

This Old House

All About
**Hardwood
Decks**
They last forever!

p. 80

57 fresh ideas for **OUTDOOR LIVING**

17 OPEN-AIR ROOMS

24 GARDEN DETAILS

16 SUMMERY UPGRADES

No-Fail Roses

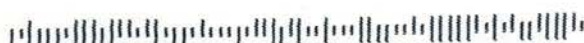
Ultimate
Veggie Garden

EASY DIY:
Copper Trellis

JUNE 2015
THISOLDHOUSE.COM

Make
real wicker
work
outside

p. 58



#BXMGFYM *****CPR-R1 L01**R-039
#2804 6272 360# TH 002 APR16
MY1 TOLB2 JUN15 0043 #900 #122571
DAVID H WILLIAMS
517 HIDDENBROOK DR
DURHAM NC 27703-8683



Once-a-week TANZEUM may help adults with type 2 diabetes lower their A1C.

What is TANZEUM™ (albiglutide)?

TANZEUM is an injectable prescription medicine that may improve blood sugar (glucose) in adults with type 2 diabetes, and should be used along with diet and exercise. TANZEUM is not recommended as the first medication to treat diabetes. TANZEUM has not been studied in people who previously had pancreatitis. TANZEUM is not a substitute for insulin and is not for people with type 1 diabetes or diabetic ketoacidosis. TANZEUM is not recommended in people with severe stomach or intestinal problems. It is not known if TANZEUM can be used with short-acting or rapid-acting (mealtime) insulin. TANZEUM has not been studied in children under 18 years of age.

Important Safety Information for TANZEUM

In studies with rats and mice, medicines that work like TANZEUM caused thyroid tumors, including thyroid cancer. It is not known if TANZEUM will cause thyroid tumors or a type of thyroid cancer called medullary thyroid carcinoma (MTC) in people. Do not use TANZEUM if you or your family have ever had MTC or if you have an endocrine system cancer called Multiple Endocrine Neoplasia syndrome type 2. Tell your healthcare provider if you get a lump or swelling in your neck, hoarseness, trouble swallowing, or shortness of breath. These may be symptoms of thyroid cancer.

Do not use TANZEUM if you are allergic to albiglutide or any of the ingredients in TANZEUM.

Before using TANZEUM, tell your healthcare provider about your medical conditions, including if you have or have had problems with your pancreas, kidneys, or liver, have severe problems with your stomach, such as slowed emptying of your stomach (gastroparesis) or problems with digesting food. Tell your healthcare provider if you are taking a new prescription or over-the-counter medicines, vitamins, or herbal supplements.

Tell your healthcare provider if you are pregnant or plan to become pregnant. It is not known if TANZEUM will harm your unborn baby. Tell your healthcare provider if you are breastfeeding or plan to breastfeed. It is not known if TANZEUM passes into your breast milk.

TANZEUM may cause serious side effects, including:

- inflammation of your pancreas (pancreatitis). Stop using TANZEUM and call your healthcare provider right away if you have severe pain in your stomach area (abdomen) that will not go away, with or without vomiting. You may feel pain that may go from your abdomen to your back.

(continued on next page)

Go to TANZEUM.com to learn if you may be eligible to receive TANZEUM free for 12 months.*

* Subject to eligibility. Restrictions apply.



The TANZEUM SUPPORT TEAM
is here for you 24/7. Call 1-855-TANZEUM.



Once-a-week TANZEUM helps your body release its own natural insulin.

TANZEUM is an injectable prescription medicine that helps your body release its own natural insulin when your blood sugar is high, after you eat.

If your A1C is not at goal with certain diabetes pills or daily insulin, ask your doctor if adding once-a-week TANZEUM is right for you.

When combined with diet and exercise, TANZEUM may improve blood sugar (glucose) in adults with type 2 diabetes. TANZEUM can be used in adults taking diabetes pills or daily insulin and has been shown to lower A1C in studies. It is not known if TANZEUM can be used with meal-time insulin.

Important Safety Information for TANZEUM (cont'd)

TANZEUM may cause serious side effects, including (cont'd):

- low blood sugar (hypoglycemia). Your risk is higher if you take TANZEUM with another medicine that can cause low blood sugar such as insulin or a sulfonylurea. Signs and symptoms of low blood sugar may include dizziness or light-headedness, sweating, confusion, headache, blurred vision, slurred speech, shakiness, fast heart beat, anxiety, irritability, or mood changes, hunger, and feeling jittery.
- allergic reactions. Stop using TANZEUM and get medical help right away if you have any symptoms of an allergic reaction, including itching, rash, or difficulty breathing.
- kidney problems (kidney failure). In people who have kidney problems, diarrhea, nausea, and vomiting may result in loss of fluids (dehydration), which may worsen kidney problems.

Common side effects of TANZEUM may include diarrhea, nausea, reactions at your injection site, cough, back pain, and cold or flu symptoms. These are not all the possible side effects of TANZEUM. For more information, talk to your healthcare provider.

Please see Medication Guide for TANZEUM on the following pages.

You are encouraged to report negative side effects of prescription drugs to the FDA. Visit www.fda.gov/medwatch, or call 1-800-FDA-1088.



GSK for you

If you don't have prescription coverage and can't afford your medicines, visit GSKforyou.com or call 1-866-GSK-FOR-U (1-866-475-3678)

Once-weekly
TanzeumTM
albiglutide
30mg, 50mg for injection

Make every week a TANZEUM week

Read this Medication Guide before you start taking TANZEUM and each time you get a refill. There may be new information. This information does not take the place of talking to your healthcare provider about your medical condition or your treatment.

What is the most important information I should know about TANZEUM?

Serious side effects may happen in people who take TANZEUM, including:

- **Possible thyroid tumors, including cancer.** Tell your healthcare provider if you get a lump or swelling in your neck, hoarseness, trouble swallowing, or shortness of breath. These may be symptoms of thyroid cancer. In studies with rats and mice, medicines that work like TANZEUM caused thyroid tumors, including thyroid cancer. It is not known if TANZEUM will cause thyroid tumors or a type of thyroid cancer called medullary thyroid carcinoma in people.
- **Do not use TANZEUM if you** or your family have ever had a type of thyroid cancer called medullary thyroid carcinoma (MTC) or if you have an endocrine system cancer called Multiple Endocrine Neoplasia syndrome type 2 (MEN 2).

