

**PREMIERE ISSUE!**

Inspiring Ideas | Practical Projects | Simple Solutions

# my home my style™

JAN/FEB 2010

## Fall In Love With Your Home All Over Again!

- \* **Storage Solutions**  
30+ Ways to Control Clutter
- \* **Before & After**  
Money-Saving Makeovers
- \* **Design & Decor**  
Options for Every Project

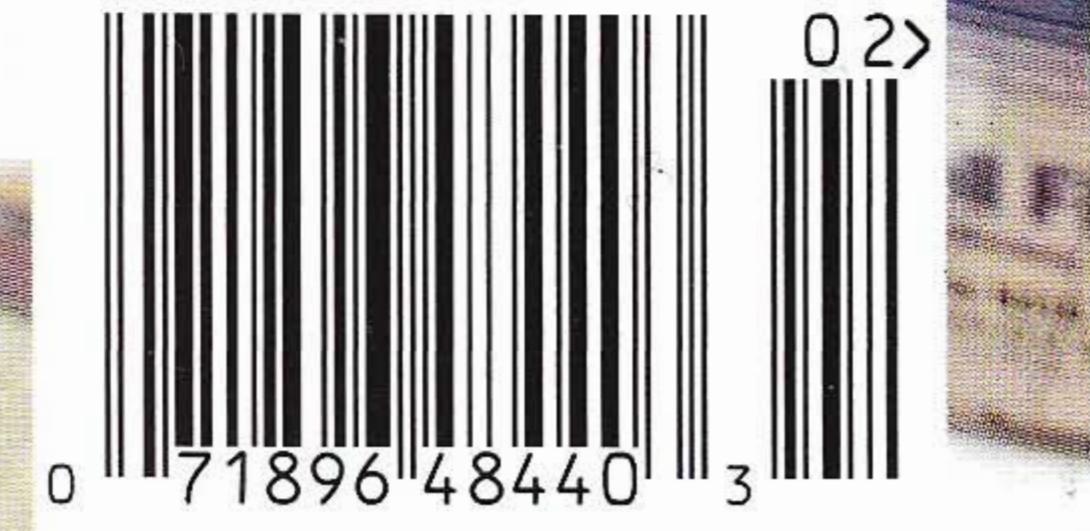


We made them match—  
Bedding & Headboard

**Create Your Own  
Custom Headboard!**  
Scrub brush paint technique  
makes bold style simple

Display until March 16, 2010

\$4.99 US



A Publication of August Home Publishing

# welcome to my home<sup>TM</sup> my style everything you need to succeed!



turn bi-fold doors  
into a beautiful  
custom-crafted  
headboard

Want to give your bedroom walls an infusion of style without having to purchase pricey artwork? Our oversized headboard adds plenty of personality and costs less than \$100 to make.

This cool, colorful headboard gives you the freedom to pick paint shades that blend perfectly with your color scheme. For ours, we painted nature-inspired shades of green and blue from our casual bamboo blinds. Throw pillows in a favorite plaid pattern on the headboard can't be styled, we'll show you how to create a variety of paint effects using other common household tools.

If you have a few spare hours this weekend, round up some paints, two shades of paint, a sifter, a paint tray, and that scrub brush hiding under the sink. With this project, adding decorative punch to a bedroom is as fun as it is rewarding.



Brush it out!  
It's easy to create a one-of-a-kind headboard, and have a blast doing it. This paint technique is truly "no fail," if you can't find what you can, this look.



## Inspiration

To create the home of your dreams, you need inspiration. We'll give it to you with big, bold photos that bring the ideas in every project and article to life. Plus, we'll tell you about the benefits you'll receive, the skills required, and how much time and money you'll invest to make it happen.

# decor details

Inspiration builds motivation, but doesn't put it into action. We back up our ideas with decorating and design details that help you turn inspiration into improvements for your home.



## getting started on your headboard project



It's never too late to update your bedroom, and there's no better way to do it than with a headboard. Headboards can add personality to a room or make a statement. They're also a great way to add storage to a small space or make a bed look more comfortable. And they're not just for beds; headboards can be used as wall art or even as a decorative element in a room.

Once you've decided what type of headboard you want, it's time to start planning. You'll need to measure the width of your bed and determine how much height you want. Then, choose a style that complements your room's decor.

Finally, you'll need to find a source for your materials and tools. You can buy them online or at a local hardware store.

### 1 prime the doors



### 2 brush on the first color



### 3 add the second color



## how-to

Clear photos, detailed illustrations, and concise, down-to-earth writing guide you through every how-to step. It's like having an experienced friend by your side giving you the confidence you need to succeed.



## style options

What fits perfectly in one home may seem out of place in another. That's why *My Home My Style* always brings you options that show you how you can take our ideas and transform them to suit your home, your life, and your style.

**variations on the theme**

With a corner or painting toolhead (paint), there's no need to stick with basic brushes. When time around the house is limited, car become unexpected paint applicators.

**Clothespins** These help hold the paper in place while you paint. Just spread the clothespins open and lay the paper over them. Then, use a paintbrush to paint over the clothespins.

**Loofah Ball** This is made for the bath, but it's perfect for painting. Just spread the paint over the loofah ball and use it to create a textured finish.

**Casserole Dish** Use a casserole dish and the paint to create a unique pattern. Just dip the dish into the paint and use it to create a textured finish.

**Dish Scrubber** Use a scrubber to create a textured finish. Just dip the scrubber into the paint and use it to create a textured finish.



## design ideas

With our help, it's easy to make your home look exactly like a page from the magazine. If you'd like to add your own spin, we offer design options, so you can turn our ideas into your own.

**painted headboards** same great idea, three different looks

Painted headboards are a great way to add personality and style to your bedroom. There are many ways to paint a headboard, and each method can result in a unique and personalized look. Here are three different ways to paint a headboard:

- 1. Painted Headboard:** This is a classic way to paint a headboard. Simply apply a coat of paint to the headboard and let it dry. You can use a brush or a roller, depending on the size of the headboard.
- 2. Stenciled Headboard:** This is a fun way to add some personality to your headboard. Use a stencil to create a repeating pattern, such as a floral or geometric design. You can use a brush or a roller to apply the paint.
- 3. Distressed Headboard:** This is a popular way to give a headboard a rustic or vintage feel. Start by painting the headboard with a solid color. Once it's dry, use sandpaper to distress the edges and corners. You can also use a brush or a roller to apply the paint.



## My Home My Style

Volume 1, No. 1

### Publisher

Donald B. Peschke

**Managing Editor** David Stone

**Art Director** Kim Downing

**Senior Editor** Wyatt Myers

**Assistant Editors** Louise Ritchhart,  
Alyssa McNab, Catherine Seiser

**Assistant Art Director** Kurt Schultz

**Senior Illustrator** Erich Lage

**Associate Style Director**

Rebecca Cunningham

**Senior Photographers** Dennis Kennedy,  
Crayola England

**Senior Electronic Image Specialist**

Allan Ruhnke

### August Home Publishing

**Editorial Media Director**

Terry J. Strohman

**Executive Art Director**

Todd Lambirth

**Creative Director** Ted Kralicek

**Senior Project Designers**

James R. Downing, Ken Munkel,  
Kent Welsh, Chris Fitch, Mike Donovan

**Project Designer/Builder** John Doyle

**Shop Craftsmen** Steve Curtis,

Steve Johnson

**Production Assistant**

Minniette Johnson

### Customer Service

PHONE (800) 311-3991

### Subscriptions

My Home My Style Customer Service  
P.O. Box 842  
Des Moines, IA 50304-9961  
Subscriptions@AugustHome.com

### Editorial

My Home My Style Magazine  
2200 Grand Ave.  
Des Moines, IA 50312

MY HOME MY STYLE (#1/317) is published bimonthly  
(Feb., April, June, Aug., Oct., Dec.) by August Home Publishing  
Company, 2200 Grand Ave., Des Moines, IA 50312. Copyright  
© 2009 August Home Publishing Company. All rights reserved.

Issue Price: Single copy, \$4.99. Periodicals postage paid at  
Des Moines, Iowa, and at additional offices. Postmaster:  
Send address changes to My Home My Style, PO Box 37272,  
Boone, IA 50037-0272. Canadian Subscriptions: Canada Post  
Agreement No. 40038201. Send change of address informa-  
tion to: PO Box 881, Station Main, Markham, ON L3P 8M6.  
Canada BN 84597 5473 RT Printed in U.S.A.

## { A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR }

No matter how much storage space we have, it never seems to be enough. That becomes even more apparent as we gather more of the "necessities" of modern life. Homes—whether they're new or old—simply don't come equipped with adequate storage built in.

**Storage Solutions...** That's why we've devoted a large portion of this issue to creative storage solutions for your home. Whether you're stashing kitchenware, bath accessories, electronic gear, outerwear, or even bottles of wine, you're sure to find dozens of ideas that you can use to get more organized.

**...with Style.** Along with all those great storage ideas, we'll show you how you can incorporate them in ways that amp up your home's style. We know that not everything can get stashed away behind closed doors, so we've devised ways to make storage not just convenient, but attractive, to boot. And we'll even show you how to personalize everything so that you can customize it to suit your personal tastes.

DAVE



### On The Cover.

Make a bold style statement in your bedroom by creating a custom headboard. It's surprisingly easy, amazingly economical, and fun. Learn how to make it happen on page 32.

## Surprise yourself by creating storage almost anywhere

You can have a lot of fun making the bath suitcase storage project (*page 52*) because it's completely open to your own creative interpretation. You don't even have to stick with suitcases—we found plenty of old toolboxes and other vintage cases at the salvage store that would work just as well. And since many of these secondhand suitcases and boxes cost less than \$20, you'll get a lot of storage for your money, too.

Alyssa McNab  
*Assistant Editor*



## Creative ideas for home enhancement



### Transform Ordinary Items

Part of the do-it-yourself spirit is embracing the idea that you don't have to spend a lot to create nice things. Our wine rack (*page 40*) proves that. It looks like a high-end piece but is built with PVC pipe, one board, paint, and a jigsaw.

Kent Welsh  
*Senior Project Designer*



### Learn Creative Techniques

If you like to color outside the lines, you'll love our easy headboards (*page 32*). We started by making a simple crosshatch design with a scrub brush and were soon rummaging around to find other items that might create fun patterns.

Louise Ritchhart  
*Assistant Editor*



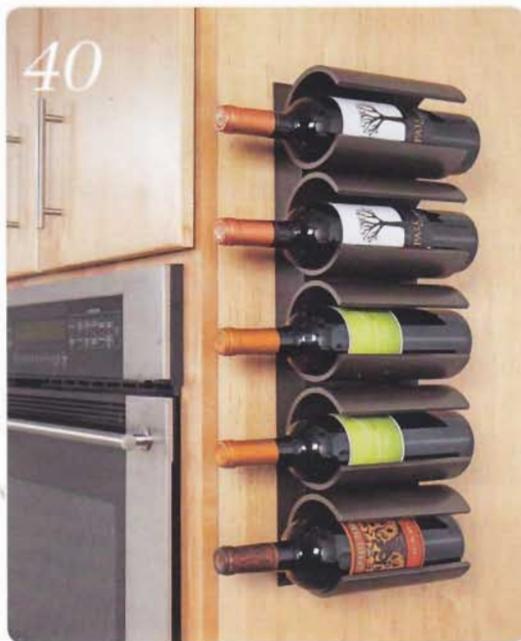
### Explore Salvage Shops

I've always admired the old doors at architectural salvage stores—but couldn't figure out what to do with them. This desk (*page 24*) proves that you can give these doors new life. All it took here was a frosted spray finish, legs, and a glass top.

Wyatt Myers  
*Senior Editor*



12



40



32

## Departments

- 8]** Readers' Tips & Projects
- 12]** Questions & Answers
- 16]** Close to Home
- 60]** What's In Store
- 62]** Resources

### IN EVERY ISSUE

#### **32] Paint Power: Headboards**

Bi-fold doors and paint may not sound like a recipe for headboards, but the results are nothing short of amazing.

#### **40] Simple Pleasures: Wine Rack**

Create a wine bottle holder for your kitchen that looks like it costs hundreds for just \$20.

#### **58] Gear Guide: Glue Guns**

Fire up that hot glue gun ... and then read our 10 great ways to put it to use on your home projects!

# {contents}

## Features

### 20] storage solutions: Clever Cutting-Edge Storage

Keep modern electronics and other gadgets from cluttering up your home with these seven great storage solutions.

### 24] dollar-wise design: From Door to Designer-Style Desk

Discover how an old door, some hardware, and a few spare hours can turn into a great-looking contemporary computer desk.

### 28] easy add-ons: Spice Up Your Kitchen

No need to hide your spices in a cabinet. Have them always on hand with this simple, stylish spice rack.

### 44] before & after: Easy Entryway Organizer

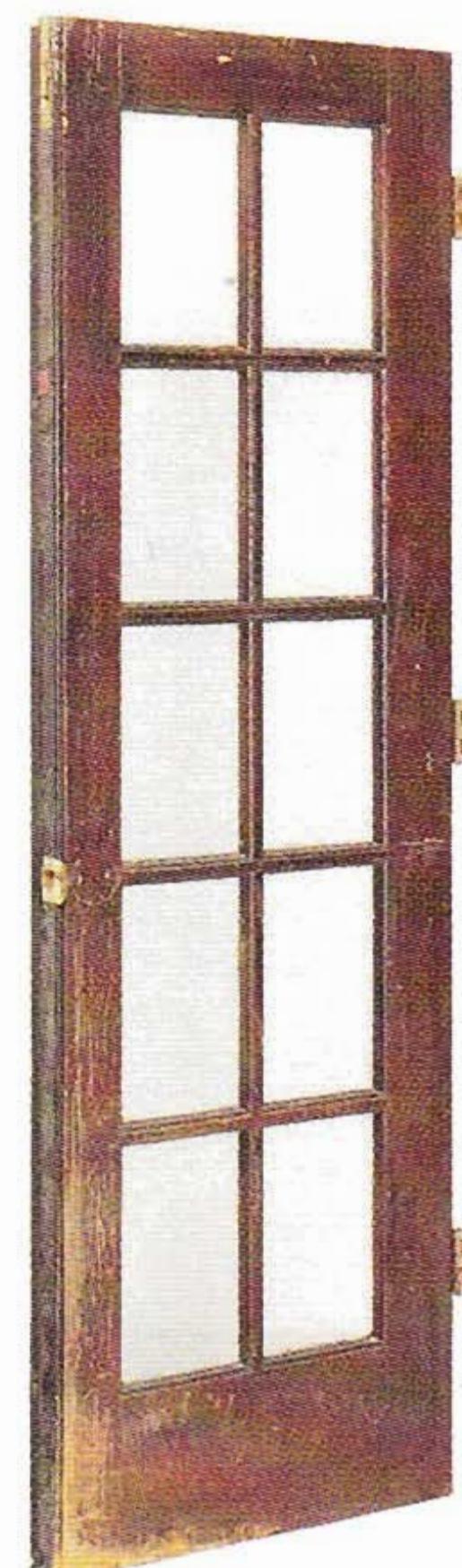
Few areas collect clutter like an entryway. This project solves the problem and has a classic built-in look that's easy to get.

### 52] salvaged treasures: Small Bath Storage Cases

Old suitcases as a bathroom storage solution? It may sound strange at first, but wait till you see how good it looks!

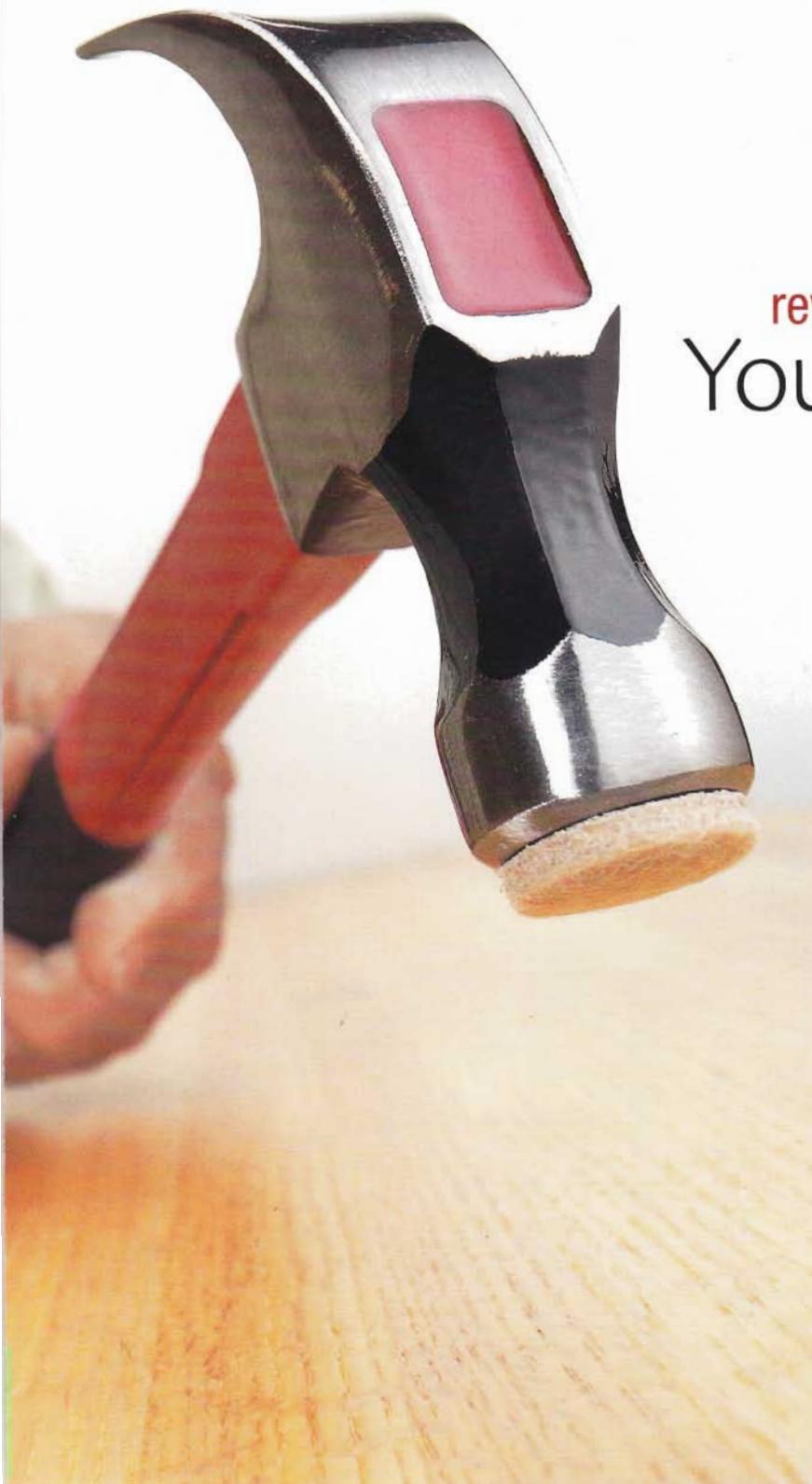


24



*Make a Cool Desk  
Out of an Old Door!*

*Got a little bit of free time this weekend? All it takes to make this door into a desk is some glass, steel legs, molding, and a little elbow grease!*



**Self-adhesive furniture pads**  
like these work great to soften  
the blow of your hammer.



reveal  
**Your Hammer's  
Softer Side**

Every once in a while, you need your hammer for something a little gentler than driving in nails — like tapping a board into place or seating a plug without damaging the surrounding wood.

