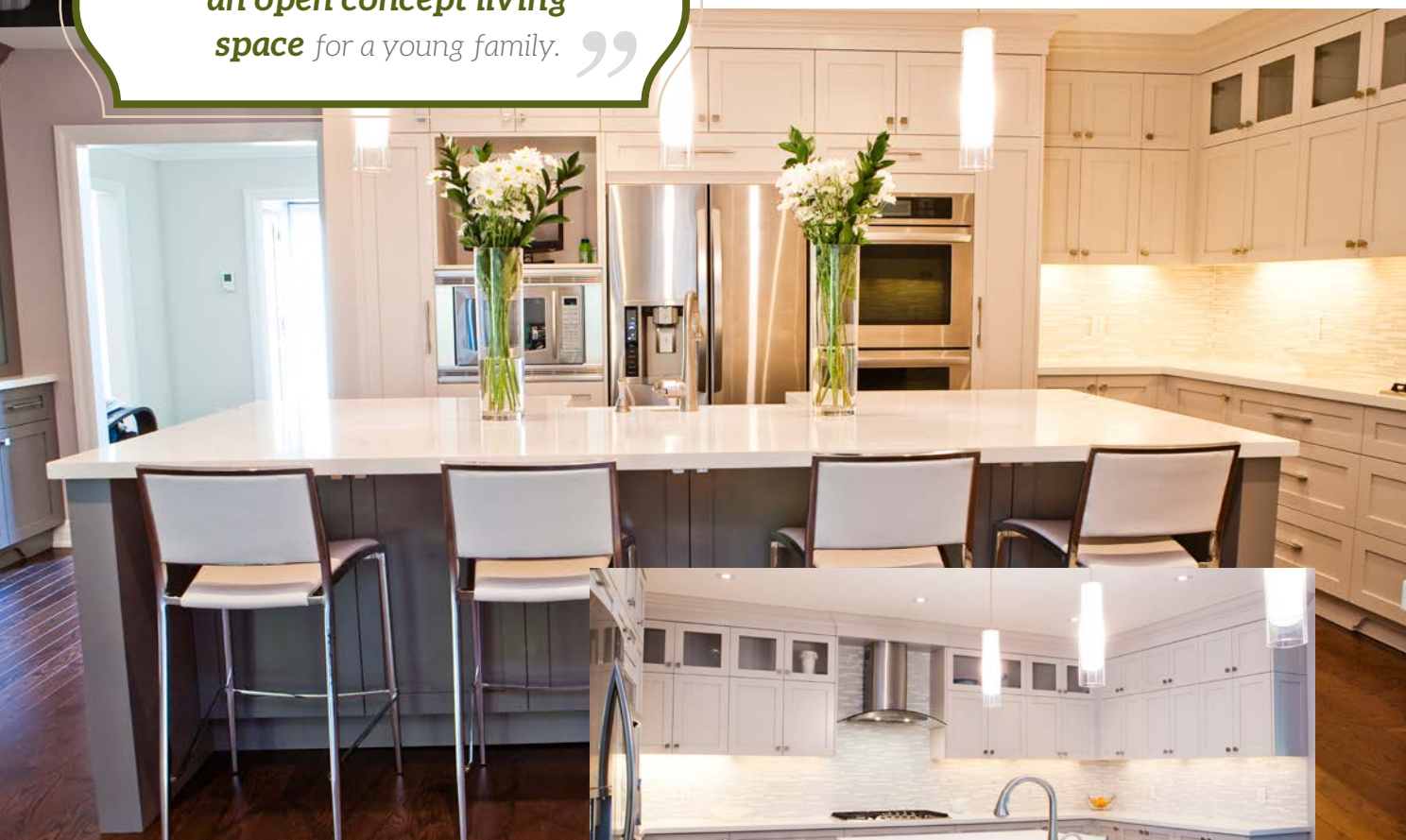
### Cabinet Doors

Simple shaker cabinet doors, painted a soft pale grey, and a contrasting dark grey island and display storage at the dining room entry made this a transitional space.

### Pocket Doors

The pocket doors allow the kitchen to be separated from the dining room, for more formal gatherings, but the glass panels are a contemporary look and don't make either space feel claustrophobic when the doors are closed.

“ This 1940's home **features an open concept living space** for a young family. ”





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# Hilary Farr Kitchens



“

With the need for extra room in mind, **the play on light & dark design elements** help to make the kitchen feel airy, welcoming, and open.

## Victorian

This kitchen is in a fourteen foot wide, Victorian Era home. Open shelves were installed along the main wall to create a wider space that is still completely functional.

## Storage

Additional storage was installed in the bamboo base cabinets with a typical European deep drawer system.

## Countertops

White CaesarStone countertops and oversized porcelain tiles on the wall compliment the design.

## Rear Doors

Rear doors leading to the garden made with clear glass let in natural light and increase the sense of depth.





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# Hilary Farr Dining Rooms



“

*For this very narrow, traditional home,  
a dining area with a modern touch  
and visual manipulation*

*was the best route in design.*



**Dining Chairs**

The dining chairs have a higher back, which draws the eye upward, while giving the space a contemporary, sophisticated feel.

**Brown Hues**

Various hues of brown give the illusion of a more open area.





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# Hilary Farr Dining Rooms

## Original Design

The large open space, while grand and roomy, lacked substance in the original design.

“

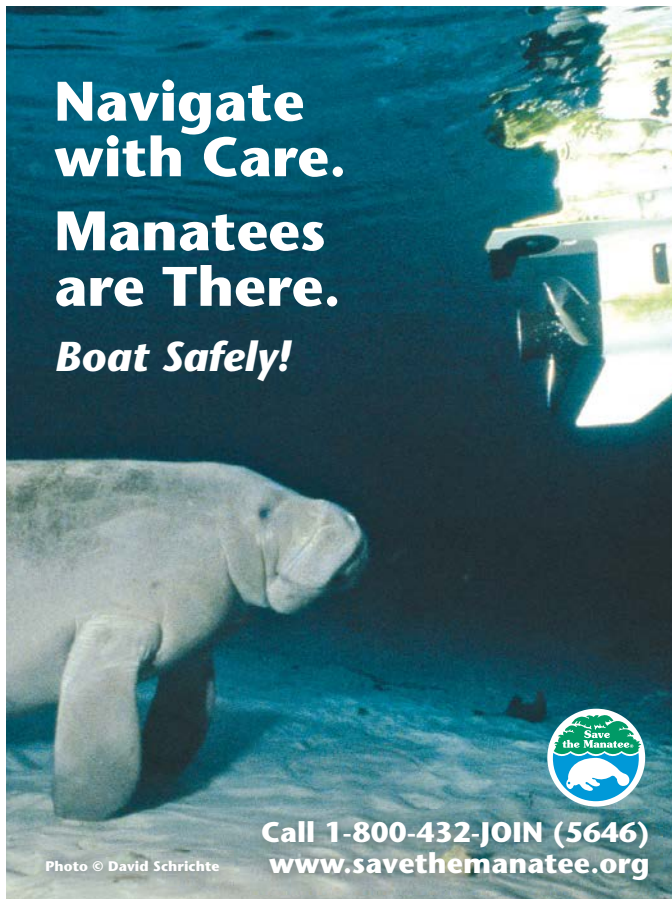
A refined chandelier hangs above the dining table made of reclaimed wood and oxidized metal.

**It's a chic and edgy collision, a perfect blend of the two opposite elements.**

Together they create a visual statement, giving this dining area real presence and personal style.







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Hilary Farr

# Combination Kitchen & Dining Room

## The Goal

The goal in this space was to create an open concept kitchen and eat-in area that is both functional for informal family meals, but elegant at the same time.

## Natural Light

Natural light is enhanced in the space with a skylight and pale neutral colors.

## Focal Point

To create a large focal point, a cabinet was custom made for the dining area to be wired for a television, but still has a traditional design.

“

The updated French Country style **combines simple floors and cabinetry with contemporary countertops**

to bring the kitchen and dining area together.







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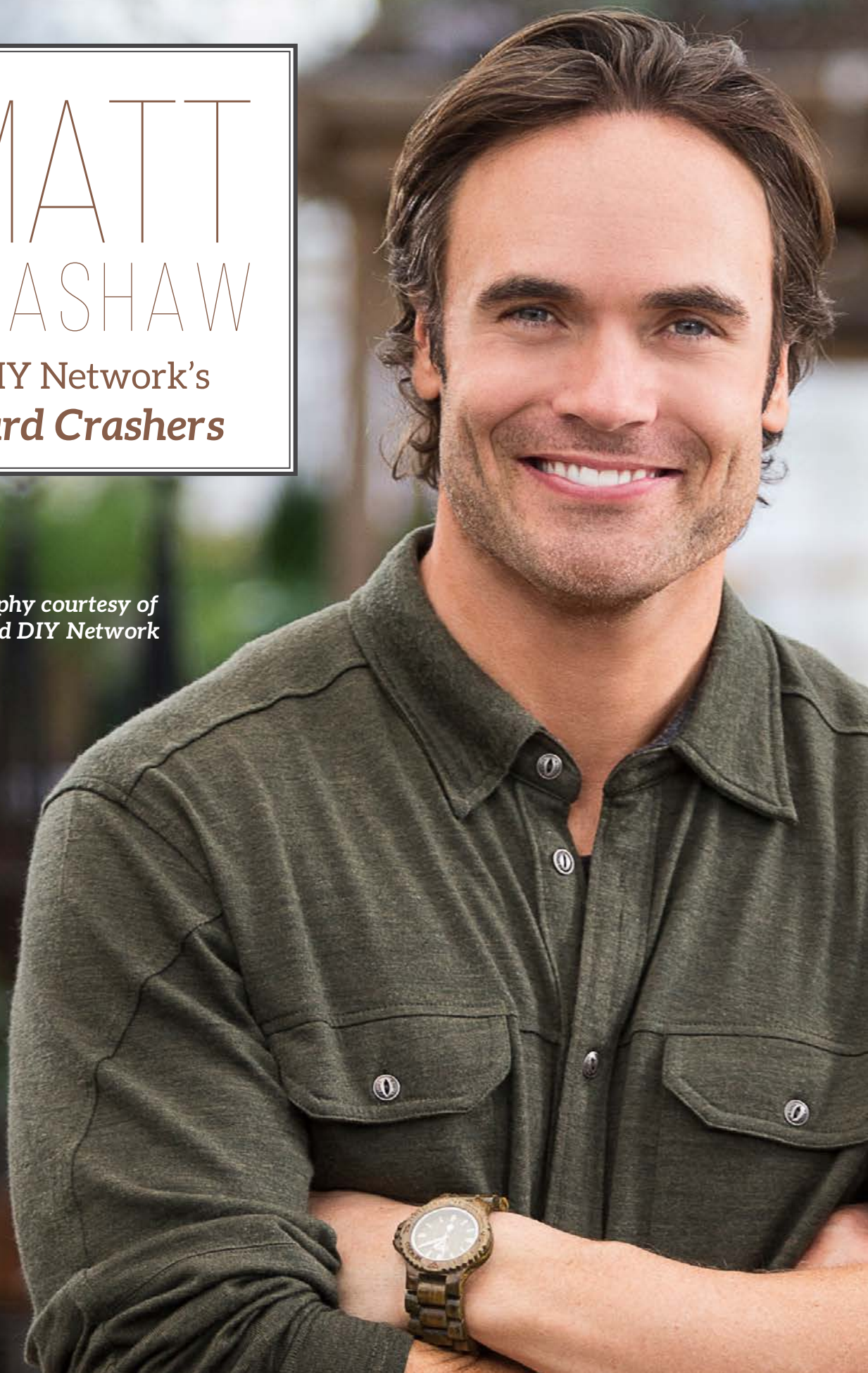
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# MATT BLASHAW

DIY Network's  
***Yard Crashers***

*Photography courtesy of  
HGTV and DIY Network*









# MATT BLASHAW BACKYARDS



Licensed contractor Matt Blashaw is everything you want in a versatile handyman and then some. His home improvement company once used the slogan “One Call Fixes It All” and Matt made a point of always delivering on that promise. So how does a guy this young get to be this good? Easy – he grew up in a lumberyard! A native of Orange County, Calif., Matt spent his teen years working at his father’s lumberyard before graduating from Chapman University. He then moved on to a variety of jobs in the construction and entertainment industries. A stint with the technical services group at Disney taught him about show effects and electrical installation. Today,

when he’s not sharing his expertise with DIY Network viewers, Matt works as a realtor and develops and builds homes in Orange County. Matt takes a fearless approach to home remodeling and says he’s never afraid to make mistakes. After all, that’s often when he learns the most. If you’re thinking about taking on a do-it-yourself project, take his advice and just go for it. Matt hosts DIY Network’s *Yard Crashers* and HGTV’s *Vacation House For Free*.