What is TANZEUM?

TANZEUM is an injectable prescription medicine that may improve blood sugar (glucose) in adults with type 2 diabetes mellitus, and should be used along with diet and exercise.

- TANZEUM is not recommended as the first choice of medicine for treating diabetes.
- It is not known if TANZEUM can be used in people who previously had pancreatitis.
- TANZEUM is not a substitute for insulin and is not for use in people with type 1 diabetes or people with diabetic ketoacidosis.
- TANZEUM is not recommended in people with severe stomach or intestinal problems.
- It is not known if TANZEUM can be used with short-acting or rapid-acting (mealtime) insulin.
- It is not known if TANZEUM is safe and effective in children under 18 years of age.

Who should not use TANZEUM?

Do not use TANZEUM if:

- you or your family have ever had a type of thyroid cancer called medullary thyroid carcinoma (MTC) or if you have an endocrine system cancer called Multiple Endocrine Neoplasia syndrome type 2 (MEN 2).
- you are allergic to albiglutide or any of the ingredients in TANZEUM.

Before using TANZEUM, tell your healthcare provider about your medical conditions including, if you:

- have or have had problems with your pancreas, kidneys, or liver.
- have severe problems with your stomach, such as slowed emptying of your stomach (gastroparesis) or problems with digesting food.
- are pregnant or plan to become pregnant. It is not known if TANZEUM will harm your unborn baby. Tell your healthcare provider if you become pregnant while using TANZEUM.
- are breastfeeding or plan to breastfeed. It is not known if TANZEUM passes into your breast milk. You and your healthcare provider should decide if you will use TANZEUM or breastfeed. You should not do both without talking with your healthcare provider first.
- are taking a new prescription or over-the-counter medicines, vitamins, or herbal supplements.

How should I use TANZEUM?

- Read the **Instructions for Use** that comes with TANZEUM.
- Use TANZEUM exactly as your healthcare provider tells you to.
- **Use TANZEUM 1 time each week on the same day each week at any time of the day.**
- You may change your day of the week as long as your last dose was given **4** or more days before.
- If you miss a dose of TANZEUM, take the missed dose of TANZEUM within **3** days after your usual scheduled day. If more than **3** days have gone by since your missed dose, wait until your next regularly scheduled weekly dose.
- TANZEUM may be taken with or without food.
- **Do not mix insulin and TANZEUM together in the same injection.**
- **Do not share your pen or needles with another person.** You may give another person an infection or get an infection from them.

What are the possible side effects of TANZEUM?

TANZEUM may cause serious side effects, including:

- **inflammation of your pancreas (pancreatitis).** Stop using TANZEUM and call your healthcare provider right away if you have severe pain in your stomach area (abdomen) that will not go away, with or without vomiting. You may feel pain that may go from your abdomen to your back.
- **low blood sugar (hypoglycemia).** Your risk is higher if you take TANZEUM with another medicine that can cause low blood sugar such as insulin or sulfonylurea. *(continued on next page)*

What are the possible side effects of TANZEUM? (cont'd)

Signs and symptoms of low blood sugar may include:

- dizziness or light-headedness
 - sweating
 - confusion
 - headache
 - blurred vision
 - slurred speech
 - shakiness
 - fast heart beat
 - anxiety, irritability, or mood changes
 - hunger
 - feeling jittery
- **allergic reactions.** Stop using TANZEUM and get medical help right away if you have any symptoms of an allergic reaction including itching, rash, or difficulty breathing.
- **kidney problems (kidney failure).** In people who have kidney problems, diarrhea, nausea, and vomiting may result in loss of fluids (dehydration) which may worsen kidney problems.

Common side effects of TANZEUM may include diarrhea, nausea, reactions at your injection site, cough, back pain, and cold or flu symptoms. These are not all the possible side effects of TANZEUM. Call your doctor for medical advice about side effects. You may report side effects to FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088.

General information about the safe and effective use of TANZEUM.

Medicines are sometimes prescribed for purposes other than those listed in a Medication Guide. You can ask your pharmacist or healthcare provider for information about TANZEUM that is written for health professionals. Do not use TANZEUM for a condition for which it was not prescribed. Do not give TANZEUM to other people, even if they have the same symptoms that you have. It may harm them.

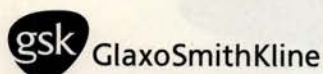
What are the ingredients in TANZEUM?

Active Ingredient: albiglutide

Inactive Ingredients: mannitol, polysorbate 80, sodium phosphate, and trehalose dihydrate. TANZEUM does not contain a preservative.

For more information, go to www.TANZEUM.com or call 1-888-825-5249.

This Medication Guide has been approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration. Approved: April 2014



Manufactured by **GlaxoSmithKline LLC**
Wilmington, DE 19808
U.S. Lic No. 1727
Marketed by GlaxoSmithKline
Research Triangle Park, NC 27709

TANZEUM is a trademark of the GSK group of companies.
©2014, the GSK group of companies. All rights reserved. TNZ:1MG

©2015 GSK group of companies.
All rights reserved. Printed in USA. 240503R0 January 2015

This Old House[®] on tablet



Don't miss out on

- **how-to videos**
 - **extended house tours**
 - **product recommendations**
- and other bonuses
our tablet users
enjoy every month!**

Visit thisoldhouse.com/allaccess to begin enjoying the tablet edition today!

Water with
the wave of a hand.

MotionSense™, only from Moen.