You could pay big bucks for a "soft blow" mallet for jobs like this — or simply do what Serge Duclos of Delson, Quebec, does and pick up a pack of self-adhesive furniture pads (*Photo, above*). Then, you can just press the pad to the tip of the hammer when you need it (*left*), and discard it or put it away when you're done.

**We want to hear from YOU!**

At ***My Home My Style***, it's all about you. Whether you have a helpful tip for use around the house, a cool project to share, or just a question for us, we want to hear it! **Here's the best part:** If we publish your tip, project, question, or letter in the magazine, you'll be rewarded with cash or prizes!

**Send your ideas to:**

**Email:** editor@myhomemystyle.com

**Mail:** Reader Response

My Home My Style Magazine

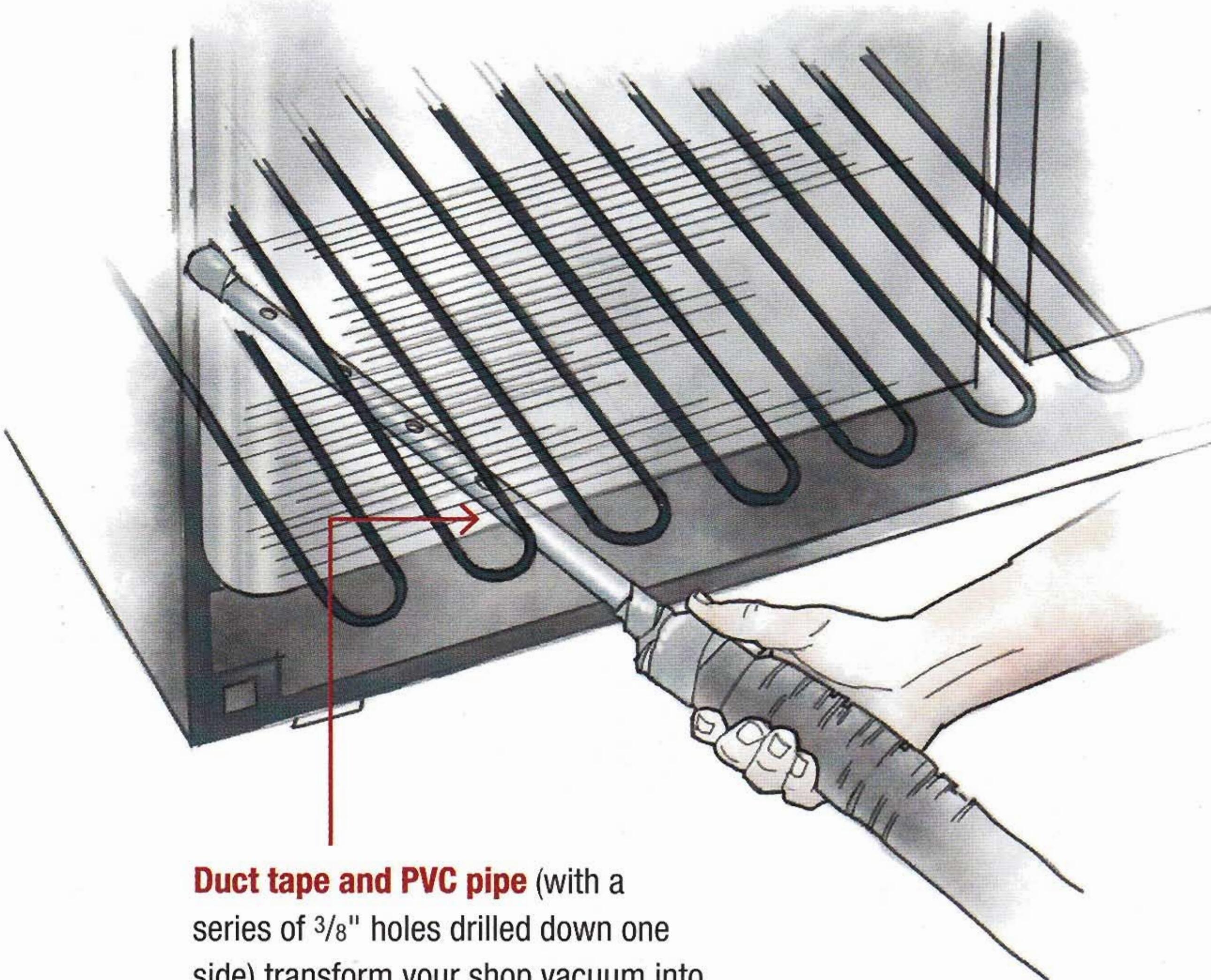
2200 Grand Avenue

Des Moines, IA 50312

## Simple Fridge Clean-up

Do you know that many manufacturers recommend cleaning the coils on your refrigerator at least twice a year? It's true — but the job is such a chore that very few of us actually do it!

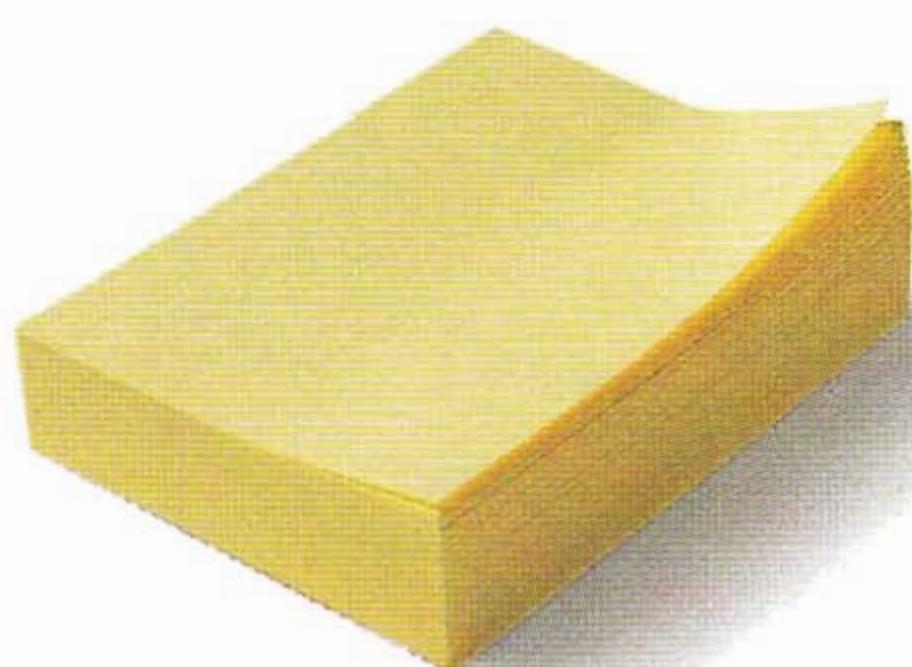
Dan Gleissner of Prescott, Arizona, came up with a way to make the task less burdensome. He uses duct tape to secure a length of  $\frac{1}{2}$ " PVC pipe (which fits beneath the coils) into the end of a shop vacuum hose. Then he caps the end of the pipe and drills a few holes in it. This creates suction at each hole, making a simple cleaning "wand" that gets those coils dust-free in no time.



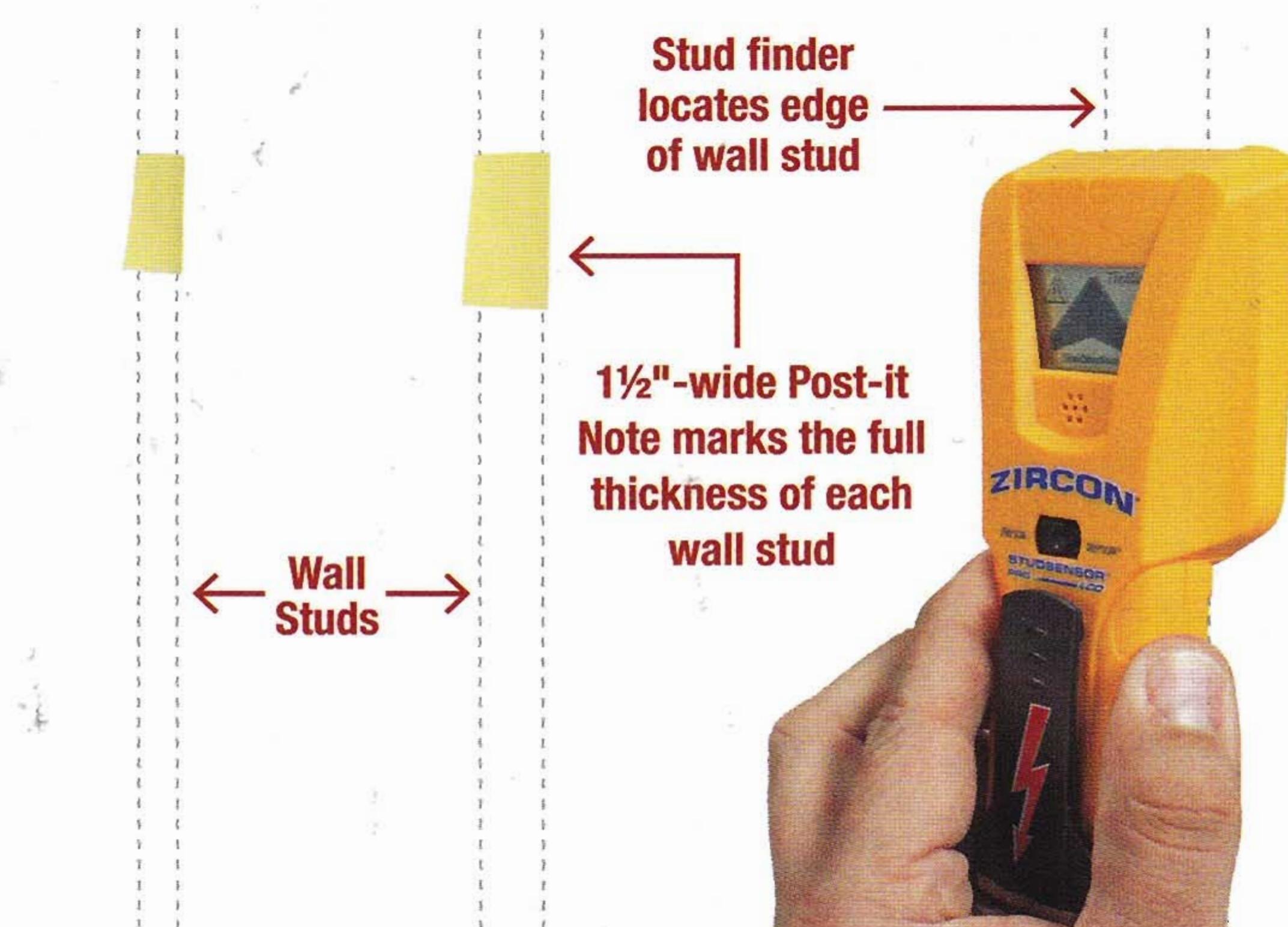
**Duct tape and PVC pipe** (with a series of  $\frac{3}{8}$ " holes drilled down one side) transform your shop vacuum into a refrigerator coil cleaning tool.

## stick to the Stud Locations

Stud finders sure are handy household tools, but many of them only find the edge of the stud. That's not a problem, says Edward Homendy of Fredericksburg, Virginia. It just so happens that the Post-it Classic Note ( $1.5" \times 2"$ ) perfectly matches the width of a stud when you stick it up sideways (Photo, below).



Now when Edward needs to "stick to" stud locations, he just has a pad of Post-its handy with his stud finder. Each time it goes off to denote the edge of a stud, he marks the position with a Post-it to identify the full width and precise position of the stud.



## light bulb Bright Idea

It's happened to the best of us: You try to change a light bulb, and the stubborn thing just won't come loose from the socket. When you consider all that glass, it can be a risky proposition.

Roy Southard of Athens, Texas, solves the problem before it happens with a quick shot of silicone spray that he just rubs onto the base of the light bulb before installing it.



make this handy

# Drop-Down Bench

Maximize your garage's potential with a simple work station that drops down from the wall when you need it. It's easy!



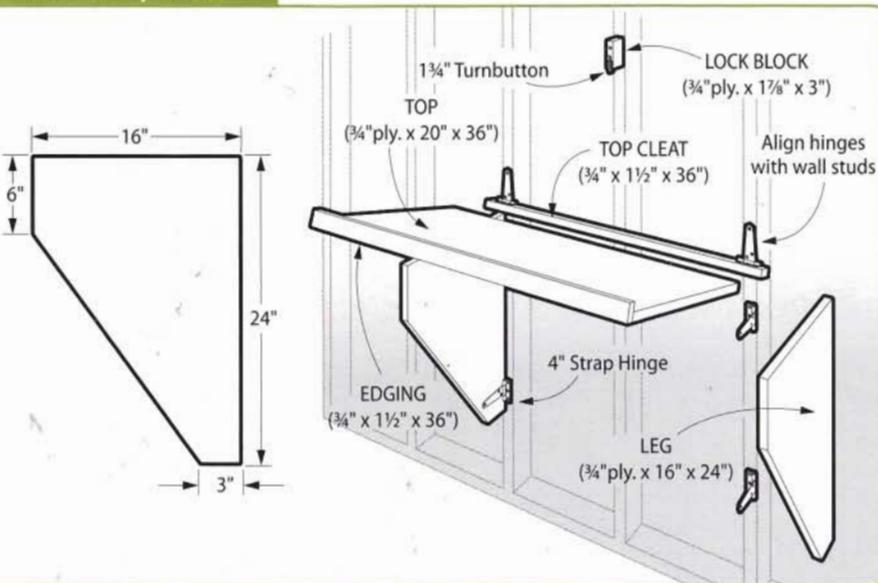
Garage space is at a premium in almost every home. Yet it's often the first place we turn for potting plants, painting furniture, or working on other DIY projects.

Enter this handy drop-down bench from Frank Liberti of Locust Grove, Virginia. Made from small pieces of plywood and basic home center hardware, it solves your garage space issues while providing a handy work surface.

As you can see at left, the secret to this station is a pair of "legs" that fold out from the wall to support the top. These can be cut from a single piece of plywood with a simple diagonal cut (*Fig. 1*). They're mounted to the wall with strap hinges that are normally used for gates.

Edging pieces that are glued and nailed to the front and back of the top keep loose items from rolling off (*Fig. 2*). Then, the top is also held to the wall with two more strap hinges that let it open and close easily (*Fig. 3*). When not in use, just fold the parts against the wall, and hold the top in place with a simple "lock" block (*Photo, left*).

## Assembly View



## Basic Tools, Simple Construction



[1] **Cut the Legs.** Lay out the diagonal cut on a small sheet of plywood with a pencil. Then cut it in half with a jigsaw to create the two leg pieces.



[2] **Attach the Edging.** The front edging strip and top cleat are both made from pine 1x2s. Nail the front strip to the front edge, and then glue the top cleat to the top.



[3] **Install the Hinges.** These strap hinges provide a sturdy, simple solution for mounting both the top and legs to the wall. Be sure to align the hinges with wall studs.



**Get out the marker** and trace your frames on paper. Cutouts can be taped to the wall and adjusted until you're ready to commit to an arrangement for the actual photos.



when hanging frames, create a

# Picture-Perfect Collage

**Q:** I have an assortment of framed photos that I'm having trouble arranging on my wall. How can I make it look right without making dozens of nail holes?

Randy Maxey  
Delaware, OH

**A:** Hanging a collage of frames can be a finicky task. Working on a vertical plane — and not being able to step back more than an arm's length — makes it hard to get the balance and composition just right. And fine-tuning the arrangement after you hang the frames on nails is definitely easier said than done.

That's why it's a good idea to keep the nails and hammer in the toolbox until you have a chance to see and tweak what you're working with. You can easily do this by taping a piece of paper to the wall in the place of each frame.

Start by tracing your frames on paper and cutting them out. Then mark the locations of the nail hangers, and label the shapes so you know which is which. Lay out an arrangement of frames on the floor — paying attention not only to the positioning, but also to the balance of frame styles and photos.

Now you can replicate the arrangement on the wall with the paper shapes, and adjust the spacing until you're satisfied. You already marked where the nail holes need to go, so now you can get out the hammer without hesitation.

What's the right height to hang photo frames, paintings, or other artwork on the wall?

*about 60"*



## understanding paint sheen

**Q:** Gloss and semi-gloss paint finishes are pretty distinct, but what are the differences between flat, eggshell, and satin?

Rob Glazebrook  
Des Moines, IA

**A:** It might help to think of paint sheens as a spectrum: flat, flat enamel, eggshell enamel, satin enamel, semi-gloss enamel, and high-gloss enamel. Flat paint is truly matte (lusterless), whereas each type after it has progressively more sheen (gloss or shine). When choosing paint, it's important to consider the appearance of the sheen, as well as its ability to hide flaws or withstand occasional cleaning.

**Flat.** Because it doesn't reflect light, flat paint hides imperfections and makes rough walls and ceilings look smooth. It covers well with fewer coats but doesn't hold up to cleaning.

**Flat Enamel.** The enamel quality means this low-luster paint can be gently washed. Still, it's best to reserve it for low-traffic areas.

**Eggshell Enamel.** Formulated with a hint of gloss, eggshell paint is better able to withstand cleaning. It's good for living areas and bedrooms.

**Satin Enamel.** Satin paint has a velvety shine, but it reflects light so imperfections become more obvious. Its resistance to scrubbing makes it appropriate for trim and kids' rooms.

get good looks  
that last when

## Painting Pre-finished Furniture

**Q:** I'd like to paint a set of natural-wood stools, but when I've painted over finish before, it just scratched off. What can I do to make the paint stick?

Molly Rasmussen  
Mound, MN

**A:** Painting mismatched or worn-out furniture is the go-to way to make it suit your style. But as you've experienced, dipping a brush into a paint can and applying a coat or two usually doesn't cut it.

For long-lasting results, first sand the finish so paint will adhere to the wood better. Start with 80-grit sandpaper, and work your way up to 220-grit. Follow

the grain of the wood, and use a tack cloth to wipe the surfaces clean between sandings. When you're done, check for dents that may need to be repaired.