Could your backyard use a facelift this spring? Check some of these designs by Matt for a little inspiration.

*\*Photos courtesy of HGTV and DIY Network*



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# MATT BLASHAW BACKYARDS

## VINTAGE Hillside



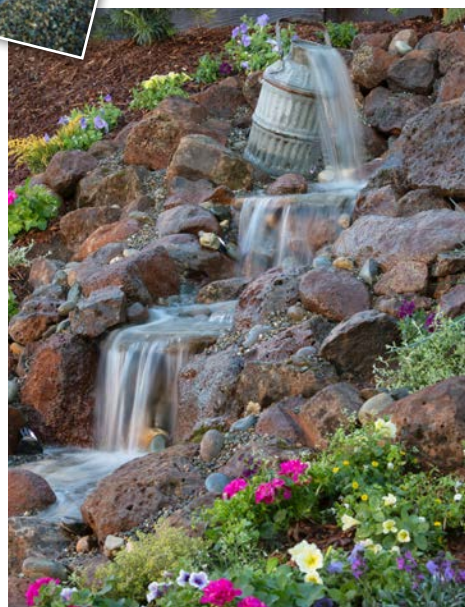
- The transformation of this vintage hillside retreat includes with a massive metal and wood pergola, a smoker with live edge surround, a dining area big enough for the whole family, and a breathtaking hillside with flowing waterfall and tons of plants.

- A fire pit and seating area sits atop an elevated boulder patio, surrounded by a privacy screen.

- The hillside is covered with lush landscaping and a cascading waterfall with dual vintage oil can spout.

- The dining area is big enough for the whole family.

- The existing patio is stained, bringing more color to the yard, and topped with a large pergola, featuring intricate metal art completing the vintage design. The existing patio is staying and being topped with a huge pergola







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-Joe & Bonnie V., St. Charles, MO

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# MATT BLASHAW BACKYARDS



## RUSTIC OUTDOOR KITCHEN

- The space features a fire pit surrounded by boulders, a reclaimed wood water feature, and the ultimate rustic outdoor kitchen.
- An amazing barbecue station, perfect for entertaining, and topped with a redwood arbor, is made from reclaimed wood, includes a built-in refrigerator, a gas barbecue, and zinc countertops.
- A gigantic boulder fire pit and mature landscaping give life to the backyard. The fire pit is filled with lava rock for a nice natural look.

- The patio is the ultimate hangout with a dining and seating area, an outdoor TV, new lighting surrounded by a rehabbed patio cover and stained concrete.
- The party continues through the yard with a game area featuring a bean bag toss, and redwood benches.
- The space is completed with a reclaimed wood water feature, more landscaping, a newly painted fence, and plenty of sod.



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# MATT BLASHAW BACKYARDS



## CHARMING SOUTHERN RETREAT

- This design is everything the homeowners wanted, starting with a fire pit that is surrounded by a seating wall, all on a flagstone patio, a massive cedar pergola and deck, and a Texas sized smoker.
- Handmade wooden garden arbors mark the side entrances while lush the landscaping helps to create a grand entrance to the yard.
- A dry creek bed winds between the fire pit seating area and the new deck.
- The curves continue with a massive cedar deck and pergola, topped off with a beautiful dining area, a smoker, and surrounded by tons of plants.





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# MATT BLASHAW BACKYARDS



## BEACH RETREAT

- The backyard of this coastal cottage from the 1800s features a covered patio, a stepping stone pathway, a masonry fire pit, and a rustic outdoor shower.
- A gas grill and open fire pit extend the living space outside, and provide the perfect atmosphere to entertain.





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# MATT BLASHAW BACKYARDS



- A shell shaped bird bath and blue glass spheres bring the beach theme into the space.
- The grill, seated on an outdoor kitchen and faced with reclaimed wood, sits beneath a new patio cover that resembles the cabin.
- The patio is accented with modern light fixtures and a ceiling fan to keep the heat away.
- An outdoor shower area, made of reclaimed wood shingles provide the perfect place to wash off after a day at the beach. A custom bench was placed near the outdoor shower as a comfortable spot to wait.
- The yard is completed with new sod, lush landscaping, decorative throw pillows, lanterns, and candles.





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# MYRON MIXON

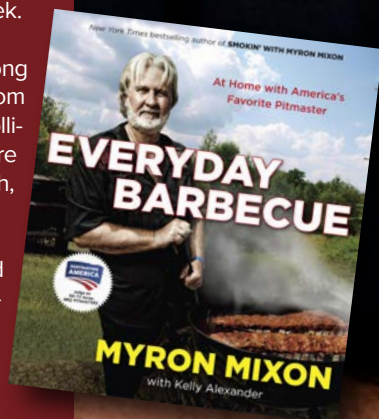
**You may know Myron  
Mixon as a judge on  
Destination America's hit  
show, *BBQ Pitmasters*,**

but Myron didn't get handed his spot on this production, he earned it. As a three-time BBQ World Champion, his long career has given him more knowledge on smoking, grilling and barbequing than any other man on earth. He's nickname, and rightfully so, is "the winningest man in barbeque."

Myron recently took some time off from his passion and traded in his smoker and spatula for a pen and notepad. He began jotting down recipes and useful tips that soon developed into a holy book for any BBQ enthusiast. Titled, *Everyday Barbeque: At Home with America's Favorite Pitmaster*, this book provides home cooks and BBQ fans with the tools required to turn great barbeque into a front-runner in dinner-choices on any day of the week.

Myron mixes in essential how-to's, along with original recipes for everything from Brisket Cheesesteaks to Chicken Lollipops, and proves that no matter where you are, or what you have to work with, you can make awesome barbeque.

Check out some of these recipes and be sure to give them a try. We guarantee you'll be drooling by the time you read through the ingredients!

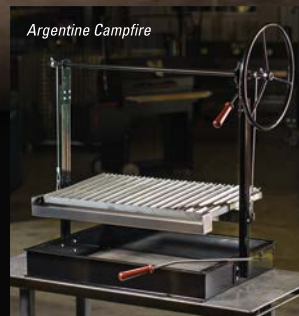


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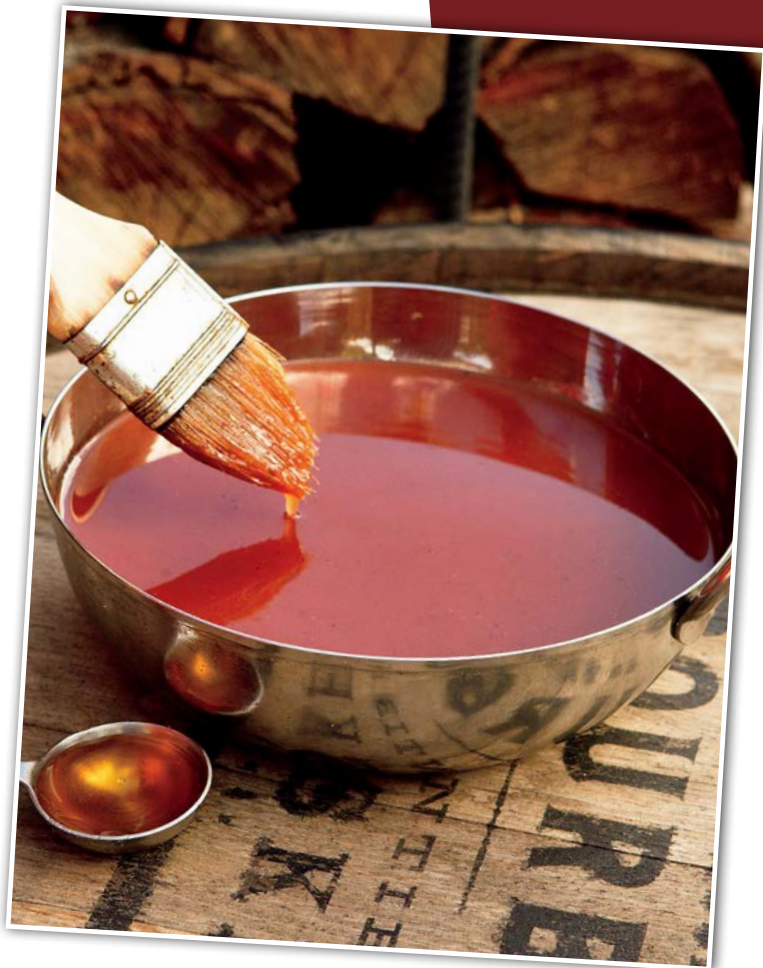
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Makes: About

## 3 CUPS

## INGREDIENTS

2 tablespoons onion powder  
2 tablespoons garlic powder  
Two 6-ounce cans tomato paste  
2 tablespoons paprika  
2/3 cup cider vinegar  
2 tablespoons Worcestershire sauce

1/4 cup packed dark brown sugar  
2 tablespoons honey  
2 tablespoons maple syrup  
2 tablespoons kosher salt  
2 tablespoons freshly ground black pepper

I have heard people eating barbecue at festivals say that “the sauce makes the barbecue.” It’s not true. The smoke makes the barbecue. The sauce is a finisher. It’s what you put on your meat after it cooks to enhance its appeal. It can add a great punch, but I’ve had plenty of delicious barbecued meat with no sauce at all. I’ve been around barbecue sauces of different stripes all of my life. My family’s sauce recipe, which my parents were just beginning to market when my father suddenly passed away, is what got me into cooking competitive barbecue in the first place. We have always preferred a hickory-style sauce, meant to closely evoke and complement the flavor of hickory smoked meats. It’s world famous and a secret recipe, so the only way you’ll taste the original is to order it from me, but if you insist on not giving me your business, here’s a reasonable approximation that is still damn delicious.

## DIRECTIONS

Combine all of the ingredients in a blender and pulse a couple of times to thoroughly combine. Pour the mixture into a medium saucepan and place over medium heat. Stir continuously until the sauce is heated through, but do not allow it to come to a boil. Remove the pan from the heat. Use the sauce immediately as you like, or, if reserving for a later use, allow the mixture to cool, then pour it into a large bottle or container and store, tightly covered and refrigerated, for up to 1 year.



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## GRILLED AMERICAN LAMB CHOPS WITH MARINATED COLORADO POTATOES

6 servings

*Recipe from Lachlan MacKinnon-Patterson, Frasca Food & Wine (Boulder, CO)*

### LAMB CHOPS

12 **American Lamb** loin chops  
1/4 cup olive oil  
2 cloves garlic, mashed  
2 sprigs rosemary, chopped  
1 lemon, juiced  
Coarsely ground black pepper

Rub lamb with olive oil, garlic, rosemary, lemon juice and black pepper. Cover with plastic wrap, refrigerate for 4 hours to marinate.

### MARINATED COLORADO POTATOES

3/4 lb Colorado Russet potatoes  
3/4 lb Colorado Purple Majesty potatoes  
3/4 lb Colorado Yukon Gold potatoes  
3/4 lb Colorado Mountain Rose potatoes  
1 cup olive oil  
2 cloves garlic, quartered  
1 sprig rosemary, about 6 inches long  
1 tsp chopped sage  
1 tsp chopped parsley  
2 tsps minced shallots  
1/2 cup thinly sliced California dried mission figs  
1 tsp sherry vinegar  
Kosher salt and fresh ground pepper

Dice potatoes into 1/2 inch sized cubes, leaving skin on. In an 8 x 1-inch oblong baking dish, combine potatoes, oil, garlic and rosemary sprig; roast at 250°F for 2 hours or until potatoes are tender.