Wave over for a pot-filling
stream. Reach under for a
quick rinse. It's water how
you want it, when you want it.

moen.com



MOEN

Buy it for looks. Buy it for life.®





THIS OLD HOUSE ©2015
THIS OLD HOUSE VENTURES INC.
JUNE 2015

Contents

THIS OLD HOUSE JUNE 2015

Outdoor living

- 39 shopping**
Metal garden benches
- 44 get this look for less**
French country patio
- 48 build it or buy it**
Outdoor privacy screen
- 58 great outdoor getaways** Inspiring tips for transforming a porch, patio, or garden into a relaxing alfresco retreat
- 66 where the ♥ is**
Eco-savvy upgrades bring a snug 1930s house into the present, period style intact
- 74 the incredible edible landscape**
Explore a vibrant garden designed to please eye and palate alike
- 80 all about**
Hardwood decking

home solutions

- 17** Galvanized-tub beverage holder; an outdoor life for indoor furniture; light up summer nights; outdoor fabric picks; power-washer tips; budget-friendly porch redo; and more

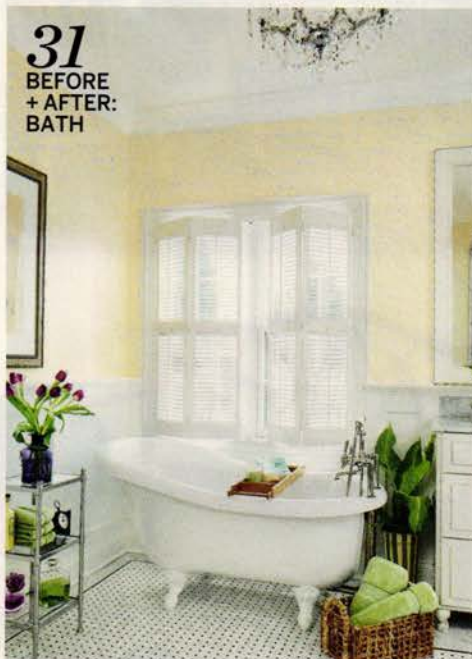


pp. 22,
44, 58,
66, 80;
35, 39,
48, 51,
53, 74;
17, 18,
80

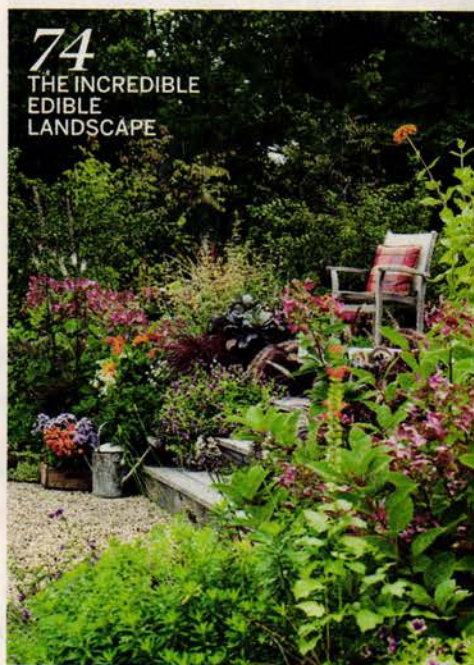
pp. 35,
74, 53



58
GREAT OUTDOOR
GETAWAYS



31
BEFORE
+ AFTER:
BATH



74
THE INCREDIBLE
EDIBLE
LANDSCAPE

Contents

THIS OLD HOUSE JUNE 2015



Watch videos and see more photos!

Now on the iPad, the Nook, and other select tablets. Available at thisoldhouse.com/tablet and on iTunes.

25
BEFORE
+ AFTER:
KITCHEN



idea file

25 before + after: kitchen

An "e-designer" helps fashion a refreshing makeover for a dreary cook space

31 before + after: bath

Walls had to come down to help a master bath gain space, function, and classic style

46 Photoshop redo

A Queen Anne regains details removed during renos past

how-to projects

35 landscaping

Transform your terrain with our guide to container roses

51 paint ideas

Use specialty tape and latex to change plain terra-cotta pots into vividly colored planters

53 weekend remodel

Give your garden climbers a copper-tube trellis to grow on

ask this old house

87 Q + A

Propagate hydrangeas; make compost; slate-roof care; finishing tips for tabletops; and more

94 editors' picks

Six outstanding new products you should know about

95 Norm's tricks of the trade

Toenail studs with a hammer; framing-square checkup

IN EVERY ISSUE

- 9 letter from This Old House
- 11 reader mail
- 14 checklist
- 96 directory
- 106 save this old house



51
PAINT IDEAS



14
CHECKLIST



39
SHOPPING

THIS OLD HOUSE ©2015
THIS OLD HOUSE VENTURES INC.
JUNE 2015



**EXCEPTIONAL BEAUTY.
LASTING PROTECTION.
SIMPLY. DONE.**



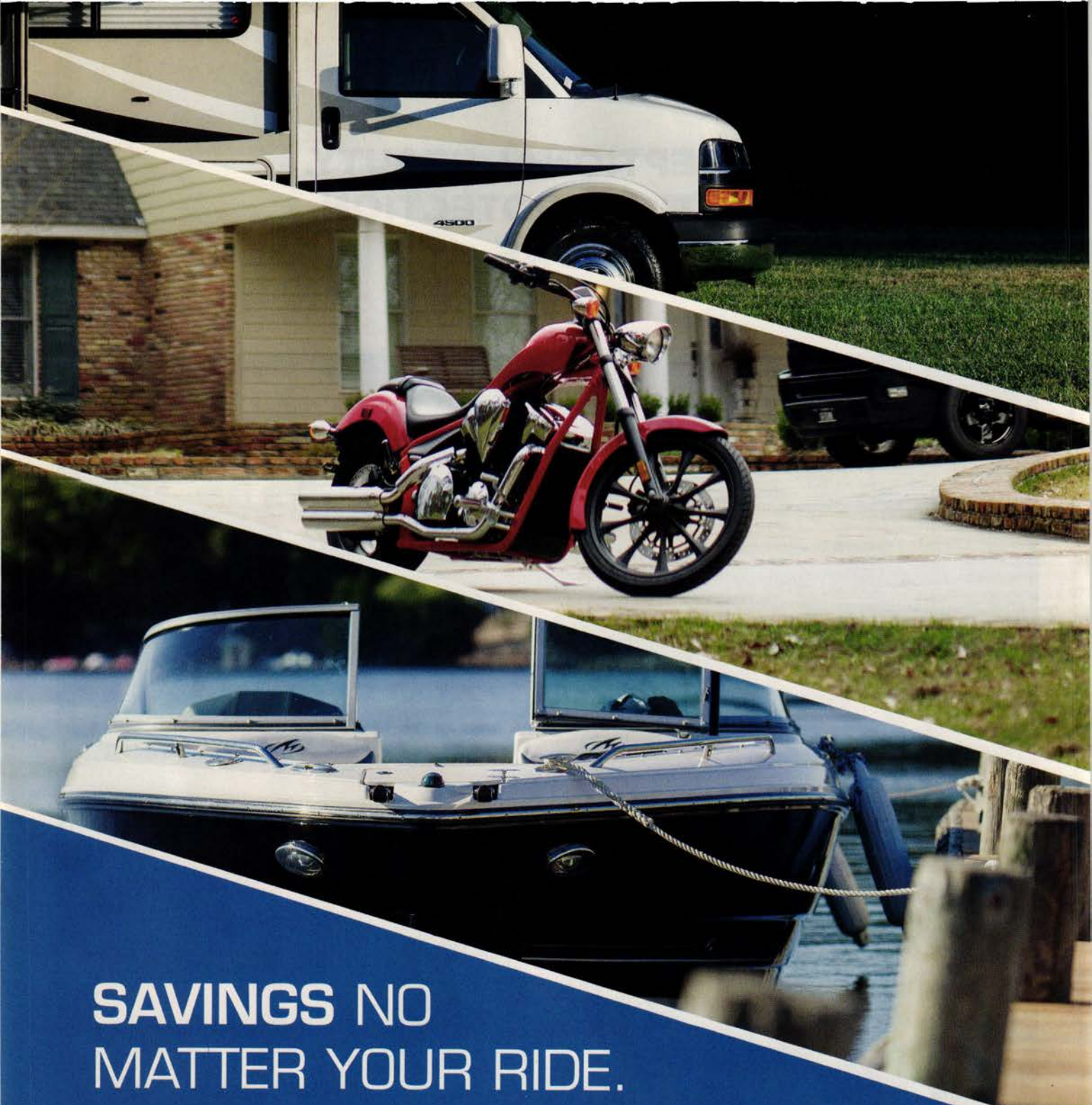
OLYMPIC
SIMPLY. DONE.