Priming the wood won't hurt, but with pre-finished furniture, it usually isn't necessary. The original finish prevents the wood from absorbing paint.

The preliminary work is done, so now it's time to paint — but don't just slop the color on. You'll get better results if you apply two or three thin coats of satin, semi-gloss, or gloss paint using a synthetic-bristle brush and following the grain of the wood.

For better protection, follow up with a water-based polyurethane finish. The end result will look like it was painted by the pros, and you can be sure it will last.

## put a stop to dirty disposals

**Q:** I've heard lots of theories, but no great answers. How do I clean my garbage disposal?

Chelsea Cole  
Dallas, TX

**A:** Cleaning your garbage disposal will keep it smelling fresh and running great. To do it, just fill your disposal with ice cubes and rock salt, and flip the switch. This "sharpens" the grinders by knocking off buildup on the sharp edges, and it cleans the walls of the chamber, as well. For a fresh scent, occasionally run citrus fruit rinds through the disposal.

## save your bathroom from ugly old caulk

**Q:** The caulk around my sink and bathtub looks sloppy. Not only is it cracked and dirty, but it was poorly applied in the first place. How can I remove it and do it right?

Brandon Gehl  
Rochester, NY

**A:** The good news is that your problem is easily solved with a caulking tool kit that's available at home centers. The DAP Pro Caulk kit (DAP.com) includes a caulk removal tool and flexible "smoothers." The corners of the smoothers allow you to shape a perfect caulk bead in the right size without much mess or waste.

Start by pulling up the old caulk with the caulk removal tool (*upper Photo at right*). If the bead won't budge, try using DAP Caulk-Be-Gone or 3M Caulk Remover to soften it. Once the old caulk is out of the way, clean the joint with a strong household cleaner, and allow it to dry thoroughly.

Now squeeze a thin bead of mildew-proof caulk along the joint line. Then slide one of the smoothers along the bead to create a smooth, consistent line of caulk (*lower Photo at right*). You can use the excess caulk on the smoother to fill in another area around your fixture before smoothing that out, as well.

Make sure you let the caulk cure at least as long as the manufacturer recommends before using your fixture.



**Replacing ugly caulk** begins with removing the old beads. This simple caulk removal tool has angles and edges designed to easily pull it up.



The "smoother" tools have a total of 12 profiles to choose from, so you can handle any edge or corner and get your caulk line the right thickness.

## a simple solution for **basement floors**



**Q:** The basement floor in my home is cold and unattractive, but I'm concerned that moisture will ruin any flooring I lay down. What do you recommend?

Megan Franck  
Des Moines, IA

**A:** To prevent moisture on your concrete floor from damaging a floor covering — whether it's carpet, laminate, or one of many other materials rated for use in basements — you'll need to add a ventilated barrier between the two surfaces. The easy-to-install, interlocking subfloor panels shown at left (DriCore.com) allow air to flow underneath, so normal dampness dries and never reaches the floor covering above them. Plus, elevating your finished floor off the concrete raises the floor temperature about 6 degrees.



Photo Courtesy of Sherwin-Williams

## style spotlight Mid-century Madness

Turn to the sleek lines and cheerful colors of retro style to find a look for your own home.

When you want to give your home a new look, styles of the past can provide some of the best inspiration. That's why fabric prints, home accessories, and even appliances from the 1950s and 1960s can still look great in homes today.

Mid-century style in today's decor can come in many forms. Some decor takes on an eclectic look using homey vintage furniture and accents. Other spaces have a streamlined look that incorporates mid-century modern furniture and lighting.

With the right approach, you can bring this style into your home, too. You could choose to accurately recreate rooms of the era, which is especially effective in homes that were actually built during this time. Another option is to add a few items with retro styling to the decor you already have to create a look that's all your own.

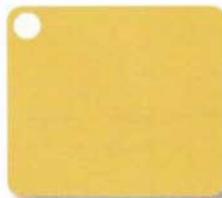
## Add Retro Style to Your Space

No matter what approach you take to get the look, here are some tips to help you incorporate it into your home:

**Embrace What You Have.** Part of the appeal of retro style is that you can use items you already have, such as vintage furniture. If you have retro fixtures and floor coverings in your home, keeping them can save the expense of a major remodeling project.

**Buy the Real Thing.** Fortunately, many products from the 1950s and 1960s were built to last, and that means you'll have a good chance of finding some great authentic pieces online through Craigslist and eBay. If you're looking for new items that capture the look, see our sources below.

**Get Inspired.** You're definitely not alone if you're a fan of retro decor. A number of Web sites provide inspiration for mid-century style. Retro Renovation ([RetroRenovation.com](http://RetroRenovation.com)), a frequently updated Web site with photos of retro homes and makeovers, is one of our favorites. Photo sharing site Flickr.com is also a great resource for inspiring photos of mid-century makeovers.



**Color Counts.** Bold, bright color palettes play a crucial role in the look of retro homes. Sherwin-Williams ([Sherwin-Williams.com](http://Sherwin-Williams.com)) offers some historic color palette suggestions online, including their cheery, playful "Suburban Modern" colors that help you get the mid-century look.

## Retro-fit

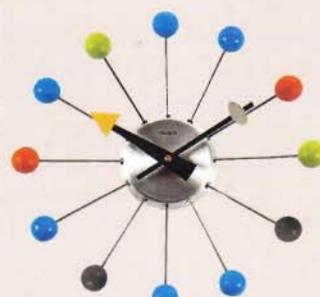


**Lively lighting** like the Orbis Tri chandelier from Rejuvenation can hold its own in a room that features other bold accessories.

**Cool clocks** like this colorful ball clock from VintageLooks.com offer a quick, easy way to add retro style to your room.



**Fun furniture** in retro shapes, like VintageLooks.com's fiberglass egg chair, provide focal points in your mid-century-inspired space.



## Where to Find It!

\* Rejuvenation ([Rejuvenation.com](http://Rejuvenation.com)) offers reproduction lighting and cabinet hardware, including options that will enhance your mid-century space.

\* VintageLooks.com sells furniture (*Photo, right*) and home accents that will add function or a finishing touch to your room.

\* Appliances from Elmira Stove Works ([ElmiraStoveWorks.com](http://ElmiraStoveWorks.com)) are perfect for a retro kitchen re-do. You'll find refrigerators, ranges, dishwasher panels, and microwaves with classic styling.

\* You can use patterned pillows to add an instant retro look to any room. Tonic Living ([TonicLiving.com](http://TonicLiving.com)) sells many styles, in addition to fabric and futon covers.



**First Place** was awarded to "Cocoon" by Rickard Hederstierna of Sweden. The appliance would identify and suggest cooking times for meat and fish dishes.



**Second Place** went to "Water Catcher" by Penghao Shan of China. The futuristic device would send flying balls into the air to catch rain and return the water to the tray for purification.



**Third Place** honors went to "Renew" by Louis Filosa of the United States. This unique appliance would offer speedy steam cleaning, and it would read special clothing tags for information about the items that it cleans.



# electrolux design lab

Design students around the world envision the home appliances of the future.

Ninety years ago, most people couldn't have imagined the technology that we have available today. And today, most people can't imagine the technology that we'll have 90 years from now. But Electrolux's Design Lab ([ElectroluxDesignLab.com](http://ElectroluxDesignLab.com)) asked industrial design students from around the world to do just that: Look into the future to design product concepts that would meet consumers' needs.

These futuristic ideas are meant to improve the way people complete everyday tasks. They were judged on intuitiveness, innovation, and consumer insight. The prize for first place was 5,000 euros and a paid internship with Electrolux. Here's a look at the winning designs from the 2009 contest.

**People's Choice** was awarded to "Teleport Fridge" by Dulyawat Wongnawa of Thailand. The fridge concept would eliminate trips to the grocery store by teleporting food directly inside.



kiosks will automatically

## Recycle Used Phones

When you want to make your home more organized, one of the first steps is getting rid of items you no longer use. Old gadgets like cell phones are major clutter culprits, but automatic kiosks may soon make them easier to recycle.

EcoATMs (EcoATM.com) are machines that will be placed at stores to automate the process of recycling your old phones — and reward you for them. When you insert your phone into the machine, EcoATM scans it to determine the model and assess its condition, and then assigns a value to it. In return, you'll receive a gift card, a trade-up coupon, or an opportunity to make a contribution to charity. Your old cell phone will then be reused or recycled depending on its condition.

EcoATM placed its first machine in a store in Omaha, Nebraska, last fall. The company plans to add more machines at retailers across the country this year.



Photo Courtesy of EcoATM

**Phone recycling centers** like this one could be coming to a retailer near you. These stations will accept your old cell phone, automatically analyze it to determine its value, and offer you a reward for turning it in.

{ 5 or more used cell phones are in the average U.S. household. }  
The percentage of used cell phones and other electronics that are sold online. { 10 }

Source: EcoATM



A separate space complete with a washer and dryer and a bathroom outfitted with grab bars made this house a more comfortable place for the homeowners' parents to live.

Photos Courtesy of NARI

## home remodels ease Multi-Generation Living

The growing population of senior citizens is sparking change within the remodeling industry. Citing the AARP, the National Association of the Remodeling Industry says that the population of adults who are 65 and older will increase by 89 percent from 2007 to 2030.

Some senior citizens move in with family members instead of nursing homes, which makes remodeling to accommodate them a priority. The photos at left show a multi-generation remodel by Barry Goggin Construction Corp. in New York.

# 7 cutting-edge storage solutions *for modern living*

Our homes sure have changed a lot over the years. We've gone from cassette tapes to CDs to iPods—and that's just the last two decades!

But the one thing that probably hasn't changed around your house is the need to hide away all those new toys, gadgets, and contraptions that you buy. The good news is, manufacturers are coming up with innovative storage solutions for these devices as quickly as the products themselves.

No matter how many new gadgets you have around your house, someone has probably come up with a cool way to store them. Corral all the clutter of your modern life with these seven innovative storage solutions.

Of course, electronic devices aren't the only things that need storing. As we started looking at other home storage solutions, we realized that sometimes, the storage solution itself is what's cutting edge. Whether you need to store bikes, garage gear, clothes, or kitchen appliances, you'll find cool options for these, too.

Over the next few pages, we'll show you our seven favorite ways to organize your 21st century home.

## **Charging Center**—when it comes to charging electronic devices, cut the cords ... then just set it and forget it!

Since the advent of the first cell phone, we have taken for granted that the gaggle of cords for our electronic device chargers were just a fact of life. The Powermat changes that notion.

It requires just one cord to charge the mat. Then, receivers that mount to each of your devices allow the mat to deliver a charge straight to them without wires. Just set the devices on the mat to both store and charge them in one great-looking setting.

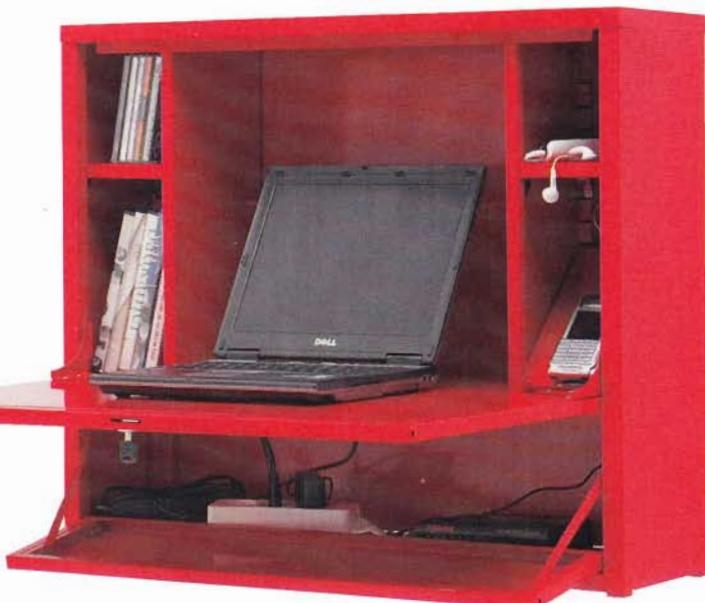


## Laptop Workstation—finally, a good home for your laptop

One electronic device that has worked its way into many rooms is the laptop. But few of us have a good place to put it, which is why it often ends up parked inelegantly on a table or countertop.

Ikea offers a solution in the form of this laptop workstation, which mounts easily to any wall. Available in red or white, its sleek steel finish looks great. The various compartments offer abundant storage for a laptop and all its accessories.

2



{ *What would you rather see—a bird's nest of laptop cords, chargers, & accessories, or this sleek computer station? It's a pretty easy decision.* }



## Handy Hub Organizer—charge & listen on the same station

3

Rather than eliminating cord clutter with a Powermat, another option is to simply hide it from sight with a charging valet. These handy electronic hubs are available from several manufacturers in a variety of shapes, sizes, colors, and price ranges. They offer multiple compartments for storing and charging your devices.

This option from Pottery Barn even has a built-in iPod dock and speakers. That means you can store and charge your iPod and listen to your favorite music and podcasts all with one handy and attractive home fixture. As you can see, it has space for charging plenty of other items, too.



4

### Better Bike Storage—a bicycle hanger that works as good as it looks

Bicycles aren't exactly the easiest things to store in your home. Few recent products have solved the problem quite like the new "Claw" from Gladiator GarageWorks.

To store a bike, just bump the large "push-lock" pad with the bike's tire, and two soft-grip arms swing down to hold the wheel. When it's time to ride, push the button again, and the arms release. That's all there is to it.

The Claw was made for the garage, but its clean, simple design has a look that would make it a great solution for a small living space like a studio apartment, too.



{ You don't need an engineering degree to figure out how to store your bike with the Claw. Bump the button once, and the arms swing down to hold the bike's tire. Bump it again, and they release, so you can head out for a ride. }



## **Get on Track**—a simple hanging storage system to organize your garage

Hanging storage for the garage has been popular for years now, but most options are so expensive that they make nails look like an appealing alternative. As a reasonably priced option, Rubbermaid came up with its simple Fast Track system. It starts with a horizontal track that mounts to the wall. Then, you can personalize the system to your space with dozens of hangers, shelves, cabinets, and other accessories.



**6**

## **Storage, Pegged**—PegRail defines elegance in storage for your closet

Hanging storage has a place inside the home, too. That's thanks to PegRail, a company that has perfected hanging storage for virtually every room in the home, including the closet (above). Here again, the key to the system is wall-mounted horizontal rails, to which you can add shelves, drawers, rods, and other accessories to create your own well-organized dream closet.



**5**



**7**

## **Corner Cabinet Hardware**—a creative use for wasted kitchen space

If you have a "blind" corner cabinet in your kitchen, that space in the back of the cabinet is likely just going to waste. This Blind Corner Optimizer from Rev-A-Shelf reclaims that useful space. When the cabinet is closed, the two rear baskets fill the empty space in the back of the cabinet. But if you slide out and pull over the front baskets, the innovative hardware causes the rear baskets to slide out right behind them for total access.

find an **old door**  
and build a  
**designer**  
**desk**

Got an old door and a few hours to spare?  
Transform it into an eye-catching centerpiece of  
a modern home office with this cool project!

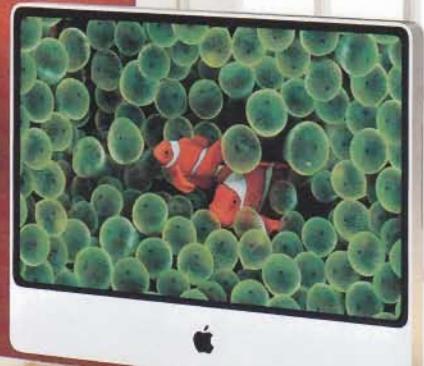


Fans of flea markets or architectural salvage stores know that they're positively teeming with interesting old doors of all shapes and sizes. The only problem is, unless you have just the right spot in your home, there's very little you can actually do with these old doors.

At our local Habitat for Humanity ReStore, for example, we found the great-looking door you see at left. In a former life, it was actually half of a pair of French doors. We were unsure what to do with it at first, but after a bit of brainstorming, we realized its surface area just happened to be the perfect size for a computer desk.

Some store-bought steel legs, a glass top, and a few embellishments later, we had a stylish, contemporary desk that would look right at home in any home office. Pick up your own door this weekend, see the steps and style tips on the following pages, and you can do it, too!





# door to desk in 4 easy steps!

The steps for preparing your own door may vary from what we did with ours, but these instructions will give you a good general guideline of how to turn a door into a desk.

**Prepare the Door.** To prep our door, we removed the hardware, sanded, applied stain, and cleaned the glass (Fig. 1). We also trimmed the ends and edges with a circular saw and nailed casing to the edges for a finished look.

**Finish the Look.** Next, we frosted the glass with a spray finish (Fig. 2). Then we added store-bought steel legs (Fig. 3) and glass (Fig. 4) to complete the desk.



2



## PREP AND SPRAY THE GLASS

A frosted finish gives the glass panes an appealing look. To add it, first clean and mask off the glass. Then spray on a few thin, overlapping coats of the spray finish.



4

## POSITION THE GLASS TOP

The crowning touch on this desk is a  $\frac{3}{8}$ "-thick sheet of glass. Set several clear plastic discs underneath the glass to prevent it from sliding.

3



## SCREW ON THE LEGS

These cylindrical steel legs add a contemporary punch to the desk (page 62). Their sturdy mounting plates make them easy to install with screws.

# sometimes, **form** follows **function**

With its old door and new steel legs and glass, this desk is already a study in appealing contrasts. We decided to carry that idea of contrasts forward in both the functional and style elements of the room, as well.

To meet the modern part of that equation, we chose wireless computer components from Apple and stylish lighting from Lowe's. Then a warm cinnamon-colored paint and an "Espresso" rolling organizer bring the room back toward a traditional flavor and play off the rich brown colors of the door.



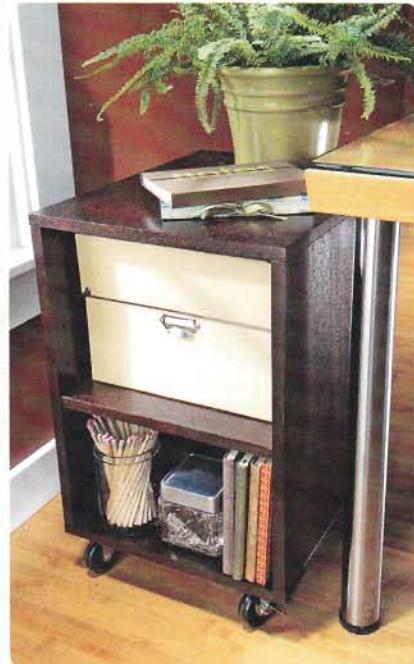
## LIGHT IT RIGHT— light sources that look great and work great, too

Chrome floor and table lamps from Lowe's complete the contemporary look of this home office. The torchiere table lamp has three different lighting settings that you can adjust between by simply touching the lamp on its side.