When potatoes are done, remove and discard the rosemary sprig and the garlic. Drain excess olive oil and discard. Gently combine sage, parsley, shallots, figs and sherry vinegar. For a more tangy flavor, add additional vinegar. Set aside.

Lightly salt and pepper the lamb chops to taste. Place on hot grill; cook 4 to 5 minutes per side or until desired degree of doneness.

Spoon approximately 3/4 cup marinated potatoes onto serving plate and arrange lamb chops on top. Garnish with fresh herbs.

**NOTE:** To maintain the brilliant colors of the potatoes after dicing, submerge in cold water until ready to cook.

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## Pulled Pork Burgers

Some people may call topping a burger with pulled pork gilding the lily, but who needs them? I call it taking your burger to the next level. Here's how.



Makes:

4 TO 6

BURGERS

### INGREDIENTS

1½ pounds ground beef, preferably ground chuck with at least 20% fat, at room temperature  
2 teaspoons Dijon mustard  
1 tablespoon Only Rub  
Salt and freshly ground black pepper  
4 to 6 hamburger buns, split  
2 tablespoons unsalted butter, melted  
12 ounces leftover pulled pork, reheated  
4 to 6 tablespoons Only Sauce  
Lettuce, tomato, and any other toppings you like

### DIRECTIONS

Heat a charcoal grill or gas grill to medium-high heat.

In a medium bowl, combine the beef with the mustard and rub, gently kneading into 4 to 6 equal patties, about  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch thick each. Season the burgers very generously with salt and pepper and transfer to a plate lined with plastic wrap.

Grill the burgers directly on the grill for about 10 minutes, turning once, for medium.

Move the burgers away from the heat to rest on a warm (but definitely not hot) part of the grill. Brush the cut sides of the buns with the melted butter and grill the cut sides of the buns for about 1 minute, until toasted.

Slide the burgers onto the buns and finish them by topping each with a small handful of pulled pork and Only Sauce, plus lettuce and tomato and whatever toppings you prefer. Serve immediately.





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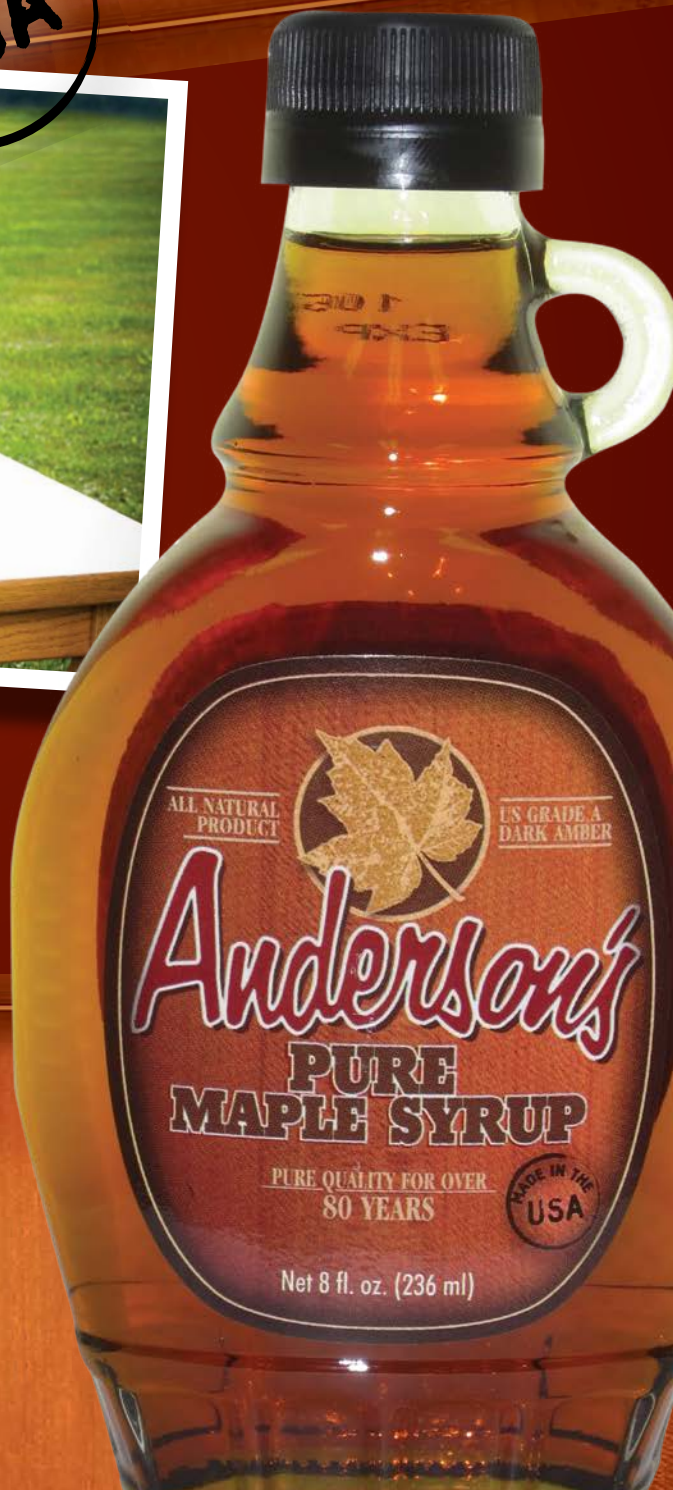
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What does a rub do? Its job is to season the meat, help seal in moisture, and ensure you get great flavor on your smoked and grilled meats. Do you have to use it? No, of course not. You're the cook, and sometimes a steak is great with just salt and pepper, but it's a really easy thing to make ahead of time and keep around, and it makes your food taste exponentially better-so a rub is worth making and having in your bag of tricks. That said, if you're lazy, buy my own brand from me directly at [jacksoldsouth.com](http://jacksoldsouth.com). (Hey, don't you think I've forgotten for a second about my first love: making money!) Or you could try this recipe, which approximates (but never equals, mind you) my own secret formula.



Makes: Just Under

## 2 CUPS

## INGREDIENTS

- 1 cup packed light brown sugar
- 2 tablespoons chili powder
- 2 tablespoons mustard powder
- 2 tablespoons onion powder
- 2 tablespoons garlic powder
- 2 teaspoons cayenne pepper
- 2 tablespoons kosher salt
- 2 tablespoons freshly ground black pepper

## DIRECTIONS

In a large bowl, combine all the ingredients. Stir thoroughly to combine. You can store this rub in an airtight container for up to 1 year.

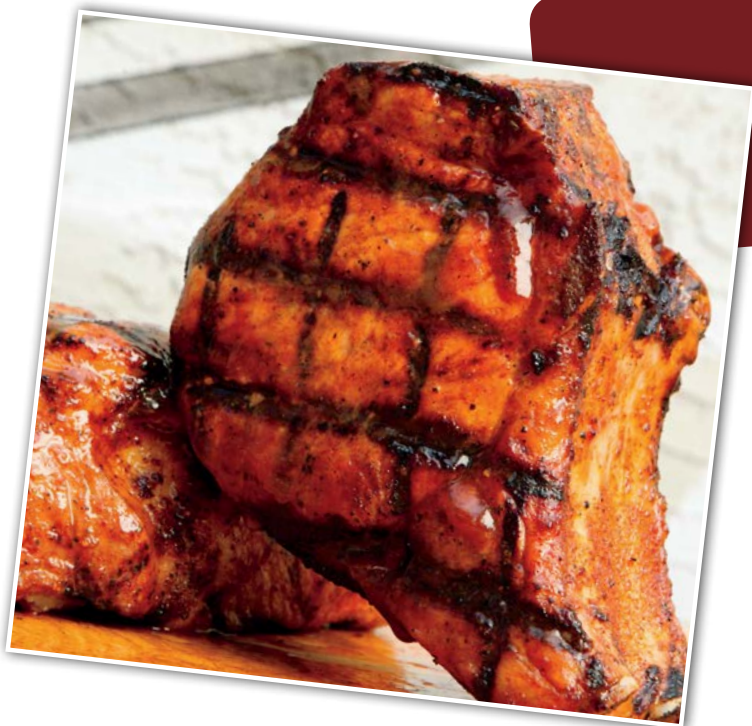




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## Perfect Apple- Glazed Barbecue Pork Chops

Think of this dish as the smoked version of pork chops and applesauce, that classic oven-roasted dish that we're fixing to make a whole lot better by cooking it over an open fire and turning the sauce into a finger-licking glaze.

 SERVES 8

### INGREDIENTS

1 quart plus 1/4 cup apple juice  
2 tablespoons light brown sugar  
2 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil  
4 teaspoons Only Rub (page 22)  
8 bone-in pork chops, about 1 inch thick (10 to 12 ounces each)  
1 cup ketchup  
6 garlic cloves, thinly sliced  
1/4 cup red wine vinegar  
Salt

### DIRECTIONS

In each of 2 large resealable plastic bags, combine 2 tablespoons of the apple juice, 1 tablespoon of the brown sugar, 1 tablespoon of the olive oil, and 2 teaspoons of the rub. Seal the bags and shake to mix. Place 4 pork chops in each bag, seal, and shake again to coat the chops. Refrigerate for at least 4 hours or overnight.

Make the glaze: In a large saucepan, combine the remaining 1 quart apple juice with the ketchup, garlic, and vinegar and bring to a boil over high heat, stirring once or twice. Reduce the heat to medium and simmer, stirring occasionally, until reduced to 2 cups, about 30 minutes. Season with salt.

Heat a charcoal grill (see page 4) or gas grill (see page 5) to high heat.

Remove the pork chops from the marinade, discard the marinade, and season the chops with salt. Grill uncovered until nicely charred and just pink in the center, about 12 minutes per side. Brush a thick layer of the glaze on each chop, cover the grill, and cook until the pork is nicely bronzed, about 3 minutes. Remove from the grill, loosely cover with foil, and rest for 10 minutes before serving.

Make it in the oven: Marinate the pork chops and make the glaze as directed above. When ready to cook the pork chops, preheat the oven to 400°F. Remove the chops from the marinade, discard the marinade, and heat 2 tablespoons olive oil in a large ovenproof skillet over medium-high heat. Working in batches, cook the chops until browned, 3 to 5 minutes per side, transferring them to a plate when done. Arrange the chops in 1 large or 2 small roasting pans, brush a thick layer of the glaze on each chop, cover loosely with foil, and cook in the oven until the pork is cooked through, 8 to 11 minutes. Remove the pan from the oven and rest for 10 minutes before uncovering and serving.



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# *Lawn & Garden*







## *Give Your Landscape a Springtime Facelift & Maximize Curb Appeal*

This spring season, make your home over by investing a little time and money into a few simple projects and installations that will have your neighbors asking if you hit the lottery and hired a decorator. From planting a vegetable garden to installing fences, we've compiled a variety of advices to cover whatever you may have been considering for your home's facelift. Put away the ladybug porch flags and pinwheels and bring the springtime out with more grace and elegance to wow passersby and skyrocket your home's curb appeal.

---

## *Tend to Your Garden*

---

### INSTALLING RAISED PLANTERS

If you want a garden, but don't necessarily want "a garden," installing raised planters in your yard will help to designate the space for what you want to grow. This will allow you a lighter workload, as you won't have to worry about tending to your actual land. Here, you are providing a primed space for your veggies and herbs, and you will be able to regulate the soil and drainage with ease. Stone and concrete are





## ADD A BIRDFEEDER

The addition of something as simple as a birdfeeder will automatically invite birds and, consequently, springtime to

your doorstep, adding aesthetic appeal. Install birdfeeders where there is relative coverage with trees and shrubs. Birds will feel safer approaching feeders that are strategically placed away from open areas to avoid predators. Azalea bushes and small trees are ideal for feeder spots. With the addition of a birdfeeder, you can install a bird bath, bird houses, and other whimsical ornaments to enhance that natural garden feel. The bird seed itself can act as a fertilizer by being added to your compost, so cleanup shouldn't be a major issue. If you're not into birds, but would still like to add some décor to your garden, consider whitewashing an old bench as a DIY project or installing a water feature.