With an ALL-CLIMATE PROTECTION PACKAGE™ and COLOR RICH™ Technology, our Advanced Stain + Sealant in One delivers a rich, beautiful look that lasts for years. OLYMPIC® Stain — America's most trusted brand since 1938.

Exclusively at



Elite Unlocking the Beauty of Wood, Olympic, Olympic & Design and Woodland Oil are registered trademarks and Color Rich and All Climate Protection Package & Design are trademarks of PPG Architectural Finishes, Inc. Lowe's and the Cable Design are registered trademarks of L.F. LLC. All are used with permission. © 2015 PPG Industries, Inc. All Rights Reserved.



SAVINGS NO
MATTER YOUR RIDE.



GET A FREE INSURANCE QUOTE TODAY.

GEICO®

GEICO.COM

1-800-947-AUTO

LOCAL OFFICE

Some discounts, coverages, payment plans and features are not available in all states or all GEICO companies. Motorcycle coverage is underwritten by GEICO Indemnity Company. Boat and PWC coverages are written through Seaworthy Insurance Company, a Berkshire Hathaway affiliate, and through other non-affiliated insurance companies, and are secured through the GEICO Insurance Agency. GEICO is a registered service mark of Government Employees Insurance Company, Washington, D.C. 20076; a Berkshire Hathaway Inc. subsidiary. GEICO Gecko image © 1999-2015. © 2015 GEICO

Of hard heads and harder boards

"I'm gonna reach back into the DIY disaster archives for this one," I said.

My brother responded, "No need. Just talk about what you screwed up last weekend."

"Very funny," I said, wondering how I came to be related to the people I'm related to. It was a dinner at my mother's house in early spring, the season—along with summer, autumn, and winter—when my brothers and I try to humiliate each other, retelling embarrassing stories.

"So we were getting wood for the deck," I began, and recalled how, when the man at the lumberyard asked if we wanted to tie down the fifty 10-foot ipe boards overhanging the back of the pickup by several feet, my brother said, "Nah, we're only going six blocks." And it was true. We were literally six blocks from home.

My brother was driving, which, as we sat at the table, he denied, along with the rest of the story. Of course, he never lets me drive, so everyone knew he was lying. Anyway, we turned out of the lot and after a couple of blocks came to a stop at a red light.

Was it the beautiful day? The music he was tapping his foot to? The excitement of getting to work? I can't be sure. All I know is that when the light went green, my brother punched the pedal and the truck lurched through the intersection. The ipe didn't.

As the pickup traveled forward, the 500 linear feet of neatly stacked super-dense tropical hardwood somehow stayed put, hanging there in midair—sort of the way Wile E. Coyote hangs for a second when he's stepped off a cliff—before hitting the ground and scattering across the macadam like pick-up sticks.

Fortunately, it was early on a Saturday morning and there was little traffic, so we quickly got the truck reloaded. And, remarkably, the fall to the ground, the scraping against the tar, the skittering over the loose gravel that accumulates on the street just beyond the tire path didn't cause so much as one scratch to the ipe.

That was 10 years ago. Today, a few weeks after retelling the story, I look out at the deck, and the ipe appears exactly as it did the day it was bought. I look different. My brother has many more stories to deny. But those boards—they totally justify the story on page 80, "All About Hardwood Decking." I hope you find it useful. I'd only add that when you get yours, listen to the yardman when he suggests tying it down. And don't let my brother drive home.



The editor, leaning on his good-as-new ipe deck—and the mighty maple tree it skirts around.



Help us help you

Oh, one other little piece of

advice: Don't forget to enter our **2015 Search for America's Best Remodel**. You could win the chance to share the valuable lessons you've learned—along with your finished work—in our October reader-created issue. Blipp this page or go to thisoldhouse.com/yourTOH to enter.

Scott Omelianuk
SCOTT OMELIANUK, EDITOR
scott@thisoldhouse.com



ONE FAMILY. ONE CALENDAR.

Manage the chaos of everyday life with **Cozi**, the must-have app for families.

- Keep track of the new summer schedule and everyone's activities, all in one place
- Share grocery, chore, and to-do lists in real-time
- Access and update from any mobile device or computer



in iTunes® and Google Play™

GET IT FOR **FREE** AT **COZI.COM**

Reader mail



FOLKS JUST LOVE COTTAGES. *At least TOHers do, judging by all the readers—and editors—who wanted to move into the ones featured in our April 2015 issue. Plus, we answer a perennial FAQ and a reader shares his diligent work on our barn-door project.*

Picture yourself here

Re “The Cottage Out Back,” April 2015: I love this makeover. I want to live in it!

—LENORE LYONS, PITTSFORD, VT.