## CUT OUT THE CORDS — keeping this office stylish starts with getting rid of all the cord clutter

If you're replacing the desk, maybe it's time to update your computer setup, too. A wireless keyboard, mouse, and printer are standard fare for almost any computer platform. Apple lets you cut out even more cord clutter with its new iMac computer and "Time Capsule" wireless backup device (shown in the foreground).



## KEEP IT TOGETHER— file work away with an attractive under- desk organizer

This stylish storage cart has four built-in casters, so it can roll around the office to wherever you need it. It has open shelves and compartments for all your office supplies, one of which we filled with a file storage box from Target.

# dress up your kitchen with this simple spice center

This sleek spice station holds your favorite spices and measuring spoons all in one spot. It's easy to make and looks great, too!

**T**here's no arguing the fact that a good spice organizer can reduce clutter and make working in the kitchen easier. But most spice racks are unattractive, inconvenient, or hog countertop space. As a result, homeowners resort to digging through cabinets and drawers for their frequently used spices.

We've designed a simple spice organizer that takes care of all these problems and more. The project uses a set of magnetic spice jars to create an all-in-one station that holds your favorite spices and measuring spoons. It attaches to the wall between your countertop and upper cabinets, making use of space in your kitchen that usually goes to waste.

The best part of this project is how easy it is to build. You

don't have to be a champion woodworker to pull it off. We'll show you how to make and mount your own in a few steps. Plus, we'll give you the dimensions to build a larger version in case this one can't contain all of your favorite spices.

You could easily spend twice as much money on a spice rack as you'll spend on the supplies for this project, and this one looks twice as nice. It incorporates clever magnetic jars that make finding and dispensing your favorite spices easy.





The spice center's base consists of two parts: the back, which gets mounted to the wall, and the ledge, which helps you line up the spice jars to give the project a cleaner look.

**Assemble the Base.** The first step is to cut these pieces to size from craft wood. If the single rack doesn't offer enough space for your favorite spices, build a double version that incorporates two spice sets. We've provided the dimensions for both versions in the *Illustration*.

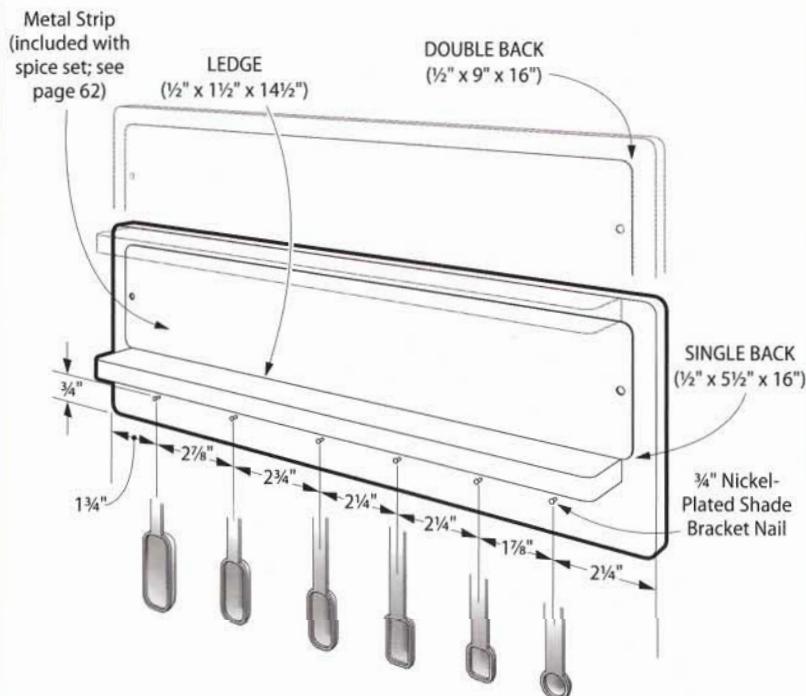
Once the wood is cut, round the front corners of the ledge and all four corners of the back (*Fig. 1*). Then run glue along the spice center's ledge (*Fig. 2*), and press it in place.

**Finish & Mount.** Next, find and mark the locations of the shade bracket nails. Pre-drill  $\frac{1}{16}$ " holes for them (*Fig. 3*). Then use the pre-drilled holes on the spice set's metal strip as guides to mark holes on the base (*Fig. 4*), and drill them.

With the base complete, you can paint it and drive the shade bracket nails into the holes. To mount the project, insert wall anchors into your wall, and then install screws through both the metal strip and the base.

### Assembly View

**NOTE:** To make a larger spice rack, use the dimensions indicated for the double back and cut two ledges



### Recipe for a Spice Rack



\***Spice Jar Set.** Buy a stainless steel set that includes magnetic spice jars, a metal strip, and mounting hardware (*see page 62*).

\***Measuring Spoons.** Choose a set of sleek spoons with holes in the handles.

\***Craft Wood.** Pick up two pieces of craft wood from the home center to make the base of the project.

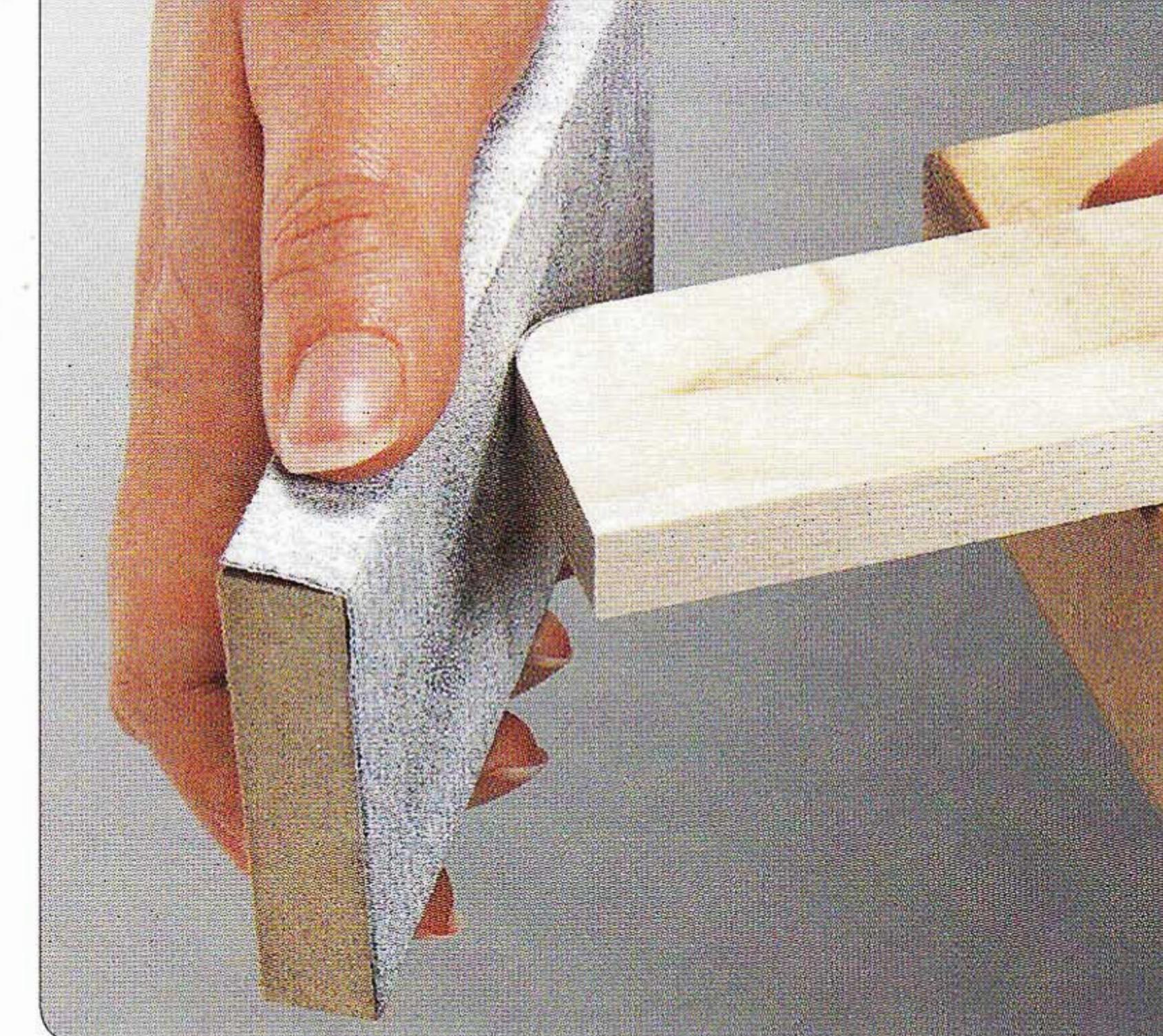
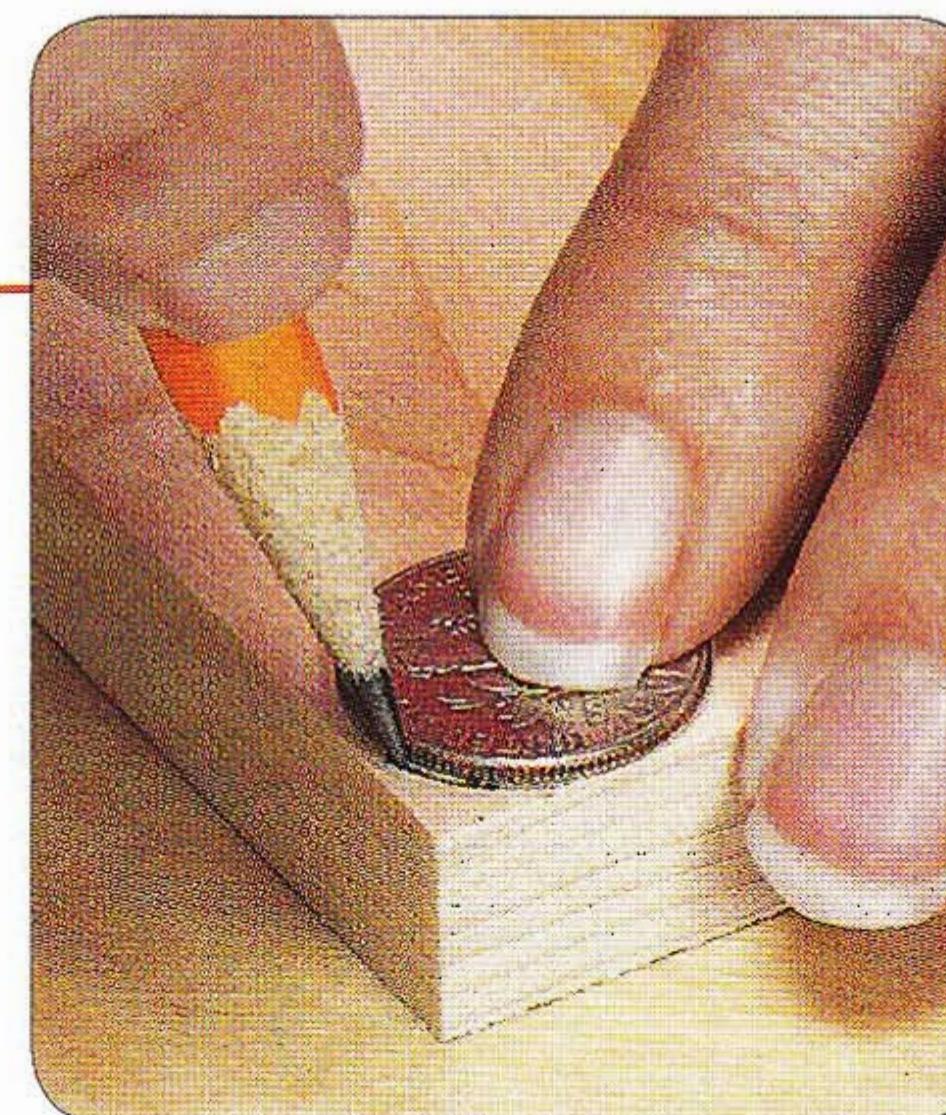
\***Window Shade Bracket Nails.** Use these as hangers for your measuring spoons.



## 1 prep the parts

1

You can use a sanding block to round the corners of the spice center's back and ledge. To get consistent results for all of the corners, trace the edge of a dime at each corner first (*near right*). Then sand the craft wood down to the line.



## 2 build the base

2

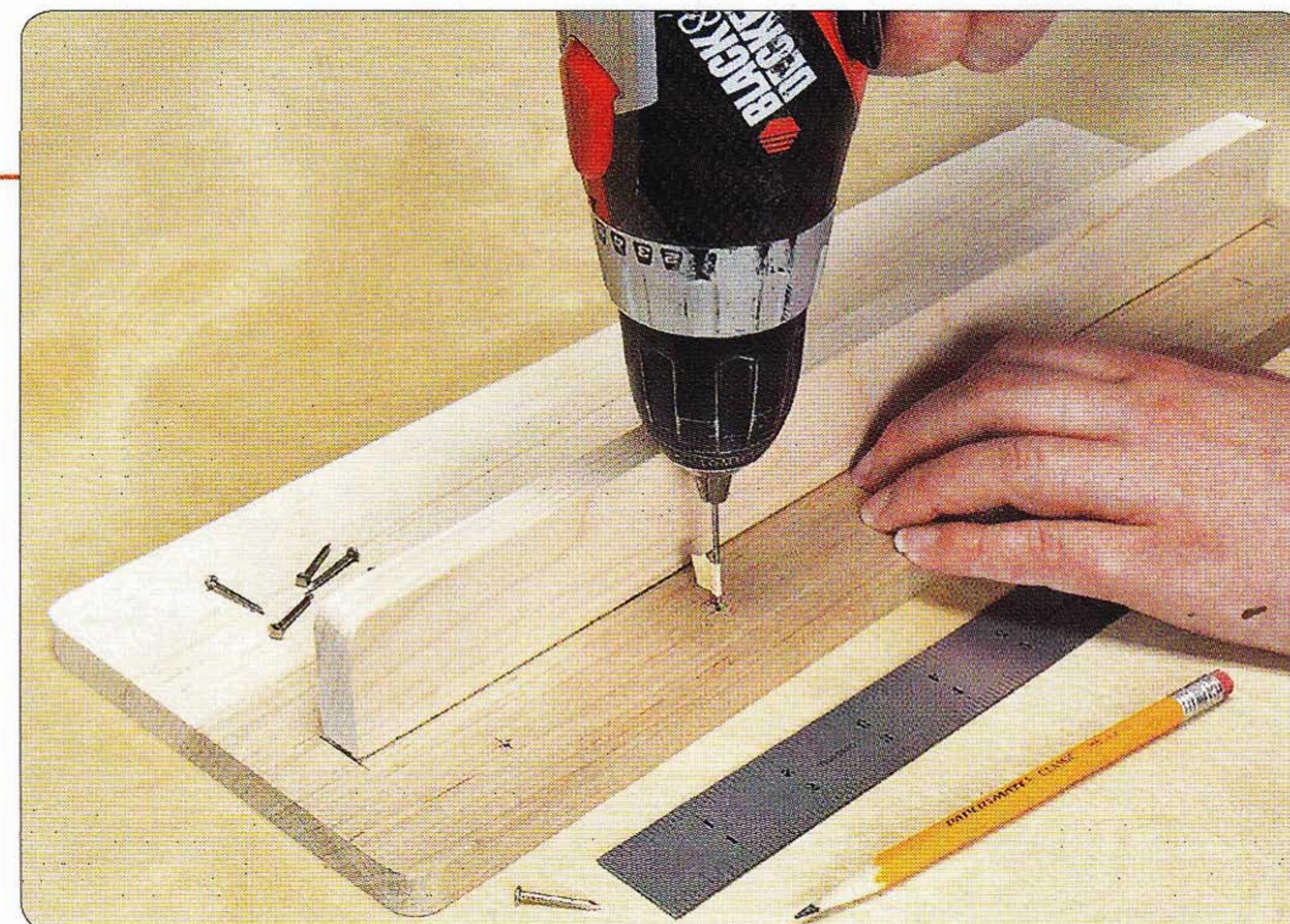
Since the spice jars won't put much pressure on the ledge, wood glue will be strong enough to connect it to the back. Just run a bead of glue along the back of the ledge, and then press it in place  $1\frac{1}{2}$ " from the bottom of the back piece. Wipe off any excess glue.



## 3 drill hanger holes

3

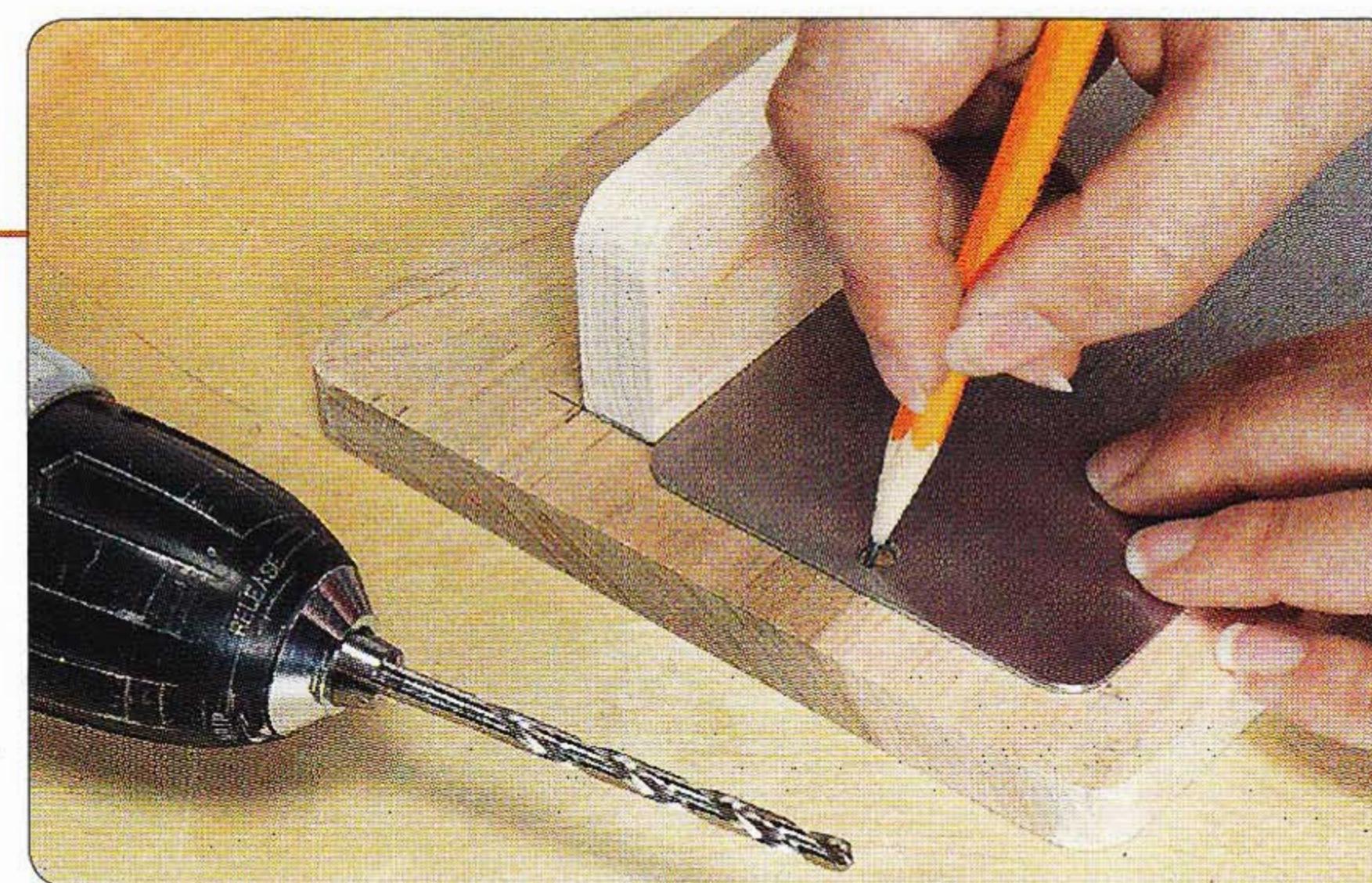
You'll need a  $\frac{1}{16}$ " drill bit to pre-drill holes for the window shade bracket nails. We decided to vary the spacing between the nails as shown in the *illustration* at left. It may seem odd, but varying the spacing actually makes the spacing of the spoons look consistent. You'll drive the nails into the holes after you drill mounting holes and paint the base.