## GROWING VEGETABLES

Start early spring off right by planting vegetables that tolerate a little frost, such as radishes, carrots and potatoes. By mid-spring, you'll be able to start growing vegetables that do best in hotter weather, like tomatoes and peppers, to complete your produce list. Don't forget to weed your garden! Pull weeds up before they get too big, as their roots will be easier to yank at and they won't have had time to spread seeds all through your vegetable garden. The addition of an herb garden is nice as well, but be sure to give them their own spot, either in a pot or separated with lining, for the best results.



## Manicure Your Lawn

### EDGE THE GRASS

Use wooden edgings, such as wicker or log-style, to bring the look of spring to your lawn. There are also pretty wrought-iron or stone options that come in many colors, as well. Edgings will retain moisture and hold soil back, creating a structured, even space for your grass to flourish. They not only give a primed look to your lawn, but they keep it healthier as well by holding all the nutrients in. For added elegance, line gravel at the border just before your edgings to create symmetry around the entire lawn. Not only will the gravel





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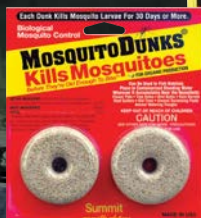


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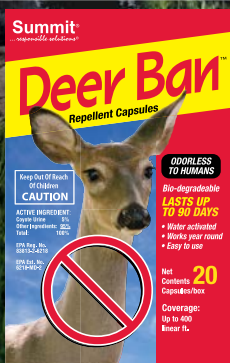


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gravel look nice, but it will act as a drainage system, funneling out any excess or unwanted moisture from the grass. Working together with the edgings, this approach will ensure that your lawn is the healthiest and best-looking.

## PLANT MORE TREES

Spring is the best season for planting trees and shrubs, so if your landscape is looking a little bare, now is the time. For smaller properties, go with crabapples and dogwoods. They blossom in bright, eye-catching colors and rarely grow over 20 feet. They are low maintenance trees and won't produce much leaves for raking. For larger properties, consider maples or magnolia trees. The magnolias will offer large white flowers with an incredible smell for added charm. Maples have beautiful leaves that change colors like a chameleon and the large clusters will provide visual splendor. Foliage in general, but especially trees, add significant value to properties. They also offer food if you opt to plant a fruit-bearing variety. However, do not edge your trees like you did with your grass, especially just after planting. New tree roots need to poke out of the soil and have a chance to wrap themselves into the ground for a solid foundation. Old tree roots will have already formed above the ground, making it difficult to place edgings symmetrically. A bit of mulch spread neatly over the top will look just as nice, and will be healthiest for your new tree as well.

## PLANT SEASONAL FLOWERS IN BRIGHT COLORS

Springtime is ideal for planting species that are already in bloom. Pansies, daffodils, geraniums, lilies, and tulips are popular spring choices, as they come in many colors and don't mind cooler weather that may be sticking around until summer. If you want to plant these flowers as bulbs, you'll have to wait until fall and next spring they'll pop and blossom with ease and barely any maintenance. These types of flowers don't grow very tall, so installing window boxes to cover high-siding on a house is an option. Otherwise, enjoy them all season long in their pots. To add

height from the ground up, consider stacking paving stones to bring the flowers to eye-level. You can mix and match flower types and colors, but you'll want to give them 6-8 inches of space in between each other to grow.

## SPREAD MULCH OVER YOUR PLANTS

Spreading mulch over the planting surface and lacing the beds to create an even border will not only offer a put-together look, but it will discourage weeds and other unwanted plants from sprouting up. While mulch is the more traditional option, pea pebbles and other small gravel work well as alternatives to mulch if you're looking for a softer, more modern feel. You can align large gravel within the pebbles in different shapes and patterns if you're feeling artistic or creative. Any and all gravel is good for drainage and moisture retention, so having it around is not only pleasing to the eye, but pleasing to the plants as well.





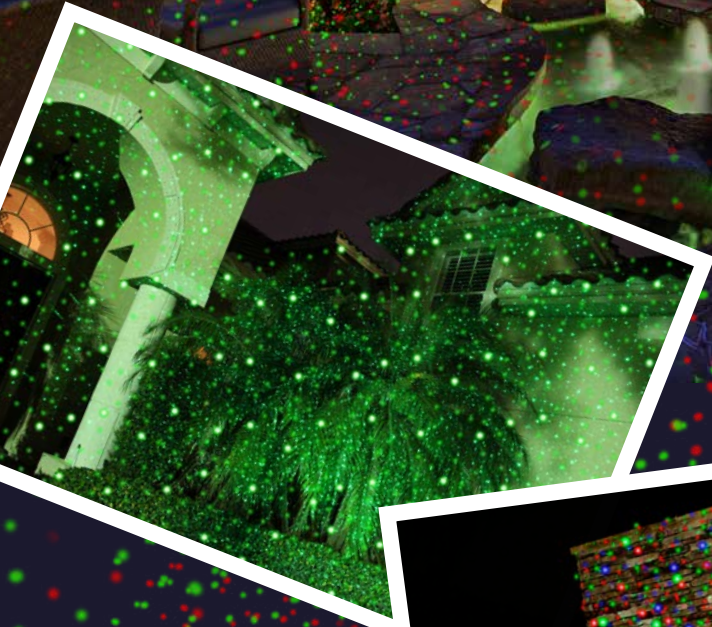


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# Dress Up Your House

## BRING THE SPRING-CLEANING OUTSIDE

Wash your house. You can do it yourself by renting or buying equipment, or hire a team, but washing the outside of your home will add instant value if you're trying to sell, and will boost your curb appeal significantly overall. Warm water and diluted dish detergent will be gentle enough for your paint, but harsh enough to wash away all the grease and dirt. Consider invested in new gutters, such as copper ones that will add shine and glamour to your home's appearance. If you already have decent gutters, you can wash them as well and perhaps repaint them to match your trim for a composed finish. Don't forget to wash outdoor furniture and light fixtures as well. The smallest details when cleaned and freshened up will provide a bigger end result than you'd think.

## ADD COLOR CONTRASTING ELEMENTS AND FOCUS ON SYMMETRY

Your front entry is the first thing people are going notice, and if things are scattered about and not coordinated with one another, you're not really utilizing the power of the first impression. Go for a neutral color with a complementary trim, such as a yellow or ivory exterior with gray accents. The neutral background will provide excellent foundation for eye-popping bits of color that will come from the spring flowers you planted and accents, such as a grand front door. Paint your door a contrasting color that pops, such as purple, red or black. Customiz-



ing your front door, like increasing size or installing a portal window will also add value and interest to the home. Bigger doors are more appealing overall because they offer up an idea of the grandeur within.

As for hardware, everything should match. Choose a mailbox that matches the trimming of your home and compliment that with corresponding house numbers and outdoor light fixtures. For symme-

try, add sconces on both sides of the door, instead of just one porch light. Complete the look with a few green ferns or tall grass vases on either side.

Install fencing or lattices for immediate increase in value. If you're trying to sell, fencing is an encouraged investment. Pathway lighting to gates and through walkways add a sense of security and safety as well, making the home seem more inviting.

## *Finishing Touches*

- Plant low-growing, brightly colored flowers around your mailbox and add edgings around them as well to match your lawn's landscaping pattern and tie it all together.
- Pressure-washing your driveway, walkway, and porch/doorstep will instantly boost face-value and curb appeal with a clean, new look.
- Color-coordinate. Choose flowering plants that are going to compliment the layout of your landscape and trimmings, such as bright yellow against gray, or lavender against brick or tan siding.
- Less is more, meaning don't overplant. You don't want your landscape looking crowded or too busy, as this can indicate (and will ultimately mean) more work and higher maintenance.
- Line your driveway for a manicured look, such as the addition of walkway lighting – solar or battery powered works just fine – and make sure these fixtures match your other hardware as well.
- If you have porch furniture or a porch swing, the addition of throw pillows that match the colors of your flower choices will not only tie the look together, but will make the face of the house inviting and comfortable.





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# *Hilary Farr* **Bedrooms**





*& Bathrooms*



# Hilary Farr Bathrooms

“

The tub shower was installed below to **allow the natural light to come through the whole area.**

## Double Sinks

The long wall was perfect for the installation of double sinks and a spacious vanity with loads of storage that provide a practical way to assure that the counters remain uncluttered to maintain the calm Spa feel.

## Metal & Stone

The existing wood window was replaced with a metal window, as well as a stone sill and frame to allow lots of natural light.







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# Hilary Farr Bathrooms

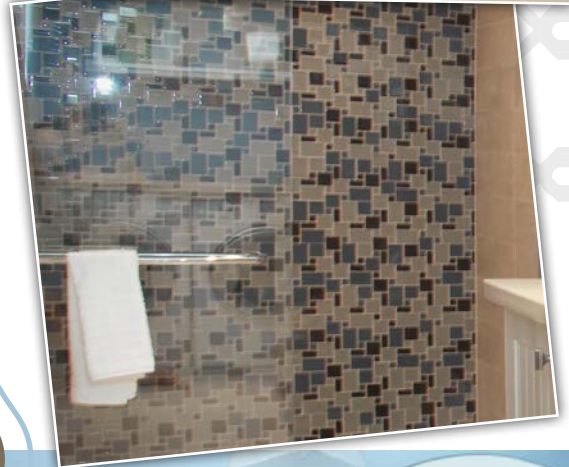
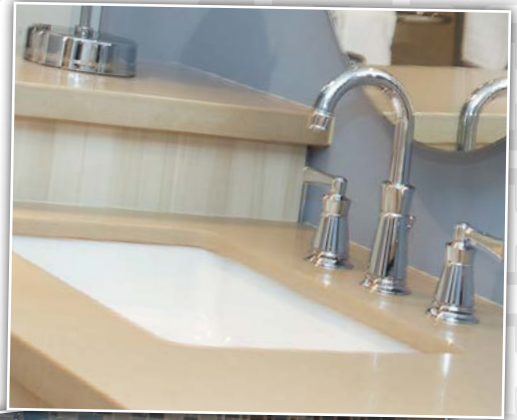
## Double Sink

The double sink vanity runs into a separate cabinet, creating an area specific for storage of makeup and other goodies.

## Vanity Area

The client in this home wanted to be able to do her makeup while standing, so the vanity area is raised, adding unique style and providing personal purpose.

“ A mosaic tile was installed in the oversized shower as **a design statement for the space.** ”





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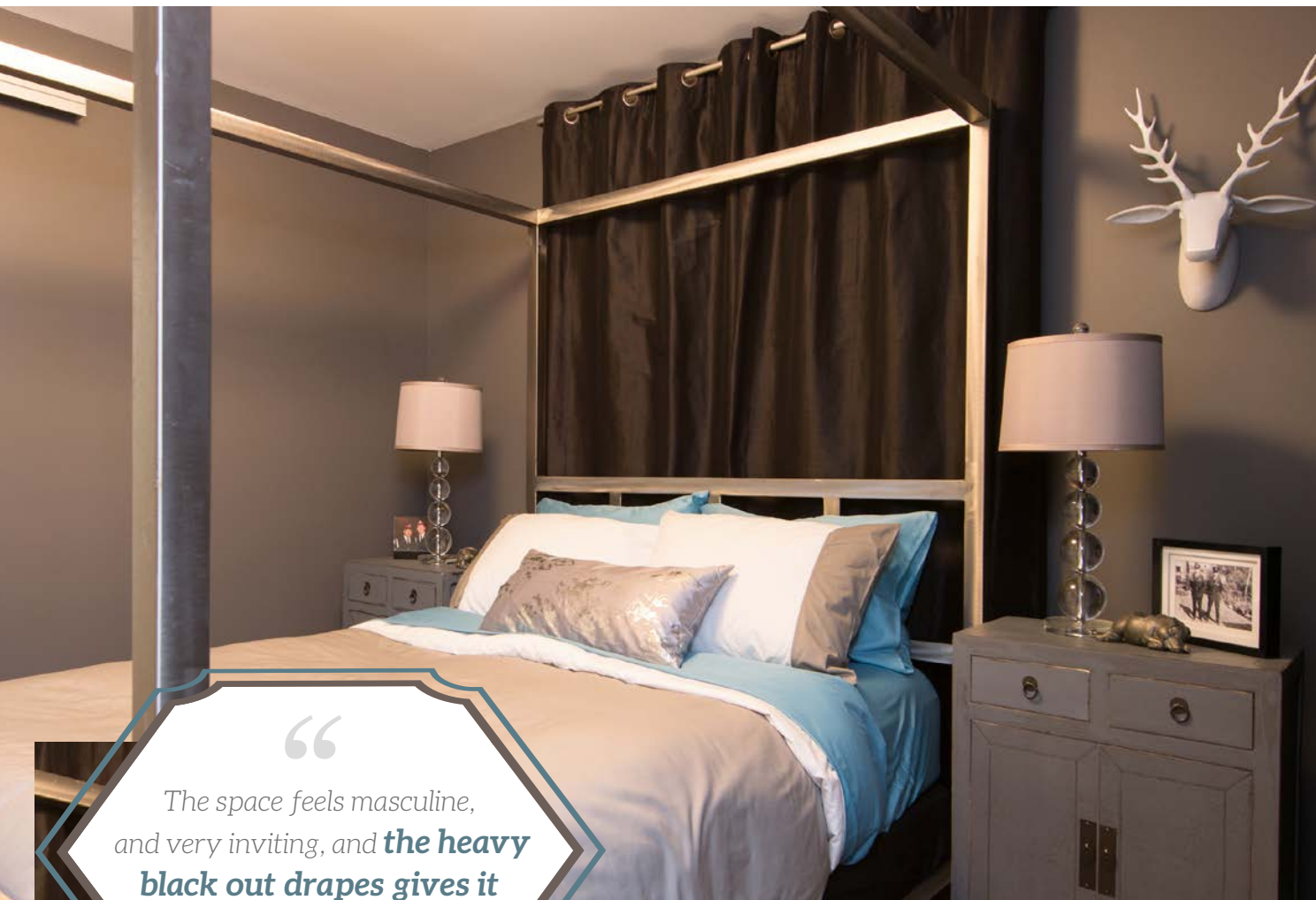