THE EDITORS REPLY: *You and everyone at TOH, Lenore. (For those who missed our April cover story, go to thisoldhouse.com/jun2015.)*

Never too early to dream

As I read Reader Remodel in April 2015, about the Alabama bungalow, I could easily imagine the beginning of the movie *Up*, when the new couple renovated an old, decrepit house. My favorite addition was the library ladder/entry to the attic office. I hope that in the future my house will have a feature like that!

—BEN ABERCROMBIE, AGE 12, GILBERT, ARIZ.

Universal favorite column

As an avid TOH fan, I’m thrilled when the latest issue arrives. Immediately I check out the last page for Save This Old House. I would love to save them all! I so wonder if each was rescued and would love a follow-up on each house!

—SANDRA SEIBERT, LAKE ANN, MICH.

THE EDITORS REPLY: *We wish we could follow up on every one, but the wheels of preservation often turn slowly. We featured three amazing “save” redos in the October 2014 issue, and there are several galleries of updates online; go to thisoldhouse.com/save to binge.*

THE EDITORS: E-mail TOH_letters@thisoldhouse.com.

READER
PROJECT
OF THE
MONTH

Rustic barn door

EVERETT BALLENGER, BEAUFORT, S.C.

I watched the video on making a barn door out of old pallets [Weekend Remodel, October 2014] about 100 times to make sure I got the idea of how to make one. Here is my effort [near right]. I shared a photo of it on my Facebook page and got many likes—and a couple of requests to make one for friends! [Find the how-to at thisoldhouse.com/jun2015.]



When
the going
gets hard,
GO SOFT.



When it’s hard or hurts to go to the bathroom, don’t wait for relief. Dulcolax® Stool Softener allows more water into your stool, for comfortable stimulant-free relief.

Dulcolax®
Designed for Dependable Relief.™
www.dulcolax.com

Use as Directed
Copyright©Boehringer Ingelheim Pharmaceuticals, Inc.
All rights reserved.

D1504-101

The background of the advertisement is a photograph of two fighter jets, likely F-16s, flying through a sky filled with soft, white clouds. The jets are white with black and red markings on their noses. They are positioned on the right side of the frame, flying towards the left. The top jet is slightly higher and further into the frame than the bottom jet. The overall tone of the image is professional and dynamic.

PRECISION MATTERS.

IT MATTERS IN EVERYTHING. TO US, IT MATTERS MORE THAN ANYTHING. EXPLORE AT GMC.COM

©2015 General Motors. All rights reserved. The marks appearing in this ad are the trademarks or service marks of GM, its subsidiaries, affiliates or licensors.



GMC WE ARE PROFESSIONAL GRADE



Checklist

JUNE 2015

*Easy ways to
improve your home
right now*

6 FAST FIXES

☐ **Harvest herbs:** Snip 2- to 3-inch cuttings after the morning dew has dried, and store them in the fridge loosely wrapped to prevent premature mold.



☐ **Check tire pressure on lawn mowers:** Unevenly inflated pneumatic tires can cause steering issues and uneven cuts. Test yours using a tire-pressure gauge.

☐ **Banish grass stains:** To save your carpet from tracked-in turf, mix ¼ teaspoon laundry detergent with 1 cup cold water and blot onto the stain using a clean cloth, working from the outside in.

☐ **Surge safely:** Before summer storms hit, plug large electronics and appliances into top-quality surge protectors to safeguard the devices from damage and reduce the risk of household fires.

☐ **Brighten exterior lights:** Bugs and dust can dampen their glow. Give them a boost by washing covers with glass cleaner and wiping bulbs with a dry microfiber cloth.

☐ **Repair screen doors:** Use a utility knife to cut a clean square around the hole, then patch it using a repair kit from the home center.

☒ **Secure patio bricks**

Uneven ground can pose a tripping hazard, so check patios for loose or wobbly bricks. To reset dry-laid bricks, remove them and any soil underneath and fill depressions with stone dust or paver-base sand to promote drainage. Tap the bricks in with a rubber mallet. To keep them in place, sweep fine-grain sand between them, making sure to replace any lost sand after the first heavy rainfall.



☐ **Hang your flag**

Celebrate Flag Day on June 14 by giving Old Glory a prominent place to wave. Need to install a flagpole near your front door? Don't forget to dab a bit of caulk in each hole you drill, to keep water away from siding and sheathing. And use 1¼-inch rustproof stainless-steel screws, plus a plastic anchor if your home is brick.



☐ **Give hedges some light**

Shearing hedging plants encourages new growth only at the branch tips, leaving the interior brown

and leafless. To help shrubs fill out with healthy new growth, use scissor-like bypass pruners to snip openings for sunlight to reach inside. Trim overgrowth from the interior of the shrub, where the shoots join a central branch.

☐ **Score deals at summer fleas**

Warm weather means flea markets are in full swing. Visit early in the morning for the best selection and at the end of the day for the best deals. Find something

you like? Start your haggling at about 25 percent below the asking price. If you plan to haul something home on your car roof, pack a pad to prevent scratches.





TECHNOLOGY YOU HAVE TO TOUCH TO BELIEVE.

LET'S DO THIS.™

The new Touch₂O® Delta® Dominic faucet
with LED temperature indicator in SpotShield™
Stainless finish. Only at The Home Depot®

homedepot.com



More saving. More doing.®



© 2015, OMER LLC, Inc. All rights reserved.



PHOTOS: (TOP) ERICA GEORGE DINES; (MIDDLE) WENDELL T. WEBBER; (BOTTOM) KRISTINE LARSEN

All the DIY and decor everything from all over the Internet

Get the decor and DIY inspiration you need to create
the space of your dreams at a price you can afford.

PLUS, share your amazing project ideas and
transformations alongside content from your
favorite websites, magazines, and brands!

Join the party!

theSnug.com



A brand-new site
curated by the pros
and editors of
THIS OLD HOUSE,
PEOPLE,
REAL SIMPLE,
and more!



home solutions

Edited by Michelle Brunner

INSIDE

FURNITURE PREP

MOVING TIPS

EASY UPGRADE

CURB APPEAL

MORE

DIY-style drinks server

For a cooler party cooler, look no further than the home center. Here, we set a galvanized-metal tub on folding sawhorse legs to create a beverage server that goes together in a snap and breaks down just as easily come cleanup time. We attached two 2×3s to the tub's underside with heavy-duty mounting tape and washer-head screws; a dab of silicone over the screws protects against leaks. We clipped the corners of a 2×4, stained it, and mounted it to the sawhorse legs so that it fits between the boards on the bottom of the tub. All that's left: Slide the tub onto the base, fill with ice, and crack open a cold one. How's that for chill?