## 4 trace a template

4

The metal strip that comes with the spice jar set is pre-drilled for mounting, so use it as a template to mark holes on the base. To mount the project, you'll install screws through the holes in both the metal strip and the base.







# turn bi-fold doors into a beautiful custom-crafted headboard

Want to give your bedroom walls an infusion of style without having to purchase pricey artwork? Our oversized headboard adds plenty of personality and costs less than \$100 to make.

This cool, colorful headboard is proof-positive that you can make a dramatic style statement in a bedroom without spending big bucks. It's made of unfinished bi-fold doors from the home center and paint—that's it! And the paint effect is fun and easy to create. You actually do it with an ordinary scrub brush (*Photo, below*).

Making your own headboard gives you the freedom to pick paint shades that blend perfectly with your color scheme. For ours, we pulled nature-inspired shades of green and blue from our casual, botanical-themed sheets and pillows. If the featured plaid pattern on the panels isn't your style, we'll show you how to create a variety of paint effects using other common household tools.

If you have a few spare hours this weekend, round up some primer, two shades of paint, a roller, a paint tray, and that scrub brush hiding under the sink. With this project, adding decorating punch to a bedroom is as fun as it is rewarding.



## Brush it on!

It's easy to create a one-of-a-kind headboard, and have a blast doing it. This paint technique is truly "no fail": If you can scrub a floor, you can create this cool crosshatch look.



## Recipe for a Headboard

- \* **Bi-Fold Doors.** Get the kind without raised panels that are constructed from unfinished plywood.
- \* **Bedding.** Stick with your favorite set or choose a new ensemble to go with your new headboard.
- \* **Paint.** Use paint swatches to choose two shades that complement your bedding.
- \* **Brush.** Finally, locate a lowly scrub brush for transforming the doors into artwork.

# getting started on your headboard . project



It only takes a few simple steps to make this great-looking headboard. Start by picking up three pairs of 12"-wide flat-panel bi-fold doors. (They should run you less than \$25 a pair.) Next, take a look at your bedroom's color scheme, and choose two shades that pick up existing colors in your walls, bedding, curtains, furniture, or floor coverings.

**Color Made Simple.** If you want to match colors in your curtains or bedding, eliminate guesswork by taking a curtain panel, pillow, or pillowcase with you to the paint center. You can also bring paint swatches home to see how different colors will appear in your bedroom's lighting. We selected yellow-green and blue-gray tints to accent the new bedding we selected (*see Resources on page 62*).

Then, imagine those plain doors as blank canvases just waiting to be transformed into works of art. But unlike most artwork, you won't have to invest a lot of time to get inspired results. Just lay down a drop cloth to protect the floor, and place the door panels on a covered work surface. Assemble your painting supplies, slip on a work apron, and follow the fun-to-do steps shown on the opposite page.

## prime the doors

1

Many bi-fold doors are made from luan mahogany plywood, which needs to be sealed with high-quality interior primer. Just use a roller to evenly coat the front and sides. Apply a second coat after the first one has dried to achieve a fully opaque look. Have the primer tinted if you'd prefer a colored base coat.



## brush on the first color

2

Here's where the fun begins. Pour a couple of cups of your first color into a paint tray. Dip the scrub brush into the tray's reservoir, and then lightly tap it on the upper portion of the tray to remove excess paint. Starting at one end, drag the brush lengthwise along the surface until it is almost out of paint. Dip the brush again, and pick up where you left off. Repeat the process until the panel is covered with loose lines.

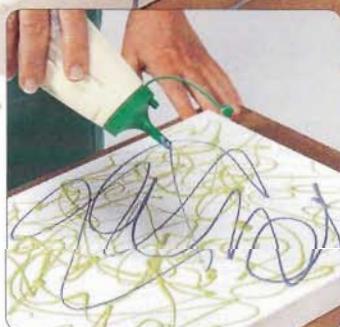


## add the second color

3

Before switching colors, rinse off the brush, and replace the tray liner. Pour your second color into the reservoir, dip the brush, and draw it across the panel toward you, so you're making lines that are perpendicular to the first ones. Don't worry if the paint looks heavier in some areas than others: That's what creates the casual, random effect. Let the paint dry before mounting the panels.





## vibrations on the theme



### Condiment Bottles

They might have been made with mustard in mind, but squeezable condiment bottles make it easy to apply paint in a free-flowing manner.

When it comes to painting headboard panels, there's no need to stick with basic brushes. Various items around the house, used creatively, can become unexpected paint applicators.

Let your imagination be your guide when it comes to embellishing those plain-Jane door panels. You'll probably be surprised at what interesting effects some very uninteresting household items can create.

For example, we picked up four squeezable condiment bottles and filled them with various shades of green and blue latex paint. Then we went to town on the pre-primed doors. It just might be the most fun you'll have painting since kindergarten.

Even if you don't think of yourself as the artistic type, it's hard to resist squirting and squiggling paint every which way the spirit moves you. There's also no reason to limit yourself to just four colors—applying numerous shades will give your artwork more depth.

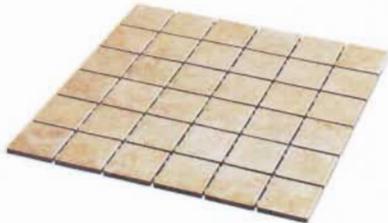
For this technique, you might prefer to cover the floor with newspapers and lay the panels down. That way, you can freely apply the paint from above.

## three peculiar paint pushers



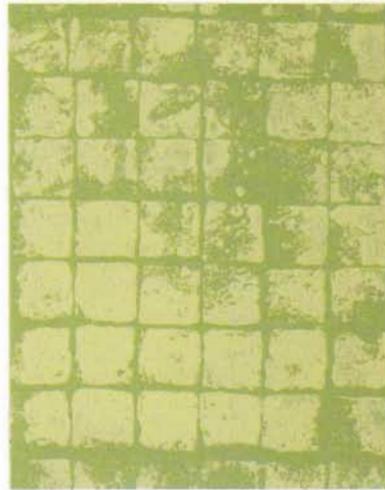
### Loofah Ball

They're made for the bath, but loofah balls also make great paint applicators. Just lightly dip the ball in paint, dab off any excess, and then use a twisting motion as you randomly "pounce" it all over the door panel.



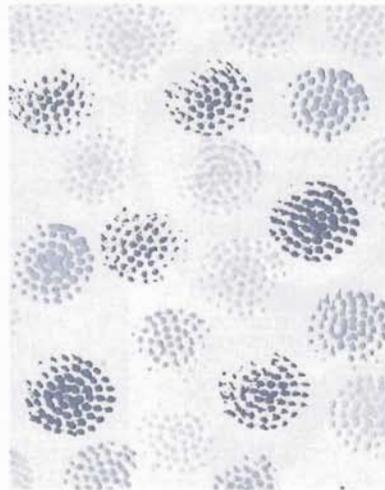
### Ceramic Tile

To make a checkerboard design, use a sheet of ceramic wall tile as a large stamp. To start, roll a base coat onto the panel. Then generously roll a lighter shade onto the face of the tiles, flip the sheet over, and press it down.



### Dish Scrubber

Who would guess that the neat concentric circles in this pattern were made by a dish scrubber? To achieve the monochromatic starburst look, use several different shades of a color, and press the scrubber bristles down flat as you stamp paint on the panel.





## painted headboards same great idea, three different looks

### ONLINE SLIDESHOW

See how to create three new headboards step by step.

**Just a Click  
Away!**

[MyHomeMyStyle.com](http://MyHomeMyStyle.com)



When planning this headboard project, half the fun is coming up with variations on the theme. Until now, we've been showing you different ways to paint five panels that will be hung vertically on the wall. But you don't have to use our green and blue color palette. And you don't even need to mount the doors vertically.

**Be Creative.** Maybe you'd prefer shorter panels, like in the *Photo* above, or panels mounted on their sides, as seen in the upper right *Photo*. In your room, the panels might look best in staggered heights, like in the child's bedroom at lower right.

### Elegant Patterns

Classic stripes and colors provide a look of timeless sophistication, and the deeply shaded headboard frames it all.

**Base Color:** chocolate

**Top Coat:** clear satin

**Instructions:** Cut 18"-wide door panels about 55" long. Then dip a 3"-wide brush into paint so that only a little remains on the bristles. Brush over each panel with long strokes, creating streaks that slightly reveal the natural wood beneath. When dry, apply a coat of clear polyurethane.

**No Rules.** Just as there aren't any rules regarding the height, symmetry, and orientation of the panels, there's also no wrong way to apply the paint. For the sophisticated look shown above, we dry-brushed a rich brown shade over unprimed panels, letting the wood grain show through. For the nautical-themed room, we wiped cream paint thinned with glaze over the blue panels to create a weathered, beachy look. An array of earth tones worked well for the panels in the playful camping room.

For more information on bedding and paint colors, turn to *Resources* on page 62.



### Ship Ahoy!

You don't have to live in Cape Cod to enjoy a room with nautical flair. Just use classic colors and "whitewash" painted panels, so they look like they've been weathering in sun and salt spray.

**Base Color:** country blue

**Top Coat:** 4 parts clear faux finish glaze mixed with 1 part cream latex paint

**Instructions:** Apply the base coat, and let it dry thoroughly. Then mix the glaze with the cream paint, and use a loofah ball to wipe it over the panels.



### Kids' Campout

For a child's room decked out in a camping theme, give the headboard panels a rugged, irregular feel that invokes the great outdoors.

**Base Colors:** brown, light brown, medium brown

**Accessories:** self-adhesive foam bear-paw prints

**Instructions:** Cut three panels to staggered lengths, and then apply a different shade of brown paint to each panel. When dry, stick on the bear prints.

*simple yet elegant*

# wine rack

*cradles five favorite bottles*

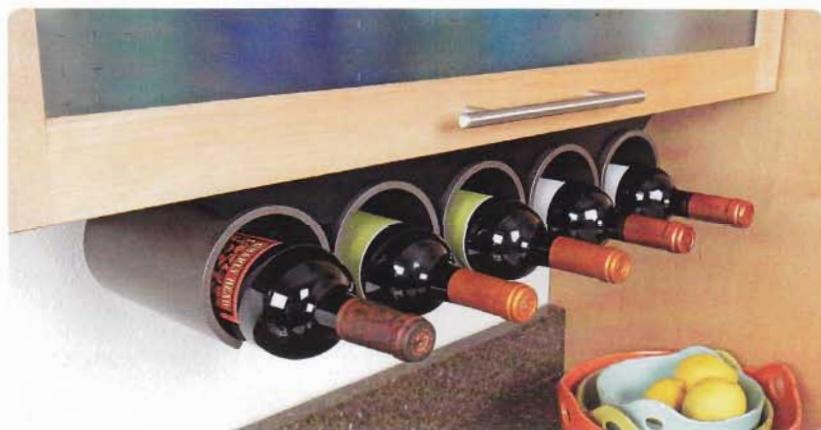
If you really don't need a cellar full of wine but do enjoy keeping a few bottles within reach, check out this stylish and versatile wine rack. It can be mounted three ways and costs less than \$20 to build.

**F**ree space is in short supply in many kitchens, which can make finding room to store wine bottles a real challenge. This cleverly designed wine rack solves that problem: It can be displayed on the end of a cabinet, underneath a cabinet, or on a countertop, depending on your individual needs. And its clean lines look great in any style of kitchen from contemporary to traditional.

Considering how much this sleek rack has going for it, you'll be amazed at how easy it is to build and how little the materials will set you back. You'll turn standard 4"-diameter PVC pipe into C-shaped "cradles" that securely hold the bottles. To make them, pick up a five-foot section at the home center for a few dollars. The cradles get fastened to a base made from inexpensive 1x4 lumber.

#### AT HOME ON THE COUNTERTOP

If you're fortunate enough to have plenty of counter space, just place clear, self-stick rubber pads on the bottom of the wood frame and let the rack sit flat on your countertop.



#### JUST HANGING AROUND, UPSIDE-DOWN

Make efficient use of an often-overlooked area in the kitchen by mounting the wine rack underneath your upper cabinets.





#### STACKED VERTICALLY

The end panel on an upper cabinet is another place you might not think of for storage, but it's a handy location for this wine rack. Just drive mounting screws from the inside of the cabinet into the rack's wood frame, so it will securely support the weight of several wine bottles.

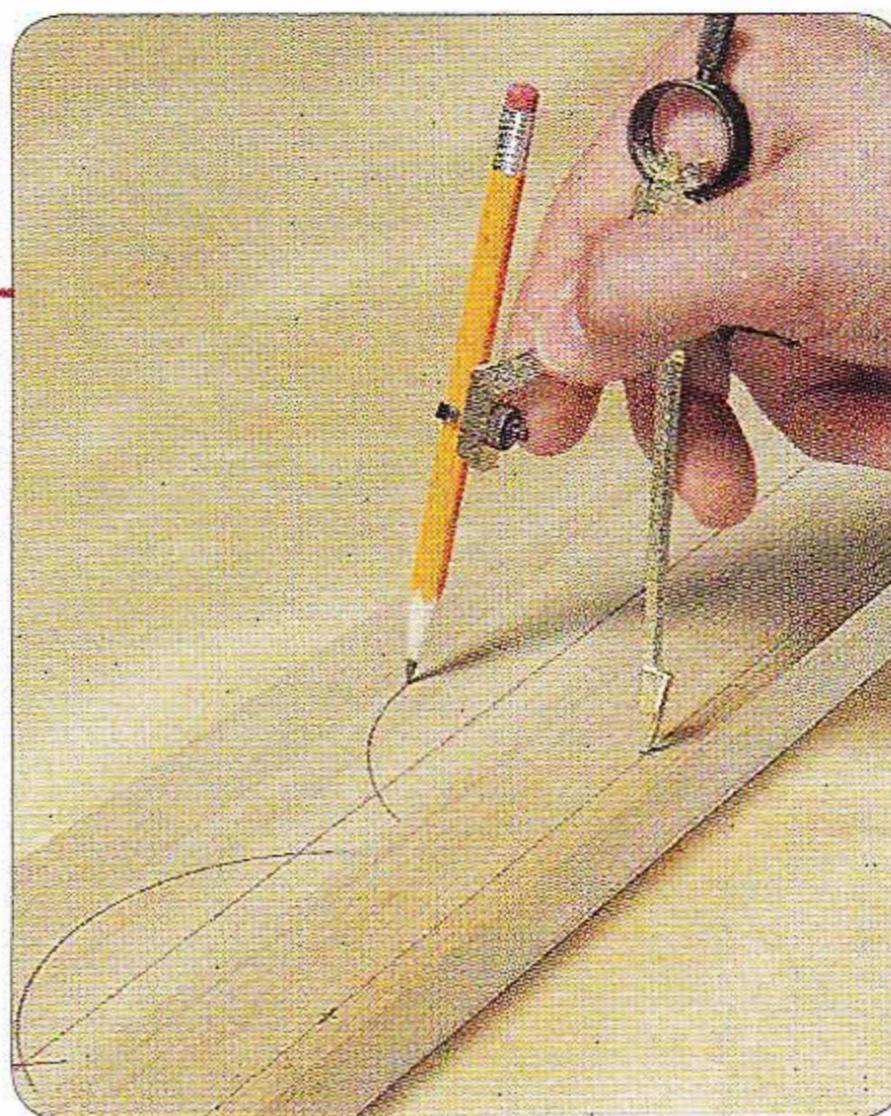
# make the mounting boards

This wine rack is an easy-to-build project for just about anyone: Just follow the six steps on these pages. After you've finished cutting, sanding, and spray-painting the cradles and brackets, attach the cradles to the brackets by driving screws through pre-drilled holes in the cradles (see *Illustration below*).