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# Hilary Farr Bedrooms



“

The space feels masculine,  
and very inviting, and **the heavy  
black out drapes** gives it  
the function it needs.

## Daytime & Night

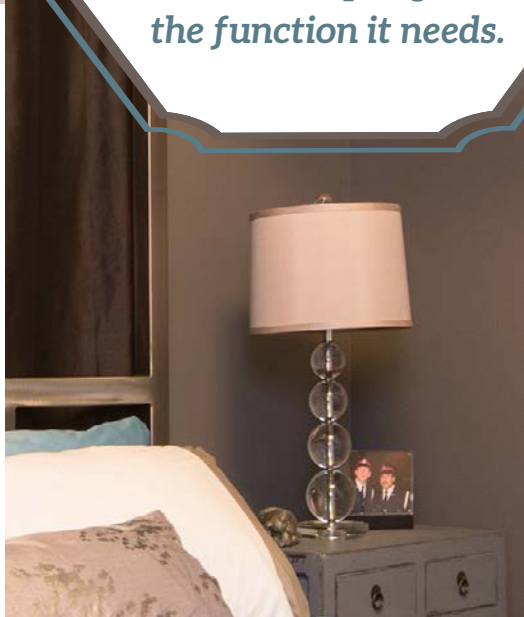
For a couple who are both police officers, and often had night shifts, the bedroom needed to work in the daytime as well as at night.

## The Drapes

The drapes, along with the wall color, keep out and absorb light without it feeling claustrophobic.

## Four Poster Bed

The only whimsy is the four poster bed, which is a simple addition of elegance and romance, making the room inviting.





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# Hilary Farr Bedrooms



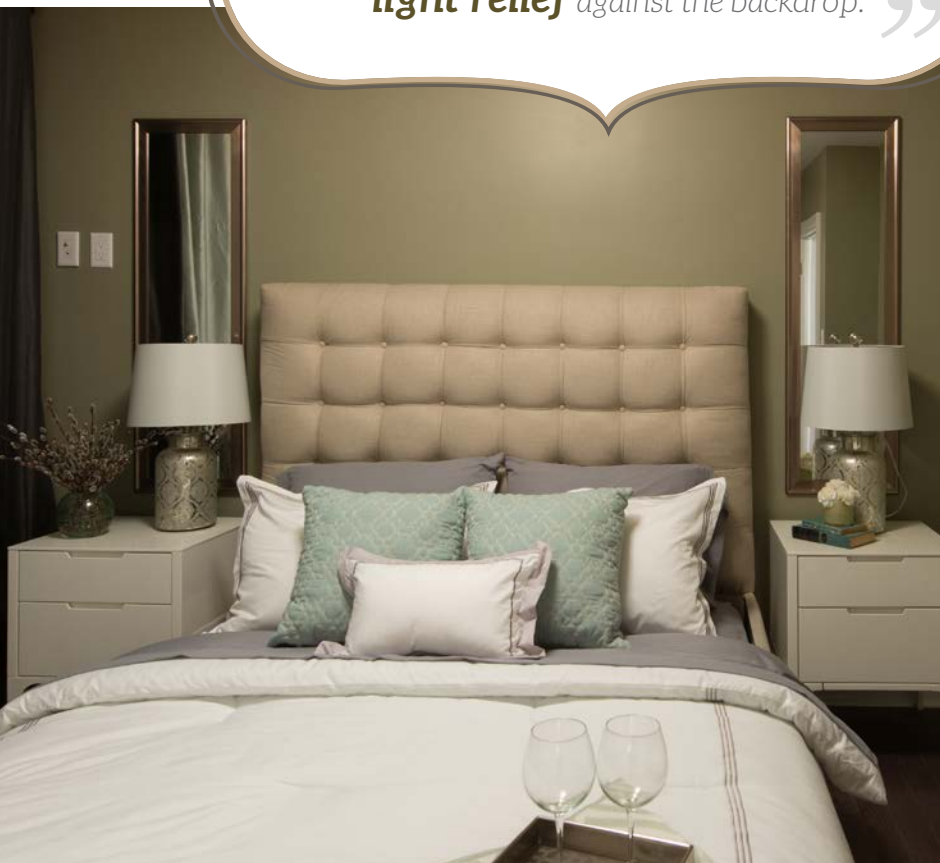
## Natural Light

This is a basement bedroom, with virtually no natural light through the one and only window.

## Heavy Drapes

The design utilizes a muted palette for the walls and floor, and embraces the darkness with the addition of heavy drapes, creating a cozy space.

“A sleek headboard and plush bedding are **light relief** against the backdrop.”





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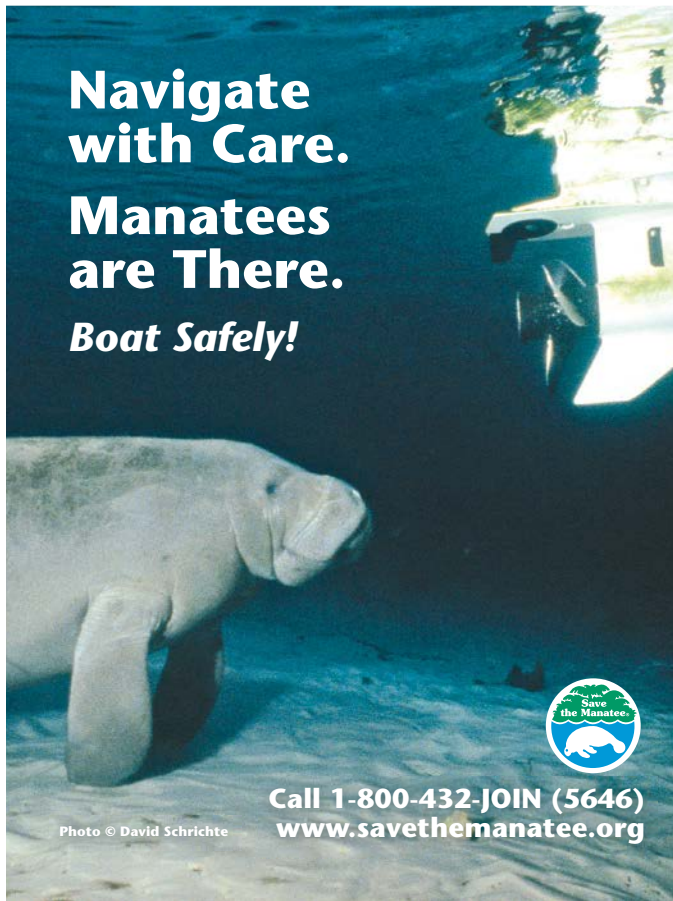



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# Hilary Farr

## Master Retreat

### Bedroom



- The incredible view of the trees inspired the design for this 3rd floor master retreat.
- The size of the opening was increased to allow for new, large windows.
- The wall was opened up to create French doors and a Juliette balcony that maximizes the natural light in the space and brings the beauty of the surroundings into the room.

- Darkness is essential at night for any bedroom. The curtains close fully and are lined with black-out fabric.
- Medium brown, hardy maple floors with very little grain, provide richness without being too dark.
- The area rug under the bed adds texture and comfort.
- Accents are placed strategically in bold, strong colors to keep the space interesting.
- The completion of the room is in the ceiling pendant, which not only sheds a soft glow, but as an unexpected bonus, it refracts light and throws a phenomenal pattern across the ceiling and down the walls, creating a light show.





# Hilary Farr Master Retreat



## Bathroom

The challenge in this bathroom was the wall framed with three windows. While they allow for beautiful symmetry and lots of natural light, the wall was rendered unusable.

As a solution, two separate vanities were created and pushed to the outer walls.

The medicine cabinets have mirrors on the inside of the doors when open so they function in this location.

Under-cabinet storage prevents clutter.

The waterfall countertops continue down to the tub deck with a single piece of slab running along the back to create a practical solution that is sleek and simple, as well as visually appealing.



Peaceful blue walls enhance the feeling of the outdoors, and the green tile in the shower draws from the feeling of the trees.

The lack of sill in the shower creates a spa bath feel, along with three shower heads!

The frameless, all glass shower enclosure continues the feeling of the open air and makes the shower feel even more spacious.

# Training your HOUSE PET

## How to

# STRENGTHEN THE BOND YOU SHARE

*The relationship between a pet and its owner is one built on trust, love and discipline. As the owner, you are responsible for your animal's happiness and well-being. In return, your pet will provide you with love and affection, bringing you happiness as well.*

That's a beautiful theory, and to an inexperienced pet owner, completely believable, but achieving that type of bond with an animal is much harder than it sounds. Have you ever come home to a half-eaten sofa or an entire roll of toilet paper strewn across the house like a "welcome home" banner? What about that angry cat that seems to hiss every time you even look at it? If owning a pet has turned into much more than you bargained for, try out these training exercises before you completely give up on your would-be companion.







## Dogs

### Trainability Level: Easy

*Most stubborn when learning: potty training*

When making the decision to become a dog owner, we think, a dog is man's best friend. We want that unmistakable "Turner & Hooch" bond. We want to be James Belushi in K-9. But when we come to find that our pooch can't even master potty training, we begin to get discouraged, and downright frustrated. If your dog isn't grasping the concept as easily as you hoped, don't panic.

Try pee-pads. Granted, some dogs like to tear these things to shreds, so if you have a rambunctious pup, try a heavier pad, such as an imitation grass pad. These come with rubber bottoms for easy clean-up. Another option is to try sprays. There are many types available, from attractants that will make your dog want to go in that specifically sprayed area, to repellents that will keep your dog far away. You can find these solutions at pet stores and experts there will recommend a product that fits your needs.

If you're completely against crate training, we understand. However, a crate can actually become your dog's most coveted place. He will not relieve himself where he spends most of his time, so investing in a crate and putting your dog on a routine will help out a great deal. Your dog must be able to go outside after every meal time, nap and play session. In between these times, he should be in his crate, where he will not be free to roam around and relieve himself wherever he pleases. Over time, usually between 2-6 months, your dog will no longer need to be supervised or locked in the crate.

If all else fails, don't hesitate to spend a little money on training school. Professionals will share insider tips with you and most schools offer payment plans or weekly bills.