← We used painter's tape to add a stripe of Rust-Oleum's Universal Gloss in Cardinal Red.





Weatherproofing furniture

Looking for a rocking chair or a dining table for your deck or patio? Save money by shopping your attic or basement and giving pieces you already own a weather-resistant finish. Here's how to prep different materials for a new life outdoors. —KATELIN HILL

IF IT'S Wood

Try an outdoor deck stain, such as Thompson's WaterSeal (\$17; lowes.com). First, sand the piece down to bare wood, making sure to wear a respirator mask. Seal any exposed end grain—typically the bottoms of chair and dresser feet, which tend to soak up moisture—with a clear penetrating epoxy sealer before applying the stain. If you prefer to paint, prime the piece and use a paint made for outdoor surfaces, such as Rust-Oleum Restore.

IF IT'S Wicker

Give your piece two coats of the paint of your choice, then top it with a layer of spray marine varnish, such as Minwax Helmsman Indoor/Outdoor Spar Urethane (from \$10; at home centers). Wicker traps moisture easily; if it gets under the finish, it will damage the fibers from the inside out. Unlike spray lacquer, varnish is strong enough to seal out the moisture. Follow up every two to three years with a fresh coat to maintain a durable, water-resistant finish.

IF IT'S Metal

If you're starting with a metal piece that's in rough shape, sand off as much rust and peeling paint as possible. Treat it with a fish-oil-based primer, like Rust-Oleum's Rusty Metal Spray Primer (\$5; homedepot.com)—it prevents corrosion and binds to the rust to create a paintable surface. Then give it a fresh coat of paint. If your piece is already rust-free, a coat of spray paint is all it needs; black holds up best against the sun's rays.



Pro-approved moving hacks

Moving is a process loaded with logistical challenges. We talked to relocation pros for tips on how to handle head-scratching scenarios.

—KATHRYN O'SHEA-EVANS

PROBLEM: You've got to get a mattress up a narrow staircase.

THE FIX: Here's where high-school math comes in handy: A queen-size mattress is 60 by 80 inches. Since you'll need to angle it, calculate the diagonal measurement, which is 100 inches. Measure the stair opening, between the handrails, to make sure it will fit. Cover it with a moving bag (\$2.95; uhaul.com) to protect it and make it easier to grab.

PROBLEM: You threw away the box for that fragile flat-screen.

THE FIX: Wrap it securely in furniture pads (rent six for \$5; uhaul.com) and keep it upright; the pixels will get distorted if the TV is placed on its side.

PROBLEM: Your sofa doesn't fit through the doorway.

THE FIX: Remove the feet—you'll gain crucial inches—and try hooking the sofa around the opening. Still no luck? Call an upholsterer for help; they specialize in taking sofas apart and reassembling them.

PROBLEM: You have a library's worth of heavy books to haul.

THE FIX: Save your back by dividing the load among small boxes. Twenty-four hardcover books can weigh about 38 pounds. Use nylon hump straps, and lift with your leg muscles.

See product label or website at behr.com for more information.



Start Over
Smooth Over
Texture Over
Color Over



The ultimate do over for
wood and concrete.
Don't replace, resurface.*
BEHR DECKOVER® Coating
behr.com/DeckOver



Floating luminaries

There's nothing like candlelight to set a magical mood while dining, indoors or out. Here, a grouping of votive-candle lanterns suspended from a low-hanging tree branch creates the perfect ambient glow. The how-to: Tie clear fishing line (we used 25-pound nylon tippet) around the wire handle of each glass lantern, and stagger their height as you hang them. Place a few drops of water under each candle to ensure easy cleanup later—the melted wax will pop right out when cool. Or just use LEDs. Either way, you'll have a night-light so pretty, you won't want to go back inside.

—M. BRUNNER

Small glass lantern, \$2.99; worldmarket.com. Fishing line, \$4.95; orvis.com



Spiff up your mailbox

Whether you're repairing an existing box or installing a handsome upgrade like the classic envelope style shown here (\$49; potterybarn.com), summer is the ideal time to make sure your letter box is shipshape. Follow these tips from the U.S. Postal Service for a mailbox that will stand up to the elements. —K.H.

Do a deep clean. Wipe away a winter's worth of grime from the box with water and detergent, then use a disinfectant or white vinegar on the lid or latch, major hot spots for germs, according to a recent study.

Make annual repairs. Tighten any loose hinges or screws that secure the box to the post. If you've got a sticky hinge, lubricate it with white lithium grease, which holds up best on metal-to-metal surfaces in outdoor conditions.

Ensure wall-mounts are placed properly. The box should be 4 feet from the ground. When installing a new one, add a dab of caulk to each pilot hole before driving in screws, to protect your house from water damage.

Remount wobbly posts. Roadside mailboxes should be 6 to 8 inches from the curb, with the bottom of the receptacle 41 to 45 inches off the ground. Use a post level (Swanson, \$4.98; lowes.com) to check that it's standing straight and plumb; bury the post no more than 24 inches deep—it should give way in an accident.

Outdoor fabrics 101

The labels all say "safe for outside," but not all outdoor fabrics are created equal. Here, we look at the best uses for three common options. —MEGAN BAKER



ACRYLIC-COATED COTTON

What it is: Woven cotton that's printed with a pattern and coated with PVC or vinyl

Cost: \$\$\$

Best for: Tablecloths and place mats

Why: The water-repellent plastic coating makes it a breeze to clean, but it can wear off over time in sun and rain, so it's ideal for items that won't sit outside.

Shown: Lialotta fabric, \$8 per yard; ikea.com



PRINTED POLYESTER

What it is: Polyester that's first woven, then printed with a pattern

Cost: \$\$\$

Best for: Seasonal throw pillows

Why: Polyester is nonorganic, so it resists mold and mildew, but colors fade over time in sun and rain. Also, fabric printed on only one side is likely to fade more quickly.

Shown: Beringer Spring by Solarium, \$20 per yard; joann.com



SOLUTION-DYED ACRYLIC

What it is: Acrylic that's dyed before being spun into thread and woven into a patterned fabric

Cost: \$\$\$

Best for: Seat and back cushions and patio umbrellas

Why: Threads dyed to the core resist fading from sun, rain, and even heavy-duty cleaners. Plus, like polyester, the nonorganic fiber resists mold and mildew.