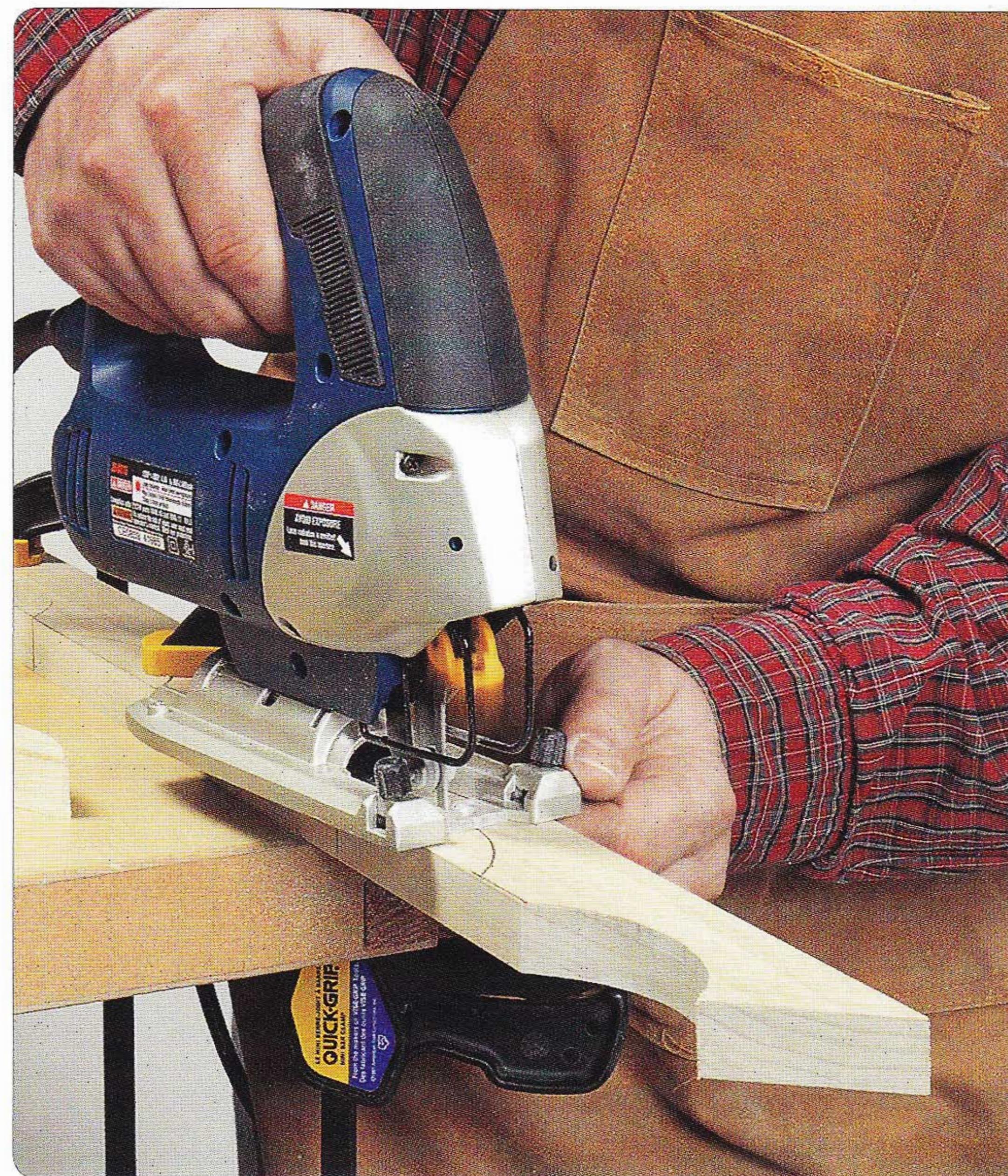
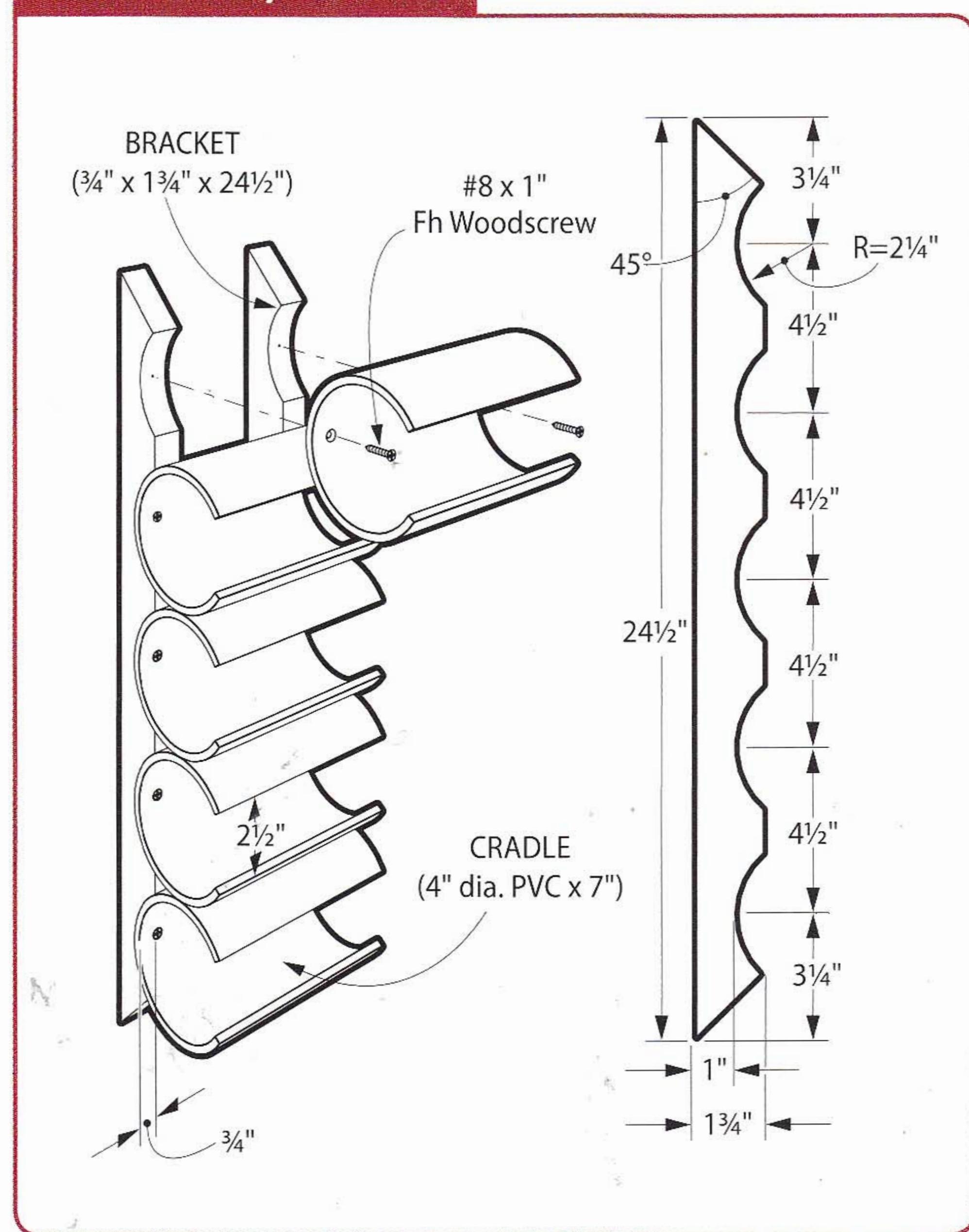
## draw out the parts

1

The curved profile must be drawn accurately on the 1x4s, so the cradles will fit snugly against the brackets. After measuring carefully, use a compass to draw the curves.



## Assembly View



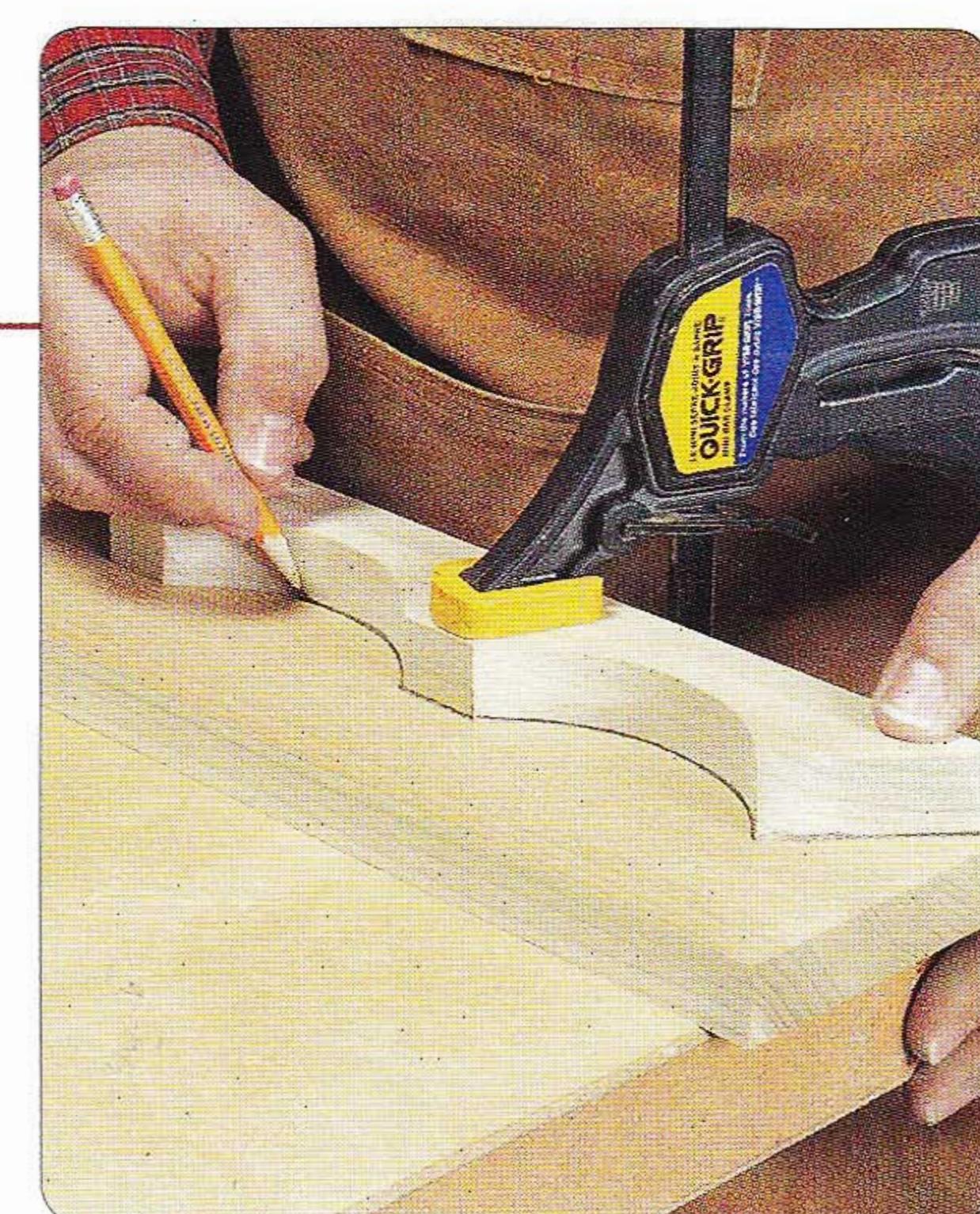
## cut out the bracket curves

2

A jigsaw makes short work of both the straight and curved cuts on the wine rack brackets. You can start by clamping a 1x4 board to your work surface. Then cut slightly outside the lines with a scrolling blade, making a slow, controlled cut. Finally, sand all the cut portions of the bracket smooth and to their final dimensions.

## trace onto a board

Finish one bracket, then clamp it to another board and use it to trace the pattern onto the second board. This ensures that the two pieces will match. Then cut out and sand the second bracket.



# lay out & cut the PVC pipe

## 1 lay out the cuts

To establish lines that run parallel to each other, just lay a straight board against the pipe, and use a marker to draw two lines that are  $2\frac{1}{2}$ " apart. To mark the length of each cradle section, cut out a 7"-wide piece of card stock, wrap it around the pipe, and mark each edge.



## 2 cut down the pipe sections

First, cut lengthwise down the pipe with a jigsaw to create an opening on one side. Use a fine metal-cutting blade to make a clean cut. After creating the "C" shape by cutting down the second line, you can cut the cradles to length. Just hold the pipe firmly, and rotate it slowly as you cut along the circumference lines every seven inches.

## 3 sand the ends

Adhesive-backed sandpaper offers an easy way to sand the ends of the cradles. Just stick a section to your work surface, and vigorously slide the cradle over it until the ends feel smooth. Then flip the cradle lengthwise, and sand both sides of the opening the same way.



COATS..HATS... BOOTS...



# come home to style and storage easy entryway makeover



Cure the clutter inside your door with this entry organizer. A bench coupled with a wall treatment that offers a built-in look creates a stylish storage solution for the "drop zone" in your home.

**W**hen you walk through the door at the end of a hard day, the last thing you want to see is a scene like the "Before" Photo below. But this cluttered "drop zone" is common inside most any home's entry.

The great-looking organizer in the *Photo* at left will put an end to all that clutter. It has the look of a custom built-in, but it's unbelievably easy and economical to build.

**Build a Basic Bench.** At the heart of this entryway makeover is a storage bench

that's the perfect place for kicking off your shoes. It has a slide-out tray to keep them organized and storage inside for other gear. Best of all, the bench is made from an inexpensive unfinished cabinet plus a few pieces of plywood. We'll walk you through putting one together on page 46.

**A Wall Ties It All.** Above the bench is a row of hooks that allow you to hang coats and bags so they're accessible but out of the way. Tying it all together is a traditional wall treatment consisting of V-grooved cedar siding, horizontal boards, and a bit of molding. It's simple, too, since it's made with off-the-shelf materials. Check it out on page 48.

**Add Simple Style.** On page 50, we'll show you how we created the traditional look of this entryway, and we'll offer up options in case you'd like to organize your entry in a slightly different style.



**BEFORE** An overcrowded coat tree, scattered shoes, and accumulated clutter: Nothing about this scene says "welcome home," but it's exactly what greets many of us as we arrive home each day. Thankfully, there's an easy cure.

# an unfinished cabinet & plywood make it easy to build the bench

The bench is easy to build because it starts with an unfinished kitchen cabinet from the home center (*below*). You'll find 12"-deep versions on store shelves, but we opted to special-order an 18"-deep cabinet to maximize space inside.



## **It Starts with a Kitchen Cabinet.**

The heart of the bench is a 36"-wide by 12"-tall wall cabinet. It comes already assembled and completely ready to be wrapped with plywood. Plus, it's ready to paint or stain.

**Wrap It Up.** Once you have the cabinet, all you have to do is wrap it in plywood. Two end panels go on to raise the bench to a comfortable sitting height. A seat panel ties it all together.

You can easily cut these pieces with a circular saw and a straightedge, or take the dimensions to the home center and have the plywood cut for you. The *Illustrations* at right take you through the assembly process. Once the bench is assembled, you can create the shoe storage tray.

**Fill, Sand & Prime.** Now you need to fill the edges of the plywood panels with hardening wood filler. Once it dries, sand the edges smooth, and sand any other areas that need it, too.

After sanding, prime all the surfaces of the bench and tray. This is easier if you remove the cabinet doors. Once the primer dries, you can reinstall the doors and mount the casters to the shoe tray. Then you'll be ready to cut parts for the wall treatment and install it all. The next two pages show you how.



## attach the ends

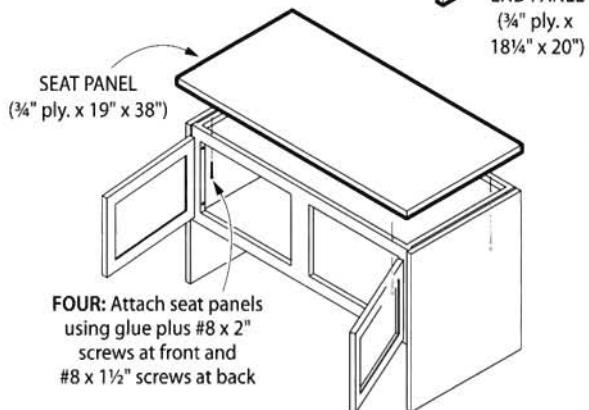
1

Cut spacers from  $\frac{1}{4}$ "-thick hardboard, and then adhere them to the sides of the cabinet as shown with glue or double-faced tape. Drill holes where shown through the edges of the face frame, through the sides and spacers, and through the top of the cabinet for screws.

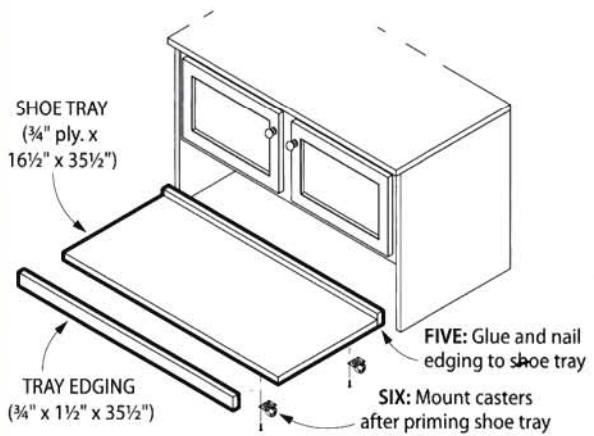
Then apply glue where the end panels will touch the face frame and the spacers. Now hold each panel in place, making sure the back edge is flush with the back of the cabinet, and secure the end panels by driving screws into them from inside the cabinet.



**THREE:** Attach end panels using glue plus #8 x 2" screws at front and #8 x 1 1/2" screws at back



**FOUR:** Attach seat panels using glue plus #8 x 2" screws at front and #8 x 1 1/2" screws at back



**SIX:** Mount casters after priming shoe tray

## fasten the seat

2

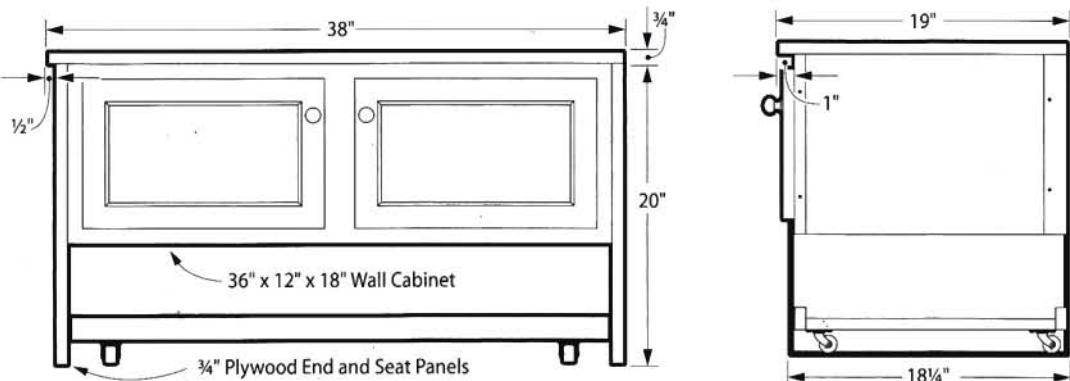
Align the seat panel. It's wider and longer than the rest of the assembly, so it overhangs in front, as well as on the end that's not butted into the corner. To attach the seat panel, apply glue to the top edges of the cabinet and end panels, and then screw it in place from inside the cabinet.

## slip in the shoe tray

3

Building the shoe tray couldn't be much simpler. Just cut the plywood tray to size, and then cut two pieces of edging to match from a 1x2 board. Then glue and nail the edging onto the front and back edges of the tray. Once you have primed the shoe tray (and the rest of the bench), go ahead and attach the casters with screws, and add knobs to the cabinet.