# Training your HOUSE PET



## Cats

### Trainability Level: Hard

*Most stubborn when learning:  
to be social & less aggressive*

Cats are crepuscular animals, meaning they are most active at dawn and dusk hours. Cats are also natural-born predators with an instinct to hunt. While these character traits are intriguing, they are not always convenient for owners. If you have a ferocious feline that you're looking to domesticate to be more social and less aggressive, try these training techniques:

When your cat becomes aggressive, don't run around screaming at him, and don't walk away either. Doing these things will tell the cat that he wins, and by displaying aggression he will get what he wants. Instead, whenever your cat begins to scratch, bite, hiss, or show any other signs of aggression, remain calm and show no change in your own behavior.

Slowly approach the cat with a toy and use it to avert his attention. When he begins to play or calm down, present him with a treat. Repeating this process will take patience, and the cat may run off the first few times, but after several tries, he will begin to understand that positive behavior will get him what he wants.

Familiar with the "bite and run" scheme? This is where your kitty seems to be happily purring in your lap, then all of a sudden he turns, bites your hand (or scratches) and runs off. This happens because the cat's natural predatory instinct kicks in. To avoid the "bite and run" episodes, simply reduce the amount of cuddling time. Allow your cat to sit on your lap for a moment, show him affection, and then place him on the floor (try petting him with your foot instead). You'll be surprised by how much more affection he'll start demanding once he's not being chased for it.



## Birds

### Trainability Level: Hard

*Most stubborn when learning:  
not to scream or screech*

Birds are highly intelligent animals and we've seen proof of this when staring in awe at a bird who has just squawked out a few words of the English language. Birds are natural performers, so they are going to be divas. They need constant attention and when they don't get it, they often scream and cry, just like us. If you have a bird that's being a bit of a drama queen, try these exercises to help minimize the shrieking that you (and your neighbors!) put up with.

Don't yell at your bird. Most birds scream throughout the day at time changes and screaming back at them will not scare them into





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## Training your HOUSE PET

hushing up. Instead it will excite them even more. Instead of yelling, try cooing at your bird by making subtle movements with your head and lips, and slowly stroke the bird on his breast. These are relaxation cues which will show him that silence is rewarded and screaming is not. If the shrieking persists, ignore him and walk away. When he quiets down, come back with a treat.

Another method: put his cage cover back on as punishment. The bird will be forced to sit in the dark and he will quiet down. When he does, give him a treat. Also, make sure your bird has plenty of toys and puzzles to work on, otherwise the screaming will result from boredom. Remember, screaming is natural for birds, so you won't completely eliminate the noise, but if they don't calm down with these methods, consider a visit to the vet. Screaming is also initiated by pain and/or stress.



## Ferrets

### Trainability Level: Medium

*Most stubborn when learning:  
not to bite*

Just for clarification, ferrets do not bite because they are mean little boogers with no conscience. They bite because that is their main form of interaction. A ferret's skin has an extra layer just under the coat that is thicker and less-penetrable, so when ferrets bite, it doesn't hurt them like it hurts us! They're socializing in their natural way.

However, biting does hurt and, especially if there are children in the home, teaching your ferret not to bite is the most important tech-

nique for him to master. If you've got a kit, training should take between 2-4 weeks until they learn "no bite!" If you've got an adult that has never been properly trained, you're looking at a longer time frame, and some serious bite wounds in the process.

Training methods for biting are the same, no matter the age, but hand-on-fur contact is the key. Begin by scruffing (grabbing your ferret by the loose patch of skin on the back of their neck). Scruff your ferret when he bites and drag him a few inches to show that you're the boss. While doing this, sternly say, "No bite!" Your ferret will know he is being punished and as long as you're punishing him immediately after biting, he'll know

exactly how he's misbehaved. Reward your ferret when he plays or cuddles without biting.

Try apple bitter sprays (other deterring solutions available) as another "no bite" method. Spray the solution directly on your fingers and on things you don't want the ferret to chew, but never spray it on their face. Most ferrets despise apple bitter and will not put their mouth anywhere near it.





# Training your HOUSE PET

## Lizards

### Trainability Level: Easy

*Most stubborn when learning: to be handled & held*

Lizards, like the friendly bearded dragon, make for exciting and exotic alternatives to the “normal” house pet. Bearded dragons are easy to take care of and eat a fresh diet of crickets, worms, and salads/leafy greens. They can be potty trained and even walked outside on a leash. Nevertheless, all of these amazing relationship perks come after the hardest and most basic technique to “get a handle” on: holding your lizard.

First, familiarize the lizard with your hands by simply leaving your hand in the cage. Slowly stroke your lizard with one finger. After a while, move into picking him up. Pick him up a few inches off of the floor of his cage, hold him for 15-30 seconds, and then set him down. Do not remove the lizard from the cage until you have practiced this and gotten him comfortable with the idea of being picked up.

Make sure the habitat is in a place that gets a good amount of traffic so he gets used to noise and movements, and never grab a lizard unless they're aware

of your presence. Startling a lizard and having it jump and run under your fridge won't be fun for anyone.

Do not release or put down a squirming lizard. Keep a firm handle on them until they relax, then set them down. This will teach them that wiggling and writhing will not get them what they want.

No matter what kind of pet you invite into your home, you and the animal should both be able to live together harmoniously. If your pet is giving you trouble, be sure to check for any and all signs of bad health or illnesses before you begin training exercises. You want to make sure that your pet is only misbehaving, and not trying to tell you they're in pain. When in doubt about the animal you hoped to bond with, check for local obedience schools (sanctuaries for more exotic pets) that will help teach you both one on one how to coexist with each other. And remember, “They're more afraid of you than you are of them,” is true in every sense.







# Tool Box Essentials

## 10 HOME IMPROVEMENT TOOLS YOU DIDN'T KNOW YOU NEEDED

---

*Improving your home is hard work and takes a lot of time and effort to complete. Whether you're a die-hard DIYer or just starting out in the world of home improvement projects, every homeowner should have the necessary tools it takes to get the job done right. Sure, hammers and screwdrivers are a given, and should be part of your basic toolkit, but if you're installing new flooring or trying to tile your shower, that box of basics won't even get you halfway through the project. Take into consideration these essentials that we've compiled for getting any project done in an efficient and timely fashion.*

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### Compound Miter Saw

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This is what you use to get those pretty cuts on your crown molding. Cutting frames and molding is tricky to begin with, and you don't want to cut an expensive piece of trim at the wrong angle and have to scrap it. Miter saws work to get a precise cut and are usually small and portable. They can be used to cut wood for a variety of projects but they are the best tool for moldings because you can drop the wheel to angle your cuts both horizontally and vertically.





# Tool Box Essentials

## Finishing Nail Gun

Finishing nail guns are best for trim and moldings, and any other permanent nailing you may want to do around the house. Nail guns are better for projects that require overall accuracy, because of their speed and precision. With a pull of the trigger, you can nail 50 feet of molding down in less than 10 minutes. That same project would take you an hour with a hammer.

## Reciprocating Saw, or “Sawzall”

The Sawzall is a small, handheld saw that uses a powerful “back and forth” motion with a single heavy duty blade. There are interchangeable blades ranging from metal cutting to drywall. Use this saw to cut out a rotted piece of molding or to demo a door frame without having to smash the entire structure to pieces.

## Putty Knives

These tools come in a variety of widths and can sometimes be purchased in packs, ranging from small detail knives to large surface knives. Putty knives are used to scrape excess material off of a finished surface. They are great for backsplashes and other tile work because the flexible blade gives you enough wiggle room to remove clumps easily and ensure a smooth, even surface all over. By applying pressure with your finger to run through grout grooves, you can sometimes take off too much or too little, and your lines won't look even. With the putty knife, you bypass that issue, and with a little warm water and a rag, the material will wipe right off of your tile once you've scraped it. Putty knives can also be used for many other projects, such as removing old caulking and other clumps of dried paint from your walls, as well as roof patching with hot tar, and even designing a custom wall pattern by scraping grooves into wet stucco.

## Wet Saw or Manual Tile Cutter

If you're tiling a big area and you need to trim a lot down or cut around odd angles, you'll want a wet saw. They release water over the tile as they cut to prevent breakage. If you're not sure about whether to buy one for a single project, stores will allow you to rent a wet saw. However, if you're a hardcore DIYer, investing in a wet saw isn't a bad idea. Manual tile cutters work just as well, but are harder to get angles and round cuts out of. When purchasing a manual tile cutter, be sure to buy one that is capable of making angled cuts and is wider than the tile you're cutting by at least two inches.



## Paint Sprayers

Paint sprayers can save you so much time and energy, especially when painting big surface areas, such as the exterior of your home or staining a large deck. These are multi-purpose tools and usually come in interior and exterior versions. The main difference is the exterior models have more power packed in them for a greater spraying distance and some come with extension handles for doing multi-story homes. The sprayers do not use a lot of paint so you'll have to spray three or four coats on, but this will take you less time than hand-rolling or painting just two coats.



# Tool Box Essentials



## Hinge Masks & Edge Painters

Masks, like hinge and outlet masks, are handy little stickers that you can put around your outlets, switch covers or hinges to eliminate the need of removing all your hardware before painting. Painters' tape can get sticky and messy when placed over hardware, especially if you're trying to bend it around tough angles. Stick to the tape for straight edges and patterns, and if you're really looking for perfection, try an edge-painter. They exist, specifically for painting edges along framing and around windows or molding. You simply dip them in your can of paint and go!



## Floor Cutters

These particular tools are worth buying because they can cut all sorts of flooring with ease. Hardwood, thick laminate, vinyl, linoleum, and corkboard flooring can all be handled by a floor cutter to reach odd angles and cut precise measurements. By using a simple utility knife for your flooring projects, you may mess up and make an uneven cut, so investing in a floor cutter that is designed to minimize those annoyances would be beneficial to any DIYer. In a way it works like a giant paper cutter, giving you an even line every time.



## Track Cleaners

Do you have windows? The answer should be yes. Do you hate cleaning them? Assuming that's a "yes" as well, consider track cleaners to make the job much easier than fighting with a vacuum and a broom. These cleaners come in various forms, such as air sprays that remove dirt (like the ones for cleaning computer keyboards), lubricants – WD-40 and garage door spray – and kits that come with scrubbers and small brushes for reaching into corners. Track cleaners, no matter the kind, are essential when installing new sliding glass or French doors because they provide you with a clean surface. For windows, track cleaners help with lubricating the tracks themselves to make sure opening and closing is safe and easy, as well as regular cleaning.



## Squeegees

When cleaning your windows, especially large exterior panels, it is hard to remove all the dirt and streaks. We are often just spreading the dirt around and the harsh rubbing causes static, which will attract dirt and dust even more. To make windows shine like new, simply use a window cleaner or a teaspoon of dish detergent in water and a squeegee to get the job done like a professional. Most window squeegees come with an extension handle to reach high spots and several scrubbers and blades to choose from. The interior panels can simply be wiped down, but for exterior panels, squeegees are a must. If you're putting your house on the market, squeegee the windows before a showing to boost curb appeal and give your house a "brand new" feel.



# DIY Drywall Taping?

## Is it possible?

By: Pam  
Morton

Ask anyone if they've ever taped drywall before and you will get one of several reactions. **Yes, and I hated it!** or **Yes, never again!** That's because taping drywall used to be a hard, messy **JOB**, that usually involved lots of sanding afterwards!



TapeBuddy® Drywall Taping Tools were conceived when the inventor of the tool was having the same issues that everyone else did. As a jack of all trades, he knew there had to be an easier way. Now there is!

**TapeBuddy® is easy to set up, easy to use, easy to clean.**

**Set up:** Snip the insert from the front of the tool and slide

it in the guide till it clicks. Thread the drywall tape through the TapeBuddy®, fill with compound and you are ready to tape! TB uses Standard Industry Drywall tape. No need for the expensive mesh tape, you use what the professional drywallers use. It is less expensive, and provides a better bond.

**Use:** TapeBuddy® applies just the right amount of compound on the tape, so there is now NO NEED to pre-coat seams. Just pull out the amount of tape you need, cut, apply to seam, embed with your drywall knife and **you're done!** Because the right amount of compound is applied to the tape there is no mess on you or the floor. This makes TapeBuddy® the perfect tool for new work making less floor clean up! Also works great for repairs and renovations where the flooring is already in place!

**Clean up:** TapeBuddy® is made of high quality HDPE so clean up is easy. Wash with water and

you're done until your next project.