Shown: Shore Regatta, \$32 per yard; sunbrella.com



BONUS TIP

The right cushion plays more than a supporting role when it comes to the longevity of outdoor furniture. If cushions will be left outside, look for ones with a quick-dry mesh back, a reticulated foam core, or open-cell foam. All three allow water to pass through for faster drying and superior resistance to mold and mildew.

Cleaning under pressure

Getting your house in tip-top shape for summer often means blasting away crud with a power-washer, but which nozzle is right for the job? Keep reading for the dirt on how to tackle four common tasks.

—PAUL HOPE

► Get a deck summer-ready

Opt for a 40° fan nozzle and keep it at least 6 to 8 inches from the boards. For optimum control, spray at a 45° angle, starting close to the house and slowly working away from it. Spray boards in the direction of the grain.

► Loosen filth from a fence

For fences, including composite ones, start at the top and work your way down with a 40° fan nozzle. Think twice before spraying wood lattice; its thin strips are delicate and typically held together with galvanized staples, so excessive pressure can tear panels apart.

► Shape up your siding

Less pressure will get this job done. Use a 25° nozzle to fan the water out evenly, and work with the tip of the wand 12 to 18 inches from the house. Spray at a downward angle in the direction of the siding laps. Spraying head-on can force water behind the siding, and into the sheathing, causing damage and ruining wall insulation—ditto for shingle siding.

► Remove grime from a roof

Washing asphalt shingles under excessive pressure can loosen the textured granules that make up its protective coating, leaving your home susceptible to water damage during the next rainstorm. This cleaning job is best left to an insured pro.



A freshened-up porch for **\$367**

Craftsman-style pillars and punchy accessories help a tired front entry put on a welcoming face



BEFORE

BEFORE With its shabby, stained carpet and retro wrought-iron columns and railings, the dreary front porch felt boxed-in and depressing.

AFTER Wood-wrapped columns, a refinished floor and steps, and cheery accessories lend curb appeal and make visitors feel welcome.



\$0 DIY house-numbers sign

\$60 for three bags of resurfacer

THE PROJECT TALLY

Boxed out existing columns with 1x12s and trimmed the top and base of each one with 1x6s and crown molding.....**\$136**

Caulked seams, then primed and painted the columns with white exterior latex.....**\$45**

Ripped up the carpet; cleaned the dirty, crumbling concrete underneath and smoothed it with a resurfacer.....**\$96**

Made a house-number plaque with on-hand scrap wood and spray paint.....**\$0**

Repurposed chairs they already owned, adding throw pillows, an outdoor rug, and planters.....**\$90**

TOTAL.....\$367

BIG TRANSFORMATIONS don't always require a big budget or weeks of work. Good thing, too: By the time Megan and Ross Bray of Racine, Wisconsin, got around to overhauling the dingy entry porch of the 1949 bungalow they'd been renovating for seven years, money was tight. Because the dated wrought-iron posts were structural, they couldn't easily get rid of them, and when the couple pulled back the carpet (yes, carpet!), they found a mess of glue and crumbling concrete. After removing the carpet, they took out the railings with a Sawzall, leaving the L-shaped posts in place. Inspired by Craftsman-style porch columns, they reimagined theirs as square pillars, cladding the ironwork with 1x12s and using 1x6s and crown molding to make a capital and base for each one. To fix the deteriorating concrete underfoot, they mixed up and poured on a resurfacer and smoothed it out with a sponge. Megan fashioned a plaque stenciled with oversize house numbers, added a rug over the now clean white floor, set down a pair of chairs they already owned, and bought potted plants to liven up the space. The transformation took a single weekend. Megan can't believe they waited so long to fix up the entry. "We love it," she says. "Instead of covering up an eyesore, we've made it a cute space we can enjoy." —KATELIN HILL

AZEK iPad® APP
**NOW
AVAILABLE**



Download on the
App Store

YOUR HOME. YOUR MASTERPIECE.

Get ready for the neighbors to gawk.

From the street, it may be impossible for your neighbors to know that your beautiful new trim and mouldings are AZEK Trim and Mouldings, but when you don't have to paint them, they'll know you have something special. With beautiful looks and striking architectural details, trust in the high quality of AZEK Trim and Mouldings to make your home's exterior a stylish statement with lasting low maintenance.

Create your exterior masterpiece at AZEK.com/trimdesigner.

AZEK®
Trim

Deck | Porch | Rail | Trim | Moulding | Pavers

AZEK.com

Cooking Light[®] DIET

The time for living healthier is here.

And it couldn't be any easier.

Cooking Light DIET is a customized online tool that takes the guesswork out of meal planning... making weight loss easier than ever.



WEEKLY
MENUS



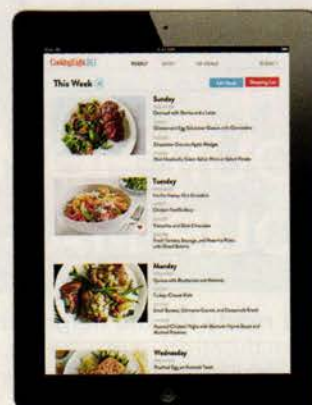
GROCERY
LISTS



TESTED
RECIPES



HEALTHY
TIPS



Discover what's good for you.
diet.cookinglight.com/good

Redesigned online

Consulting by e-mail, pin board, Skype, and telephone, a long-distance designer helps a dark but otherwise great cook space lighten up

BY DEBORAH BALDWIN + PHOTOGRAPHS BY RAY KACHATORIAN



BEFORE

BEFORE Dark finishes made the space feel like yesterday's coffee. **AFTER** Homeowners Amber and Eric Haldane, with daughter Sutton, 8, gather at the island, which was refurbished with Mountain White Vermont Danby marble. Pendant lights: Wisteria

➔ **TO THE DISMAY** of some homeowners, everything about their kitchen is perfect—except the way it looks. Amber and Eric Haldane, who bought their newly built house, in San Marcos, California, seven years ago, quickly tired of the kitchen's brown finishes but balked at replacing cabinets and appliances, never mind changing the open layout—"it's the reason we bought this house," Amber says. She found a solution while following the blog of Kelley Motschenbacher, an "e-designer" who harnesses e-mail, phone, Skype, and shared Pinterest boards from her Pasadena office, 105 miles away. She charged a flat fee of \$1,200 to collaborate on a face-lift, while Amber served as GC. "I didn't need a full-service designer to hold my hand," Amber says. "But I did need someone experienced to give me good, solid answers." With tips from Motschenbacher, handyman Scott Ornelas replaced upper cabinets with open shelves; stone fabricator Luis Hernandez swapped in new countertops and tile; and woodworkers Jose and Gilberto Barragan, stylish cabinet doors and drawer fronts. Fresh paint did the rest. "We are thrilled with how it turned out," says Amber, who now finds she is fielding long-distance decor questions herself: "Friends e-mail me saying, 'Hey, what about this?'"