### Front & End View





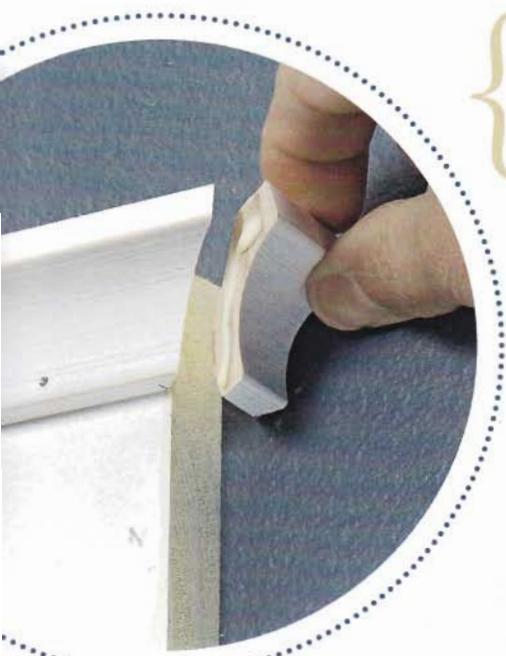
## add coat storage & create a new accent wall

To make the entry organizer more than just a bench, we added a wall treatment that integrates the organizer into the space and gives it the look of a custom built-in. The wall treatment consists of vertical V-groove panels, horizontal accent rails, and a wide coat-hook rail that's crowned with a flat cap and cove molding. Together they create a cohesive look.

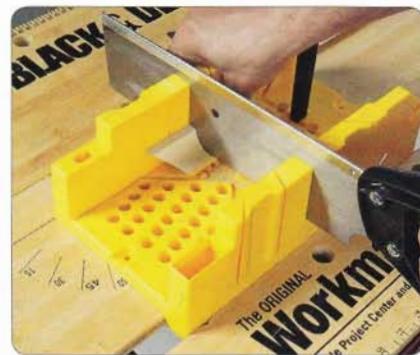
**Simple Sequence.** Don't let the great look of the wall treatment fool you: It's easy. That's because most of the pieces are just off-the-shelf boards that get cut to length and "stacked" in sequence. Even installing the cove molding, which adds a nice finishing touch, is easy.

You can see how the wall treatment goes together in the *Illustration* at right. First, cut all the pieces to the lengths shown (except the cove molding), and then prime everything before installation. When it dries, you'll be ready to install the entry organizer by following the step-by-step instructions at right.

*Details Make a Difference: When adding cove molding, don't cut the end square and flush. "Return" it to the wall for a professional look.*



**Mark the Miter.** Hold the molding in place, and mark where it needs to wrap back to the wall. Cut a 45° miter at that point to create the corner.



**Cut the Return.** Cut a 45° miter in the end of another piece to create the return. Then cut it to final length, and glue it in place (*far left*).

## have a seat

1

Installing the organizer starts at the bottom with the bench. For the best fit, cut out the baseboard behind the bench, and then slip the bench in place. Drive a couple of screws through the back of the cabinet and into wall studs.

Start on the wall behind the bench by positioning the back base rail. Secure it to the wall with adhesive as well as finish nails driven into the wall studs. You'll want to mark the nail locations and pre-drill holes to prevent the wood from splitting.

Butt the side base rail against the back base rail, and attach it. Then add the base rail caps.

**TWO:** Attach back base rail by nailing into studs  
**FOUR:** Attach back base rail cap, then side base rail cap  
**THREE:** Butt side base rail against back rail and attach it

**ONE:** Attach bench to wall by driving screws into the wall studs

Cut out and remove baseboard behind cabinet

**FIVE:** Position outer piece of V-groove paneling on back wall, and make sure it's plumb (straight up and down)

**SIX:** Work across back wall toward the corner, attaching each piece of paneling with construction adhesive

**TEN:** Attach horizontal top cap by nailing through top face at an angle into wall studs

**SEVEN:** Attach V-groove paneling to side wall

**NINE:** Cut cove molding to fit, and wrap it around coat-hook rail

**EIGHT:** Attach panel caps and coat-hook rails

**COAT-HOOK RAILS:**  
BACK ( $\frac{3}{4}$ " x 7 $\frac{1}{4}$ " x 37 $\frac{1}{2}$ ")  
SIDE ( $\frac{3}{4}$ " x 7 $\frac{1}{4}$ " x 18")

**TOP CAPS:**  
BACK ( $\frac{3}{4}$ " x 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ " x 39 $\frac{3}{4}$ ")  
SIDE ( $\frac{3}{4}$ " x 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ " x 17 $\frac{1}{2}$ )

**V-GROOVE PANELS:**  
(cut to fit)

## get in a groove

2

Now you can add the vertical V-groove panels. Start again with the back wall, working your way from the outside edge toward the corner. Use a level to make sure that the first piece is plumb. Construction adhesive will hold the lightweight panels in place.

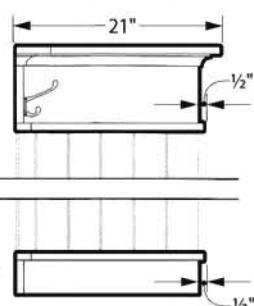
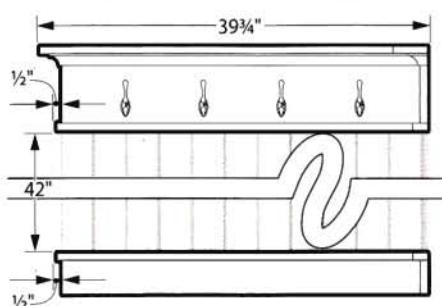
## cap it off right

3

At this point, the installation sequence should be familiar. Add the cap above the V-groove panels, followed by the coat-hook rail. To add the horizontal top cap, locate the studs, and then drill holes near the back edge at a 45° angle. Then drive nails into the studs to secure the top cap.

Attaching the cove molding finishes up the installation. Just follow the techniques at left. Then paint the entry organizer, and install the coat hooks.

### Front & End View



# add a touch of your own style to create a welcoming entry

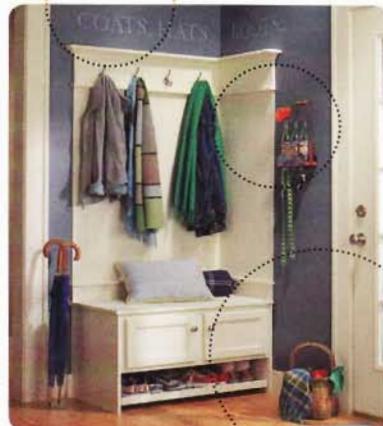
Organizing a chaotic entryway was the main goal of this makeover. As the first thing you see when you walk in the door, though, the area also had to be warm, welcoming, and, of course, great looking.

**Built-In Looks.** To pull that off, we wanted the organizer to be integrated in, not tacked on. The wall treatment really makes that happen. With its V-groove paneling, horizontal rails, and cove molding, it makes the organizer look like it was meant to be there all along. Painting it all to match the home's trim seals the deal.

We didn't have to do a lot to dress the organizer up, so we stuck with

subtle details that would add a sense of casual, comfortable style. Those include the words that we stenciled on the wall. To create them, we blended some white into the blue wall paint to produce a custom color. It makes the letters pop without standing out too much. Using a big vase to hold umbrellas and an old soda caddy for keys keeps the casual, lived-in feeling alive without adding clutter.

**Make It Your Own.** While the style we chose works well in this home, it might not work in yours. The *Illustrations* at right show a couple of ways that you can take this same basic idea and integrate it into your home. Just look at the surroundings, take your style into account, and the results will be great.



## 1 A found object becomes an eye-catching organizer

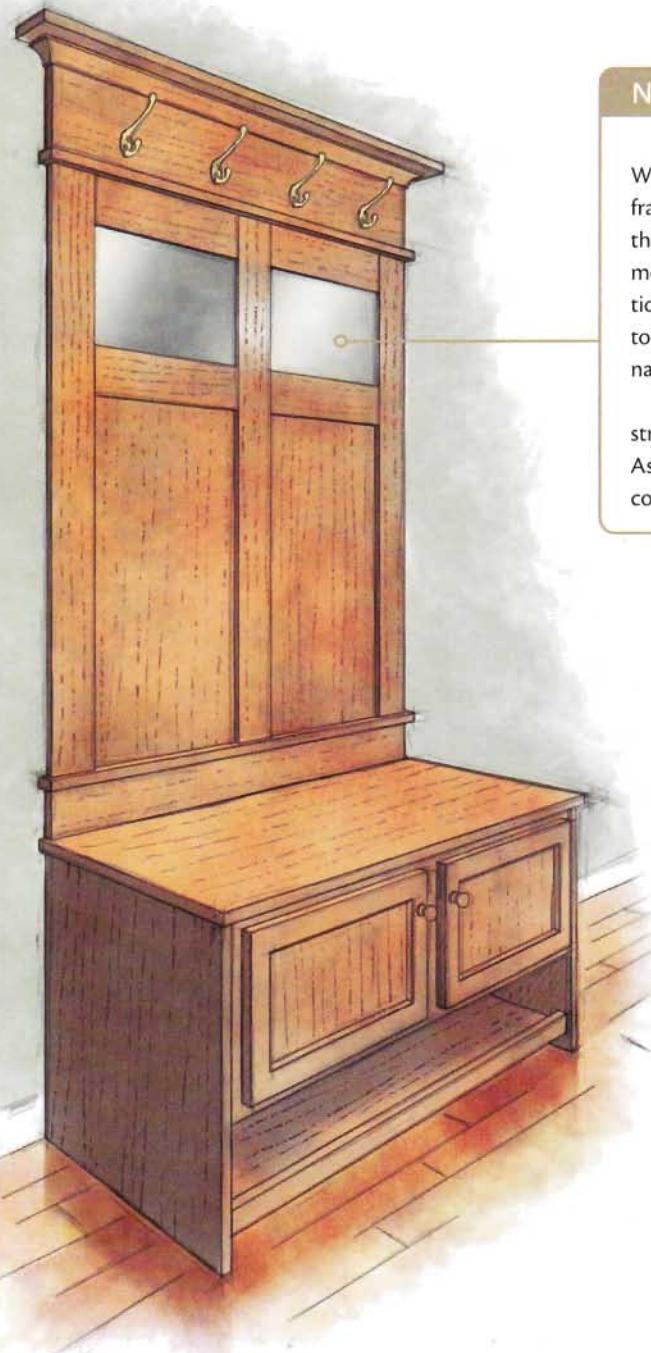
With the addition of hooks, an antique soda bottle caddy becomes a key holder that fits the cozy vibe of the entryway.

## 2 Tins and boxes help keep small items contained

It would be easy to stuff items into the storage bench, but tins and boxes keep it organized and add style.

## 3 A painted stencil adds a custom touch on the wall

Subtle stenciling above the organizer looks great and discourages turning the cap rail into a clutter-catching shelf.



## Natural Tradition

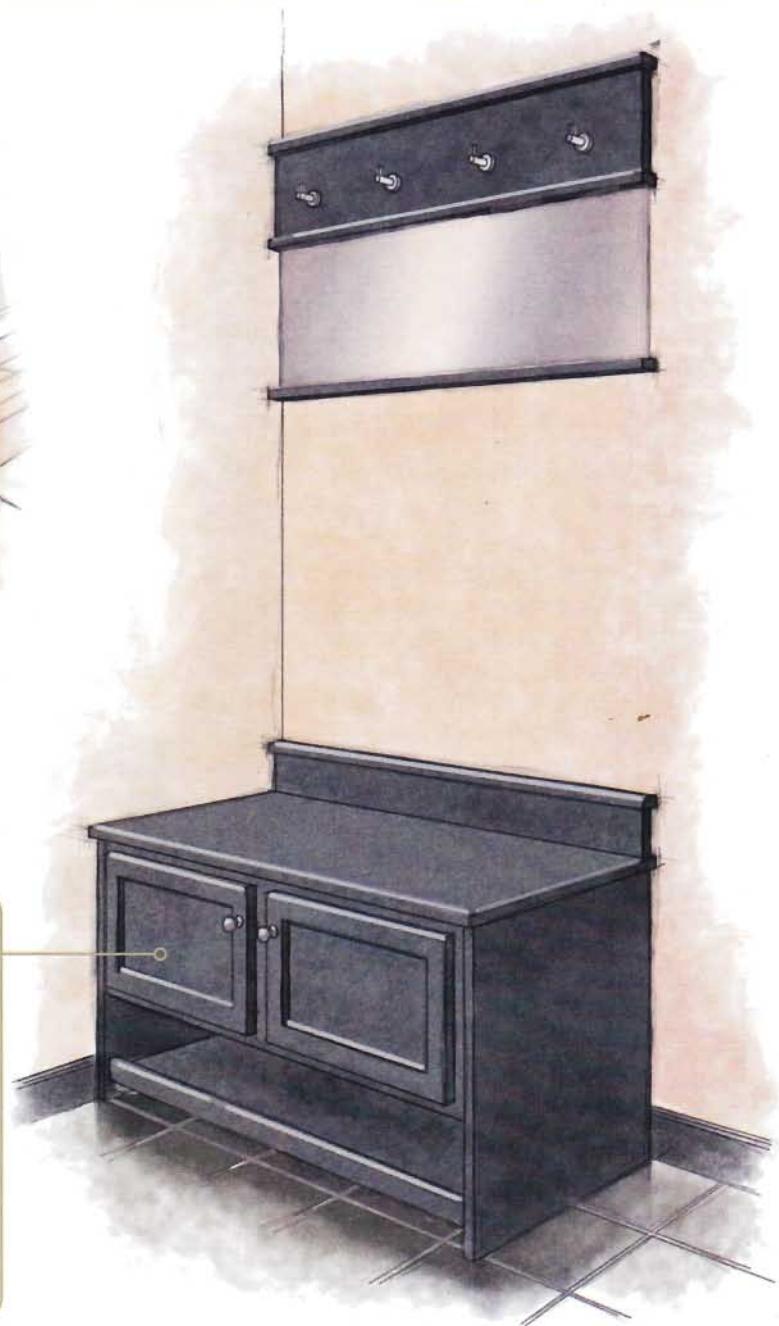
With its natural wood finish and frame-and-panel wall treatment, this entry organizer offers a slightly more formal twist on the traditional look. It should tie in nicely to about any home that features natural woodwork.

Plus, this version is set up on a straight wall rather than in a corner. As you can see, it looks great in this configuration, too.

**Choose Wood To Match.** You can order cabinets from most home centers in a variety of species to match the trim in your home.

**Warm the Wood.** Use lightly tinted stain to highlight the wood's tones.

**Get the Look.** The base rail, coat-hook rail, and top cap remain the same. Just add vertical stiles, short rails, mirrors, and plywood panels.



## Simple Modern

The basic design of the entry bench fits in just as well in a contemporary environment. "Charcoal" paint in a high-gloss finish makes a bold statement, and the subtle "cap" ties it into the wall.

**Open Up the Wall.** This organizer forgoes the full wall treatment in favor of a big mirror at eye level with understated, modern-style coat hooks.

**Get the Look.** Above the bench, leave off the side base rail and cap. Up top, just flank the coat-hook rail and the mirror with 1x2 caps for a lighter look.



# from old suitcase to new bath storage!

Old items get a new purpose when you transform luggage that hasn't been used for years into storage solutions. We'll show you how we added storage to a small bath by unlocking the potential of three vintage cases.

**F**inding bath storage that is compact, decorative, and unique can be a tall order. But you need storage with all of these characteristics when you have a small bath—especially if you have a pedestal sink, which doesn't offer storage underneath.

When we found some vintage luggage (*Photo, above*) at a salvage store, we knew we'd come across an answer to small-space storage woes. The cases already had a great look, and they were a perfect fit for towels and toiletries.

Although we liked the look of the cases' exteriors, the interiors needed some work. Read on to find out how we transformed three pieces to into a floor case, a wall-mounted cabinet, and a drop-down shelf with storage.

## Spruce up those suitcases!

Using simple materials and some creativity, you can turn vintage cases into eye-catching pieces that add space to stash supplies.







1



To line the suitcase, fold the fabric over so the edges are flush with the sides of the suitcase. Then use tape to temporarily hold it in place while you glue it.

Pinch the fabric to the bead of glue before it sets up. You'll have to use extra glue at the suitcase's corners since more fabric will bunch together there.

## GET CREATIVE: 3 SIMPLE STORAGE SOLUTIONS

### Compact Floor Case

We attached furniture feet to one of the cases to add height and used it as a small storage piece. It provided space inside for bath accessories, and it made a perfect spot to place a stack of extra towels for guests (*page 57*).

**Add Feet.** To make it, we started by painting wood furniture feet. Then we drilled holes through the case and into the feet, and screwed them on.

**Line the Case.** Next, we made a "no-sew" fabric lining for the suitcase's interior. We lined the lid by cutting a cardboard panel to size, gluing fabric to it, and gluing the whole panel to the inside of the lid.

Finally, we cut a piece of fabric large enough to cover the inside of the suitcase with a few inches of excess, and then folded and glued it in place (*Photos, left and below*).



## Drop-Down Shelf

Our smallest case started life as a vintage projector case, but it matched our luggage so well that we decided to modify it, too. With its deep box and shallow lid, the case was perfect for use as a drop-down storage shelf.

The lid had dividers and straps inside, so we removed them with a pair of pliers. Then we lined the interior with self-adhesive "stainless steel" contact paper.

**Chain It Up.** Next, we limited the lid's movement so we could use it as a shelf by adding screw eyes, and then attaching lengths of chain.

Since the sides of the case and lid were too thin to accommodate the screw eyes, we painted pieces of craft wood, then glued them inside to provide extra thickness.



Hang the drop-down shelf using wall anchors (*lower left*). Next, use a small level to make sure the "shelf" is perfectly straight, and then adjust the lengths of the chains by removing links as necessary (*lower right*).

## Wall-Mounted Storage Cabinet

We turned one of our large suitcases into a wall-mounted cabinet. The case's fabric lining was in great shape, and it had a pouch on the lid that we reused in the transformation.

**Flip It.** The pouch was oriented the wrong way for our cabinet, though, so we needed to turn it before we could store items inside. Luckily,

it was attached to a cardboard panel that we removed intact. We cut it to size and glued it to the lid (*Photos*).

That left the lid with an unfinished portion, which we covered with cork. Since the cork was too thin to accommodate push pins, we built it up by sticking it to several layers of cardboard glued together.



Remove the suitcase's pouch and cut its cardboard backing to size. Then fold over the excess fabric and glue it in place.



Attach the pouch panel, then cover the unfinished part of the lid with a bulletin board made from cardboard and cork.



# create a classic bathroom retreat: 6 simple style ideas

The vintage luggage made a big contribution to this room's style, but it took a lot more to pull the look together. The colors and patterns of the cases offered the perfect opportunity to bring in elements of a hot decor trend: menswear.

Using patterns and fabrics that you might find in the men's clothing section of a department store is a popular approach now, and the classic materials will stand the test of time.