TapeBuddy® is made to sit on your drywall bucket and there is no heavy equipment to carry. TapeBuddy®

evens allows more than one person to be taping at the same time. TapeBuddy® applies an even amount of compound on the tape so there are no blisters or bubbles in your finished work!

TapeBuddy® is made in the USA and has the Handyman Seal of Approval. This amazing tool has been featured on shows like *Ask This Old House*, *DIY Network*, *Cool Tool*, and *Gotta Have It*.

**Your next project will be easier, faster, less expensive, and better with TapeBuddy®.**



**This IS the tool you need to use on your next project!**

**"Great tool!** My husband is very happy that he discovered this great time saver for taping the shop. He has done 3 walls and is about to start wall #4, then the ceiling. We had an estimate for someone else to do it. Cost: \$4,000!!! The money we paid for the TapeBuddy tool was a great investment. We would recommend it to anyone. **Thanks for saving us \$3970!** No, we won't send you the difference :) He really has used it for every piece of tape he's put on. It took a little learning but now he's an expert!"  
Sandy, Billings, MT

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# DIY PROJECTS



## Building Your Own Greenhouse

While there are many options for adding a plant space to your home, the best (and usually most rewarding) one is when you put your own sweat and love into it. Do-it-yourself greenhouses are a bit involved, so be sure to check out ready-made kits or hiring a team to help you as an alternative if you're a beginner in the construction field.

When building your own plant space, the first and most important thing is a good foundation. You'll need to map out the area, dig trenches, install rebar and pour concrete before you even start talking plant types.

For detailed information, contact your local supplier and give them an idea of what you're trying to do. They will point you in the right direction regarding tools and needed materials, and may even offer to lend a hand for little or no cost!

Choose glass and siding wisely. You'll want to make sure that the pieces are secure and allow in as

much light as you need. If you live in a warmer area, you might want to consider a window or two that fully open. If you're someplace cold, make sure your pieces are well insulated to keep frost out.

The foundation and "bones" are the most difficult parts to accomplish. Once you've finished that, your greenhouse will be complete in a matter of weeks, depending on how much time you spend working on it each day. Remember to get ahold of your area's building

codes and contact a local contractor for advice. The last thing you want to hear after finishing a project of this magnitude is that it has to be removed or altered according to a rule you missed.





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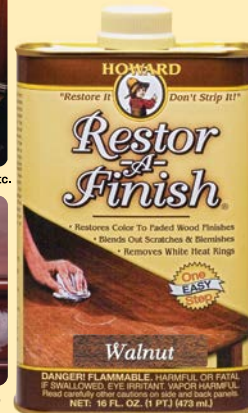
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**Visit [domesticshelters.org](http://domesticshelters.org) today.**

## Installing a Radiant Heat System

Radiant heat systems are a luxurious approach to heating your home. If you're looking for the best and most cost-effective way to upgrade your home's heating means, these systems are the way to go. Rather than having to go turn up your space heater or pay high electric bills to keep your thermostat at a comfortable range, install a radiant system and keep the heat at your toes.

First you have to decide whether you're aiming for a hydronic or electric system. Hydronic systems use pipes to carry hot water through the layout, and give off heat that way. Electric systems may require new circuits and wiring and are better

installed above the subfloor in a concrete base, and will demand more time and electrical skills.

Ceramic tile and vinyl or linoleum flooring is best to have when installing a radiant heat system. Hardwood can crack and dry up, creating a warped mess. If you are insistent upon having a radiant heat system with wood floors, it would be best to have a professional help you complete the project properly.

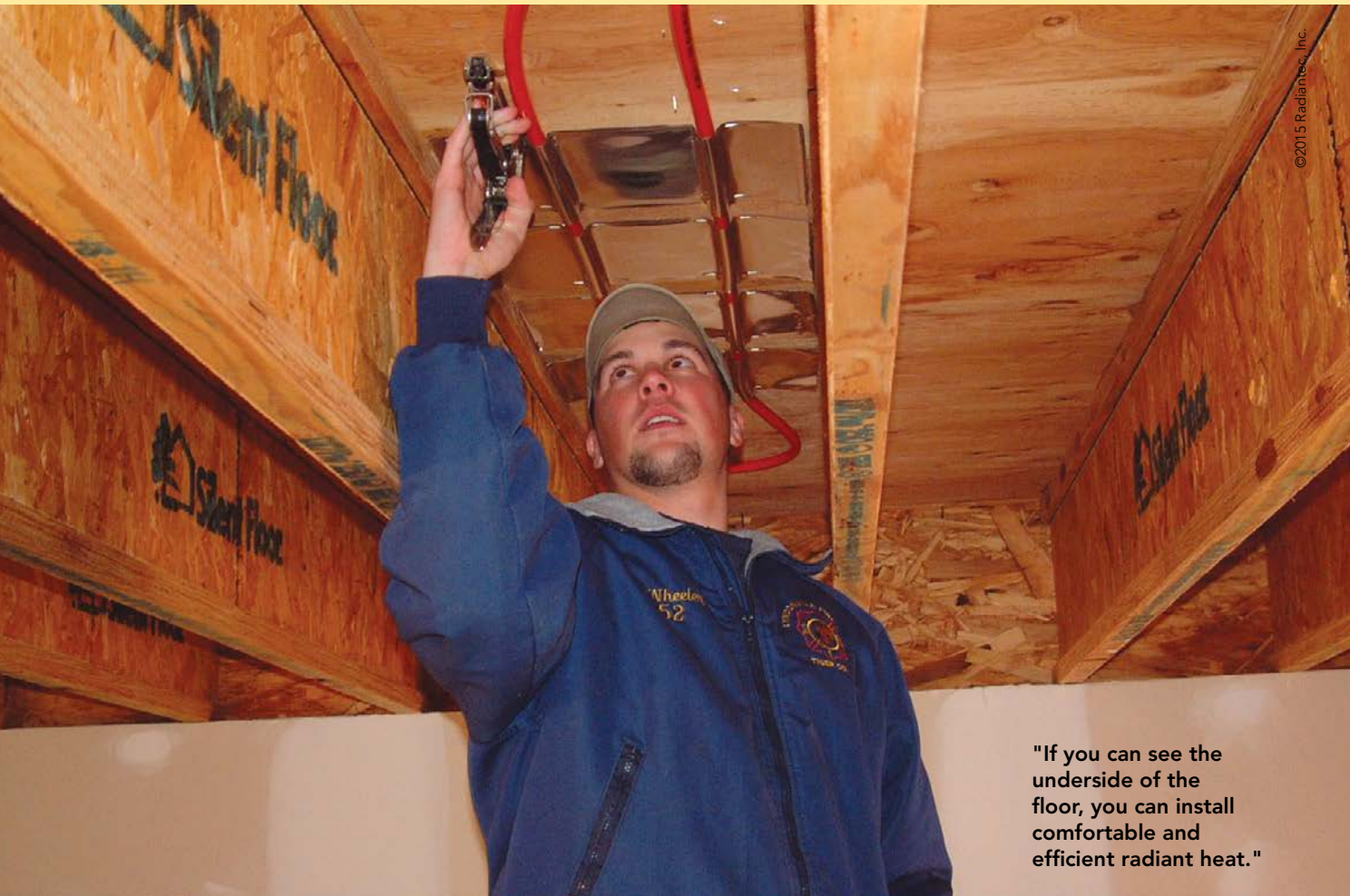
No matter which type you choose, insulation must be installed underneath the heat system to ensure that no heat escapes into the level below.





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## Preventing & Detecting Mold

Mold is found almost everywhere and will infest any and all homes at one point in time or another if measures are not taken to detect and treat current situations, and prevent new ones from arising.

If you suspect mold in your home, one way to be sure is to dab a little bleach on the surface area. If it lightens after a few moments, it is probably mold. If you can smell mold's distinctive odor and you are certain the fungus is present, take immediate precautions and treat the area. Mildew can be a nuisance, but other types of mold can seriously harm one's immune system and cause severe allergic reactions.

To prevent mold, reduce the amount of moisture in your home. Make sure bathroom fans are big enough for the space and keep them running for at least thirty minutes after showers and when

cleaning the room. Thoroughly dry floors and squeegee any water off of walls and counters. Attics need proper ventilation and basements should be double-sealed. Route water away from the foundation of your home for overall protection.

If a leak springs in your home, take precaution and bring in dehumidifiers and carpet dryers if the area is fabricated. Throw away seriously damaged carpet as opposed to drying and salvaging it, as it can hold the spores of mold for a long time and the fungus could sprout up without warning.

A clean home is the best home, so protect your family from mold by monitoring the humidity levels in your home regularly, especially if you have young children or elderly loved ones living with you.





# There is much more to mold than what you see on the surface

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## Upgrading Home Security

Home is where the heart is, so we should guard it the best that we can. Upgrading your home's security will prevent most incidents from happening and catch the inevitable ones in the process. With something so precious, it is always better to be safe than sorry.

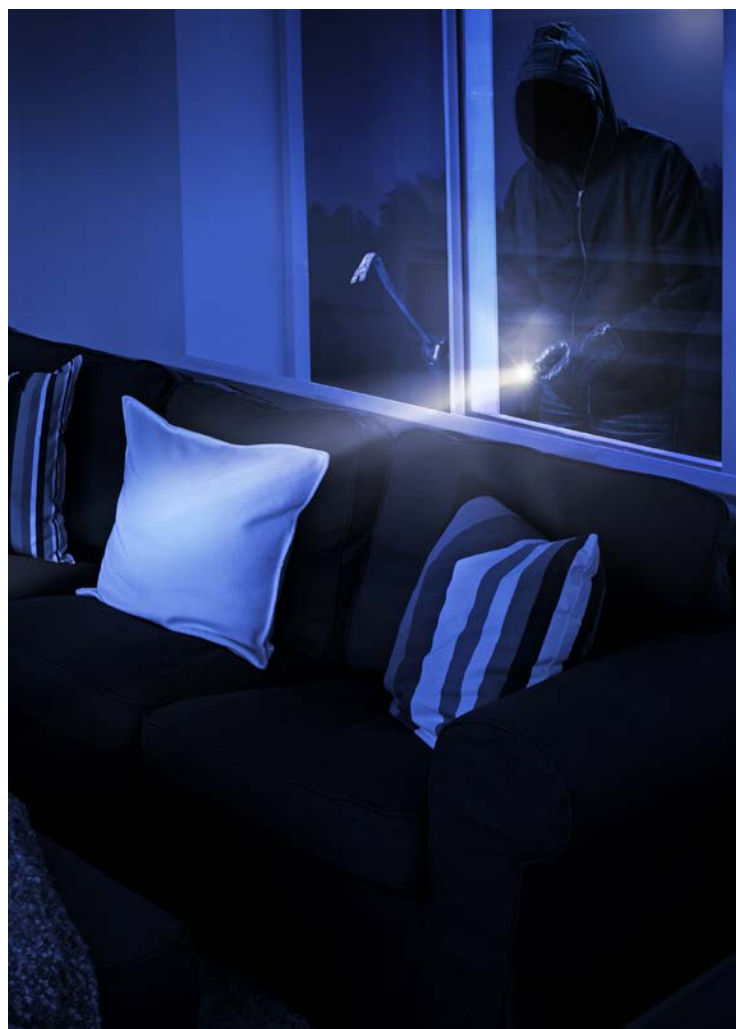
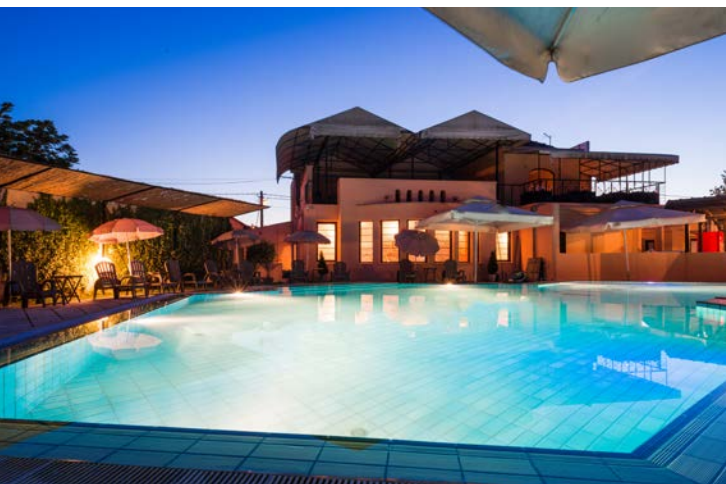
First, make sure your yard is well lit. It doesn't have to be bright like a parking lot, but the darkest areas of your lawn and backyard should have some sort of illumination to help identify objects at night. Porch lights should be maintained and spotlights over a large backyard are ideal, and can serve a dual purpose when entertaining outside.