The pattern found on the shower curtain, for example, has a timeless look.

When we were choosing items to enhance our room, we also looked beyond home decor and actually turned wearable accessories into accents for the bathroom. Here are the details—some sophisticated, some playful—that came together to create this room's one-of-a-kind look.

**1** **Vintage luggage handles hold washcloths in style.** Instead of using a traditional towel ring, remove the handle from another old suitcase and screw it to the wall.



**2** **A small and simple belt becomes a curtain tieback.** Pick up a belt to use as a shower curtain tieback. Buy a belt from the boys' department, since those are smaller.



**3** **A knob and ribbon combo is a charming mirror hanger.** Choose a mirror suspended from a knob by a ribbon, which adds a softer touch to a menswear-inspired space.



**4** **An attractive pair of boots offers a new spin on storage.** Stylish boots provide a perfect place to display cheerful flowers and stash an extra roll of toilet paper.

A stack of folded towels, including white and orange ones, tied with a dark belt. The stack is resting on a textured surface.

# #6

A spare set of towels can double as a decorative accent. Just slip a small belt around them for a fast and inexpensive bath update!

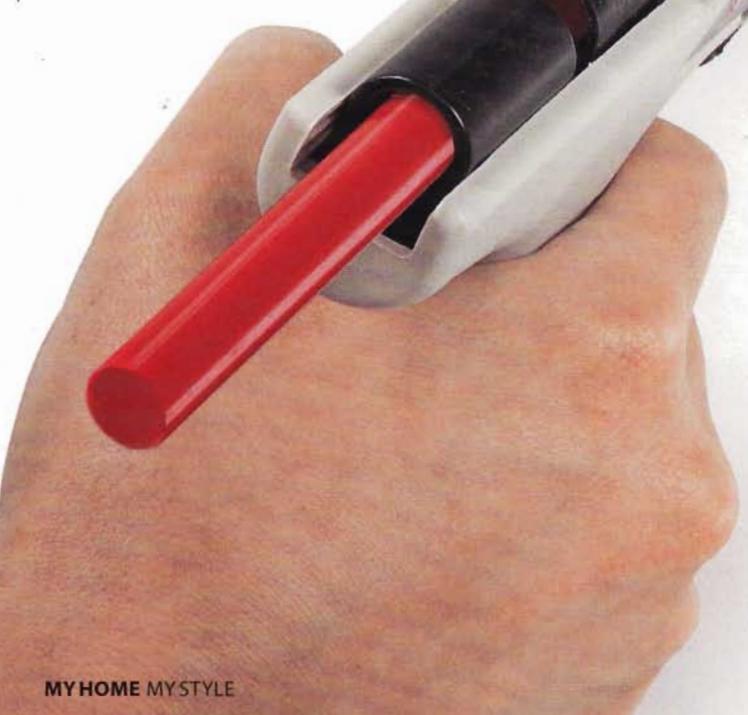
# 10 DIY Uses for Your Hot Glue Gun

A hot-melt glue gun can be your go-to do-it-yourself tool for dozens of home improvement and craft projects. Here are just a handful of our favorite uses.

Most DIY enthusiasts are well aware of the power of the hot-melt glue gun. Its unique properties (quick bonding times and the ability to join dissimilar materials) make it well-suited to tasks that other adhesives just can't handle.

Yet for some reason, many of our hot glue guns have been relegated to "junk drawer" status. Well, we think it's time to dust them off and start a glue gun revival.

Sure, glue guns are great for scrapbooking, decorating, and other craft projects, but we would argue that the glue gun merits mention as a bona fide DIY tool, as well. To that end, we came up with 10 of our favorite around-the-house uses for the humble glue gun. Gets yours out of the drawer this weekend, and we're sure you'll come up with quite a few more!

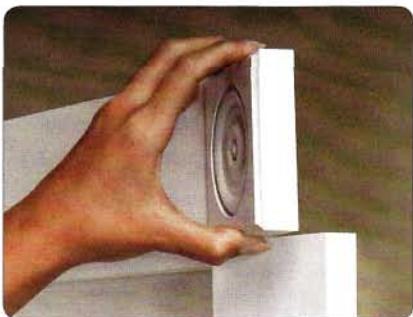
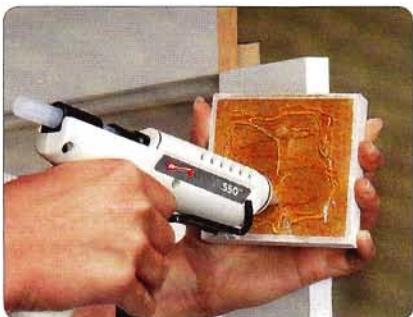


## 1] Apply Fabric.

Cloth is a glue gun specialty, no matter what you want to bond it to. We wrapped plywood with fabric and secured it with hot glue to make simple and stylish wall art panels.

## 2] Install Molding.

Hot glue can even be your go-to adhesive for installing trim and moldings around your house—without all the annoying nail holes.



## 3] Put Shoes Back Together.

Everyone has faced the frustration of a favorite shoe coming apart. Rely on a bead of hot glue to make it good as new.



**4] Repair Furniture.** Try to fix a wobbly chair or table leg with wood glue, and you'll need to clamp the joint while the glue sets up. Use a hot glue gun instead, though, and you'll have a rock-solid bond in 60 seconds or less.

**5] Embellish Projects.** When it comes to bonding, most glues like to stick with their own kind — wood to wood, metal to metal, plastic to plastic. A glue gun, on the other hand, doesn't discriminate. Cardboard to wood? No problem. Steel to paper? You bet. A glue gun bonds them all, no questions asked.

**6] Create Temporary Bonds.** If you apply a lot of glue, hot glue will create an incredibly strong bond. But a few dabs can create a temporary bond that you can easily pop loose later if you change your mind.

**7] Grow a “Third Hand.”** How many times have you struggled to hold a block or hook against the wall while you tried to install it? Dab hot glue on the back, and you can stick it in place while installing that final nail or screw.

**8] Secure Wall Anchors.** At one point or another, almost all of us have experienced the annoyance of a drywall anchor popping out of the wall behind a towel bar or coat hook. Just cover the outside of the anchor with hot glue, hold it in place for a minute, and you'll create a rock-solid bond between the anchor and the wall that will hold up for the long haul.

**9] Fix Plastic Parts.** If you've ever tried to fix a toy, you know that plastic is like kryptonite to even the strongest adhesives. Next time, just reach for your glue gun to make joining these plastic parts child's play.

**10] Have Fun!** Hot glue can do much more than just hold things together. See the Box below for even more great glue gun options.

## A Stick For Every Occasion

If you think the standard “clear” glue sticks are the only ones available for use in your hot glue gun, then you’re missing a rainbow of opportunities to add punch and personality to craft and other home projects. A whole host of specialty glue sticks are available in different colors—and even in glitter and glow-in-the-dark varieties. They can be used and left exposed to add a custom touch

to greeting cards, scrapbook pages, and various other craft projects (*Photo right*).

Just like standard “clear” glue sticks, these specialty sticks are available in both “mini” and “regular” sizes. The mini glue sticks fit in a small gun that’s ideally suited to craft projects or any task that doesn’t require a lot of glue. The “regular” sticks fit in a standard glue gun.





## Nice & Easy Knife Block

Whether you have a matched set of kitchen knives or a collection that you've accumulated over time, the Universal Knife Block from Kapoosh makes it easy to keep all of your cutlery organized. Instead of individual slots for knives, this block is filled with thin plastic rods that conform to almost any size or shape of knife blade you can imagine. Kapoosh blocks are available in several colors and natural wood to match any kitchen decor.

**PRICE:** \$40

**LEARN MORE:** [Kapoosh.com](http://Kapoosh.com)  
or 800-821-7849

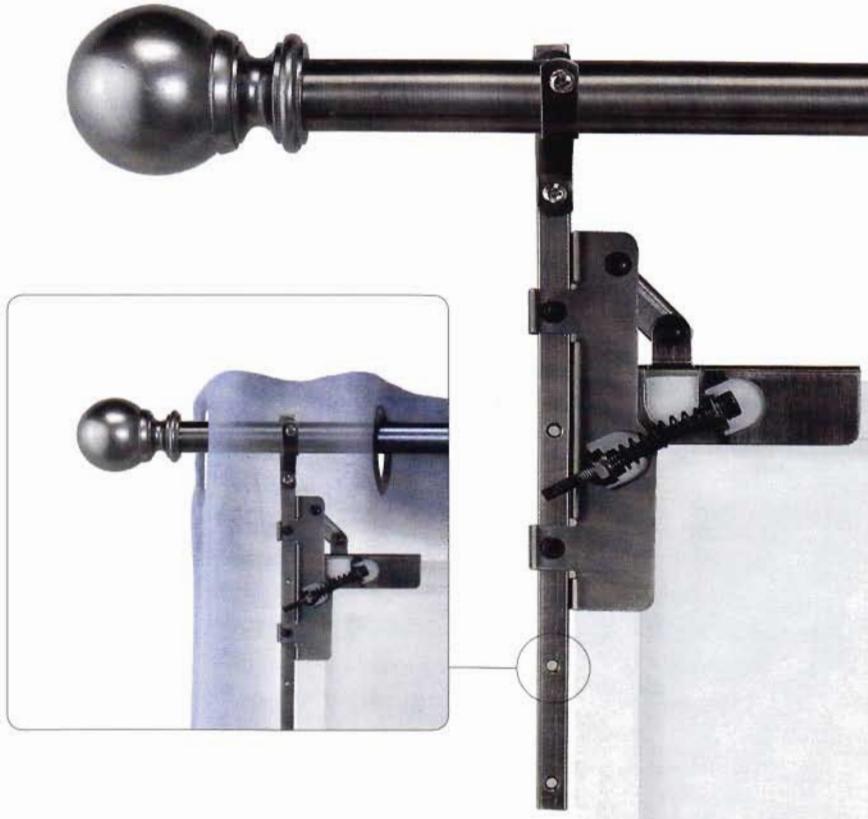


## Hassle-Free Curtain Rods

ReadyHang curtain rods take the hassle out of hanging curtains—no holes to drill, no measuring, and no tools required. The brackets simply grip onto the window frame and tighten down with a supplied wrench. Plus, they come with adjustable-length curtain rods that have decorative finials already installed. You'll find four finial shapes, four finishes, and two sizes to fit windows from 28" to 72" wide.

**PRICE:** \$40-50 per window

**LEARN MORE:** ReadyHang.com



## Hi-Fi Home Audio in Disguise

Duo Wireless Speaker Lamps make it possible to incorporate great-sounding audio into any room without having to deal with visible speakers and without running wires. That's because each lamp has a 360° high-fidelity speaker cleverly disguised within a sleek torchiere-style light. A wireless transmitter sends the audio signal up to 300 feet, meaning all you have to do is connect the transmitter to your audio or home-theater system. Lamps can be used individually or in multiples, and one transmitter can feed several lamps.

**PRICE:** \$380 with transmitter;  
\$300 lamp only

**LEARN MORE:** Soundolier.com  
or 800-837-7879



### *A New Opportunity for an Old Door*

*Who would have  
thought the secret to a  
stylish office could be  
found at a salvage store?*

*With modern legs, a  
glass top, and a little  
detailing, an old door  
becomes a designer desk.*



### **DIY Reader's Project (Page 10)**

National Light T Hinge #22422; National Turn Button #79885, Lowes.com, 800-445-6937

### **Modern Storage Solutions (page 20)**

Home & Office Powermat, Powermat.com, 888-856-6783

Ikea PS Laptop Workstation, available at Ikea stores

PB Teen Speaker Charging Valet #7065501, PBTeen.com, 866-472-4001, also available at Pottery Barn

Premier Claw v 1.0 #GACUXXCAVK, GladiatorGW.com, 866-342-4089

Rubbermaid Fast Track Components, Rubbermaid.com, 888-895-2110

PegRail Closet Solutions, PegRail.com, 800-788-3374

Rev-A-Shelf Blind Corner Optimizer #5PSP-15-CR, Rev-A-Shelf.com, 800-626-1126

### **Designer Desk (page 24)**

Old French Door, purchased at a local Habitat for Humanity ReStore, Habitat.org/env/restores

$\frac{3}{8}$ "-thick Plate Glass with a "Polished" Edge, purchased at a local glass shop

Office Height Legs in Brushed Steel (set of four) #OFFICE28, TableLegsOnline.com, 877-220-3800

Apple iMac, Apple.com/imac, 800-692-7753

Notch Espresso Storage Cart #501649; Notch Espresso Office Chair #501682, CrateAndBarrel.com, 800-967-6696

Quill Rug 5' x 8' #414274, CB2.com, 800-606-6252

Linden Street Wall Clock #FC771-4112B, JCPenney.com, 800-322-1189

Royce Lighting 12" Table Torchiere #311289, Lowes.com, 800-445-6937

"Cinnamon" Paint #2174-20, BenjaminMoore.com, 800-344-0400

### **Spice Rack (page 28)**

Soho 5-Piece Strip Board Shaker Set in Stainless Steel #6505, Lipper International, available at Amazon.com

Stainless Steel Measuring Spoons (set of six), BedBathandBeyond.com, 800-462-3966

"Hosta Leaf" Indoor/Outdoor Paint #53541, Krylon.com, 800-457-9566

# {resources}



## **Painted Headboard (page 32)**

### **NATURE-INSPIRED ROOM**

"Beacon Gray" Paint #2128-60; "November Skies" Paint #2128-50; "Oxford Gray" Paint #2128-40; "Dill Pickle" Paint #2147-40, BenjaminMoore.com, 800-344-0400

**DKNY Bedding;** Barbara Barry Bedding, available at Bed Bath and Beyond stores

### **TRADITIONAL ROOM**

"Ferret Brown" Paint #2108-10, BenjaminMoore.com, 800-344-0400

**Duncan Stripe Bedding,** available at Pottery Barn

### **NAUTICAL ROOM**

"Philipsburg Blue" Paint #HC-159, BenjaminMoore.com, 800-344-0400

**American Living Bedding,** available at JCPenney stores

**Pillow Shams,** available at Pottery Barn

### **KIDS' ROOM**

"Toasted Marshmallow" Paint #1049; "Ferret Brown" Paint #2108-10; "Dijon" Paint #193; "Forest Hills Green" Paint (walls) #433, BenjaminMoore.com, 800-344-0400

**Woolrich Bedding,** available at Target stores

## **Entryway Organizer (page 44)**

"Powder Sand" Paint (organizer and trim) #2151-70; "Philipsburg Blue" Paint (walls) #HC-159, BenjaminMoore.com, 800-334-0400

36" x 12" x 18" Unfinished Oak Wall Cabinet (special-ordered); MDF V-Groove Plank Paneling #304517; Satin Nickel Raised Panel Knobs #214919; Satin Nickel Raised Coat & Hat Hook #120609, Lowes.com, 800-445-6937

1x2, 1x4, 1x8 Poplar Boards; 1 1/4" Poplar Cove Molding; 1 1/4" Roller Casters #66941; Clear Heavy-Duty Carpet Protector #196681, available at Lowe's stores

### ***A Spice Storage Rack with Added Flavor***

Frequently used spices can quickly clutter a cupboard. Move them to magnetic canisters, and organize and display them at once on this stylish rack. It also has handy hangers for measuring spoons.



**Room Essentials 27" x 48" Accent Rug in Blue,** available at Target stores

20" x 4" Square Glass Cube Vase; Tin Photo Boxes; Plaid Stencil Decor Uppercase Alphabet Stencils, available at Michaels stores

**Antique Soda Bottle Caddy,** purchased locally

## **Suitcase Bath Storage (page 52)**

Decorative Wall Mirror, Aura Home Design; Exterior Wall Lanterns, Elementals by Hampton Bay, available at The Home Depot

Home Casual Paisley Towels; Home Window-pane Shower Curtain #11278266, Target.com, 800-440-0680

Prairie House Poster #1248402, AllPosters.com, 888-654-0143

"Da Vinci's Canvas" Paint #208, BenjaminMoore.com, 800-344-0400

## **Gear Guide: Glue Guns (page 58)**

Arrow Professional Lever Feed Glue Gun #TR550, HomeDepot.com, 800-430-3376

Colored and Glitter Hot Melt Glue Sticks, available at Amazon.com

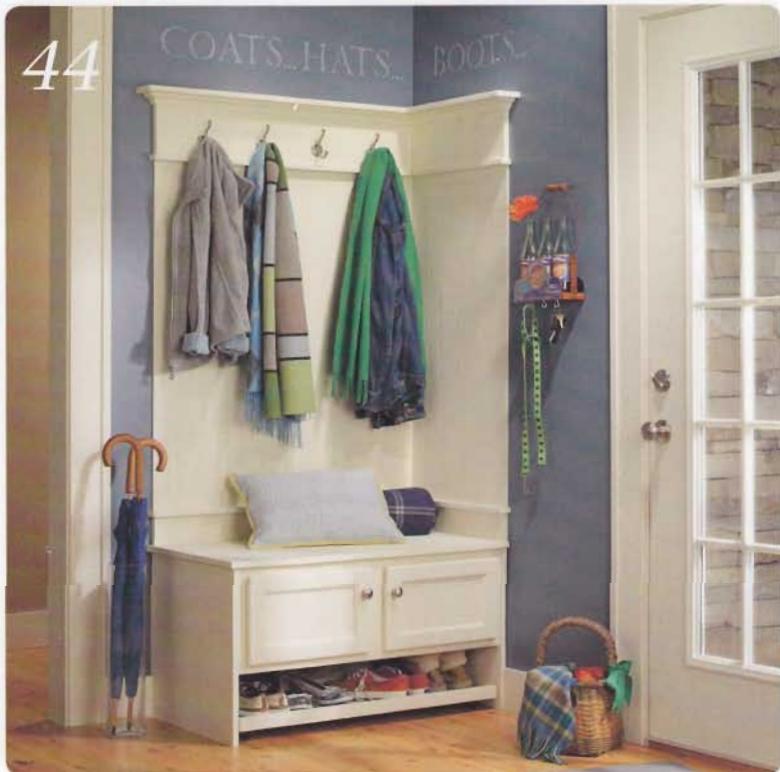


### ***Menswear-Style Bath with Cases of Storage***

Vintage luggage provides ample storage around the sink in this bathroom. The shower curtain, lanterns, and accessories play up the menswear fashion.

## { a look inside }

44



### 24] Dollar-Wise Design: Computer Desk

Create a high-style desk on a budget using a salvage-store door, metal legs, a plate-glass top, and our accessorizing ideas.

### 40] Simple Pleasures: Wine Rack

Store and display a few of your favorite bottles of wine with this one-of-a-kind rack.

### 44] Before & After: Entry Makeover

Transform your cluttered entryway with a storage-savvy organizer. It has a classic built-in look and is surprisingly easy to make.

40



24