Second, install overhead locks on doors and windows, and patch any holes in screens around the home. Refrain from using burglar bars that don't come with keyless fire escape latches on them, as they can be

hazardous during an emergency if you're trying to exit the home. The best form of DIY security is a fence, which keeps unwanted animals and individuals out of your personal space, and creates a neat trim to manage your outdoor areas as well.

Some of us feel most secure when we know that help is only a second away with the sound of a single alarm. Security systems are helpful, but expensive. If you're thinking about installing a security system, look into ones you can monitor yourself. They still come with an emergency button that you can press to notify the proper officials when something has gone wrong, and they add convenience to your lifestyle by letting you monitor your house while you're away via cameras that can sync to your phone.

Knowing that your home and your family are safe is comforting and reduces stress. Take advantage of all the modern tools and upgrade your home's security. You'll sleep easier and be more prepared than ever if something were to happen.





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## Cleaning Vinyl Siding


Vinyl siding has become an increasingly popular choice among homeowners and builders because it is durable, relatively inexpensive, and easy to clean. If your home has vinyl siding and you know it's time to spruce it up a bit, consider washing it yourself before you go about hiring a team.

Pressure washers can be a big help when washing your own vinyl siding. If you don't own a pressure washer, you can rent one at a local hardware or home improvement store for an affordable price. Pressure washers will use a high-powered technology to spray away any loose dirt and help to get the majority of the area clean with just water.

For hard-to-remove stains, try using a soft cloth or brush and any simple household cleaner. If you're worried about chemicals damaging your lawn and seeping into your landscape, try using a mixture of water and vinegar. This makes for a natural cleaning solution that won't be harmful to your plants.







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# MAKING *Space*:

How to Keep Yourself and Your Elderly Parents Comfortable Under One Roof



**MOST OF US REMEMBER OUR PARENTS AS SUPERHEROES. MOM COULD FIGHT OFF ILLNESSES WITH A BOWL OF SOUP, DAD BATTLED BOOGEYMEN ON A REGULAR BASIS WITH PLEASURE, AND NEITHER OF THEM WOULD ADMIT ANYTHING IN REGARDS TO THE SANTA CLAUS MYSTERY.**

As we grew older, they became our confidants, mending broken hearts and welcoming us home with love. From dying our hair blue, maxing out a credit card, dating disasters, and any other poor decision we've made, our parents somehow walked us through it all.

But life takes a toll on even the strongest and seemingly most invincible. If a parent (or any loved one) has recently fallen ill, or is simply getting older and a little more dependent, you've probably run the idea of moving them in with you through your mind more than once.

Before you reverse the roles and assume your position as the new superhero, consider the time and dedication it will require. Prepare yourself, your family and your house, so that when moving day arrives, both you and your parents remain as comfortable as possible.



# AGING IN PLACE AND REMODELING YOUR BATH

Remodeling the bath for our senior citizens over the years has been called many things, "universal design", "accessible design", and most recently, "aging in place". In the bathroom the main focal points of a remodel are additional grab bars for a taller water closet, and installing an accessible shower unit for ease of entry and exit, and to reduce the slip and fall hazard.

Clarion Bathware specializes in manufacturing not only ADA Compliant showers but a full line of accessible remodeling showers to fit the needs of our seniors who prefer to stay in their home. The Clarion Quantum series of E-Z Pin showers are designed to fit in the existing space of a normal 60" tub shower, provide an ease of installation with the patented 4 piece design, and allow for easy entry and exit with barrier free and low threshold models available.

The Clarion E-Z pin models come equipped with pressure balanced anti scald valve, hand held shower with 59" hose and glide bar, curtain rod, grab bars, slip resistant floor, and a variety of sizes and models to fit almost any remodeling application. Many models have the four legged fold up seat.

Clarion has been manufacturing tubs and showers since 1973. For over 40 years Clarion has gained a reputation for the highest quality, excellent customer service, and is known for being an innovative leader in the aging in place industry for accessible showers. Clarion products are available through many of the top wholesalers in your area and are delivered to them with our own fleet of trucks and company drivers.

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## Here are the things you'll need to take note of when making space for them:



### 1. Create a personal sanctuary.

Your parents will need to have personal space that they can call their own and be able to go to at any time for peace and privacy. This is usually their bedroom, which shouldn't be too small, so they have room to make it into somewhat of a suite. They'll need space for a table or bookcase to display their photos and memories, and a room with a large window or two to sit by will be very beneficial. This will give your loved one a sense of having a "home within a home," and they'll be able to get away when they need to without actually leaving your care. Believe it or not, they'll want their privacy, and this will give you back some of the privacy you were willing to let go of.

### 2. Customize common areas.

Incorporate their belongings with your décor. The addition of their throw blankets on the back of your couch or some of their photos along the mantle will help them acclimate more quickly. Maybe they own a record collection that you could make room for on a shelf. They need to be able to wander around the house and feel at home, and seeing their belongings around will give them a greater sense of comfort. If they have a piece of living room furniture – a favorite chair – let them keep it. You don't want to force them to adjust to your style completely. You want to create one unified, unique space that you all share equally.

### 3. Give them a tour and label everything.

Giving instructions on how things, such as new appliances, are operated will be important. If your parent has any issues associated with memory loss, such as dementia or Alzheimer's disease, leave easy-to-read labels on the dishwasher and other confusing objects.

If they have a mobility issue, you'll want to make sure everything is easily accessible, such as dishes and medicine. Create designated spaces in each room, like a separate cupboard for their breakfast cereal. It may sound elementary, but labeling everything will help them adjust and keep them from possibly ruining some of your things. Also, give them a walkthrough of the entire house, including everyone else's rooms and even the outdoor spaces. It will make them feel more welcomed and less like a guest with restrictions.



### 4. Plan meals and make lists together.

Don't assume that you've got everything they need. It is very important that you continue to treat your loved one with respect, instead of like a child. Ask them for their input on meal planning, and see if there's anything in particular from a store they need or if there's a certain place they would like to go. If they have diet restrictions, discuss with the rest of the family to make sure everyone is on the same page.



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## 5. Layout and design should be centered on convenience.

Make sure your loved one's bedroom is near a bathroom, preferably right next door. Hallways and common areas should be well lit at all times, especially during night hours, to prevent slips, trips and falls. Invest in nightlights to light pathways and install proper railings to ensure that they will be able to move around with ease, such as a rail to get up from the toilet, and bed railings if necessary. This will allow you to sleep better because you won't be jumping at every creak of a floorboard, thinking they're in trouble.

## 6. It's all about time management.

A daily routine will make everyone happy. Try to make sure that dinner (or at least their dinner) is ready at the same time each day, and that they know when you'll be home and when you'll be out. Think about how your time is spent now. Is someone always home? Is everyone gone all day? For how many hours? You don't want your loved one left lonely, especially if they're dealing with the onset of a disease. Make sure they're never left alone in the house for more than a couple of hours and if they enjoy outings, invite them to tag along with you! Make personal time for just the two of you as well, whether you sit down to have a cup of tea or go for a walk after dinner. You'll appreciate the extra time with them and it will bring you happiness and fulfillment to know they're enjoying their time spent with you.

## 7. Reduce clutter and discuss storage options.

Your parents will not be able to bring everything they own with them, so sort the belongings that will come along from what will need to be given away or put into storage. Some of your things will need to be stored as well, such as the guest bed, if your parents prefer to bring their own or need an adjustable bed. Reducing the amount of clutter you have in your home will not only make them happy, but it will reduce your overall stress. If you have children, make sure you talk with them beforehand and go over designated playing areas and times and where to keep their items, such as a toy chest or a closet for their games. Shoes, sports equipment and anything else that normally gets left out or on the floor should be put away so your loved one doesn't get hurt. And if you're a parent, I'm sure you can admit that even you have tripped over a ball or two, bumped your shin and gotten irritated. Reducing clutter and storing the non-essentials will create harmony and balance for everyone.



*It isn't easy to adjust to, but caring for your elderly loved one will be worth all the time and effort. We hate facing the inevitable, but if we can make the days easier and more fulfilling for the people that took care of us, I think we would all choose to do so.*



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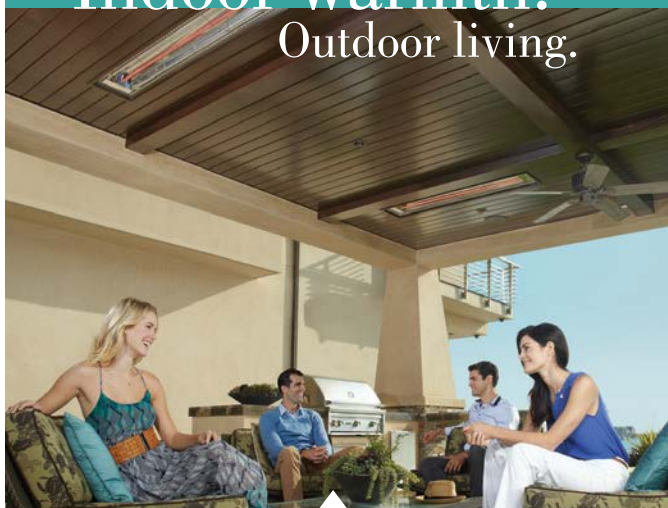


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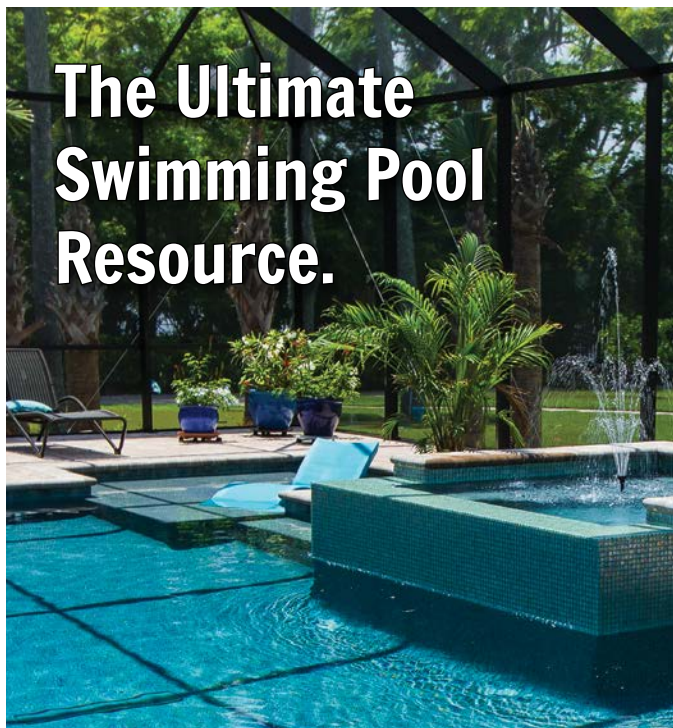
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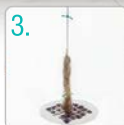
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- 4 Bay leaves
- 1/2 Cup fresh Italian parsley
- 1/2 Cup fresh cilantro
- 1/2 Cup fresh oregano
- 1/2 Cup extra-virgin olive oil
- Salt and pepper
- 1 (1½ to 2-pound) flank steak

Transfer to a bowl. In a molcajete, grind the herbs to release flavors and aromas. Add to bowl with blended mixture. Whisk in the olive oil and season with salt and pepper. Mix well and set aside.

3. Season the flank steak with olive oil, salt, and pepper and grill/broil the steak for 2 to 3 minutes per side for medium rare. Slice the steak thinly, across the grain on the bias and serve with the chimichurri sauce.

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