• **before + after:**
kitchen

White paint and marble flatter the original engineered walnut flooring. Homeowner Amber Haldane fashioned the sink skirt out of a Pottery Barn curtain.

Wall ovens: Jenn-Air



Cabinets got a face-lift with new recessed-panel Shaker-style fronts and oil-rubbed-bronze hardware. Knobs, pulls, and shelf brackets: Restoration Hardware



SHARE YOUR REMODEL



Enter your kitchen redo in our America's Best Remodel contest for a chance to appear in our October issue. Scan this page with the Blippar app or go to thisoldhouse.com/yourTOH

after

The same old space got a new look with refaced cabinets, new countertops, and lots of open shelves.

1] Reinforced the wall to hang open shelves in place of upper cabinets. The soffit above was covered with tongue-and-groove planks.

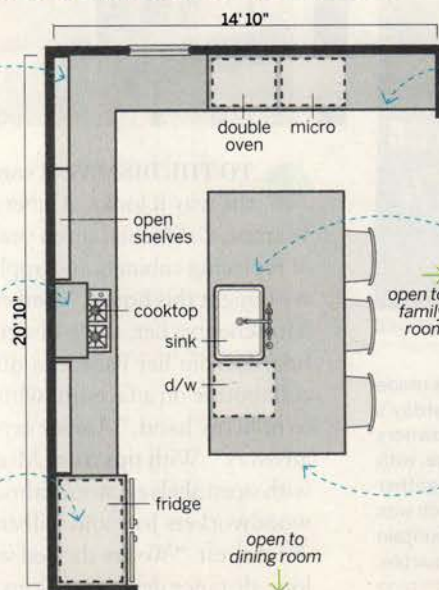
2] Swapped in a copper-finish range hood to create a focal point.

3] Replaced the stainless-steel fridge with a paneled built-in model.

4] Relaminated the original cabinet boxes and replaced the doors and drawer fronts.

5] Exchanged granite countertops for marble and the stainless-steel island sink for a double-basin farmhouse model.

6] Got rid of a seat on the side of the island that faces the dining room in favor of end-cap open shelving.



The redesign incorporated a copper range hood the homeowners had found on Craigslist and complemented it with a new copper-finish faucet.



Custom panels help the built-in refrigerator melt into its surroundings.
Fridge pulls: Top Knobs



homeowner tip AMBER HALDANE, SAN MARCOS, CALIF.

“Before hiring an e-designer, measure the space carefully and take photos from every angle. Be very specific about your wish list and also ready to discuss your budget.”

The e-design called for supports between the studs to anchor shelf brackets symmetrically on either side of the cooktop. The wall was finished to the soffit with beveled subway tile. Tile: Lowe’s



New display shelves that were added to the existing island boost style and function.

design online

Hire a designer you've never met? Thanks to Skype, e-mail, and the Web, it's not as crazy as it might sound

How it works

With the advent of online shopping and electronic file-sharing came e-design, which allows interior designers to work odd hours in their blue jeans and clients to get a pro's eye without scary home visits and mystifying fees. It's less top-down, more of a partnership. At the outset, you provide all the key dimensions, plus snapshots and maybe a virtual tour; examples of what you like; a wish list; and a budget. Within a set time, you receive a floor plan and proposals—from rearranging the furniture and brightening the paint scheme to changing the layout. Some designers set up a private Pinterest board to advance the inevitable back-and-forth. Once all decisions are made, it's usually up to the client to manage the project. "That's why it's cost-effective," says Motschenbacher. If you don't like gathering materials or dealing with contractors, you may want more than an online consult.

Why it's growing

Like online dating, e-design encourages anonymous browsing and quick bonding. Some e-designers introduce themselves first as wives and mothers and describe design as a calling. "When you put it all out there, it makes you more relatable," says e-designer Jenna Burger, based

in Saratoga Springs, New York. Many are avid bloggers who share their trade secrets and post their portfolios for potential clients to see (and steal from). E-designers may welcome small projects and fall into the role of coach, urging clients to declutter and be more self-confident about their design decisions—all of which helps open doors and lead to work.

What it costs

Flat fees for a given space run from \$265 to \$2,500, depending on its size and the scope of the project; some e-designers are also willing to work at an hourly rate. The goal is to minimize kerfuffle and driving time; old-school interior design is relatively expensive because it's a job for the designer to get to your home, hash out your issues (and maybe your spouse's), measure and remeasure, return with samples,

and draw up and execute a plan. Longtime interior designer Susan Morgan, in Palm City, Florida, charges about \$150 an hour, which can add up quickly. Now that the Web is a well-oiled machine, she says, she feels more comfortable working at a distance, whether clients are down the road or in the Bahamas. But she still takes a hands-on approach when needed. "I just shipped bay-window treatments to a house up in Ohio," she says. "Then I got on the phone so that we could measure together and make sure they were hung right." ■

The Haldane kitchen's new look began with handsome packets from e-designer Kelley Motschenbacher. First came one explaining fees and services (BELOW, top right), followed later by notebook pages of proposed finishes. It all arrived, yes, by snail mail.



When we found out we were having a

 **SON** 

I started

CRYING

with joy.

Now, a bigger

HOUSE

to think about.

After

SLEEPLESS NIGHTS

weighing the best option, we decided on the one with the garden.

Later, we bought a family

CAR.

So many changes at once

made my emotions

⚡ COLLIDE. ⚡

But it wasn't a

BURDEN,

rather a beautiful moment in life.

There are two ways to interpret life. We see it as moments made to live life to the fullest. And that's why we're here. To protect what matters most and help you live worry free. Visit statefarm.com or contact an agent by calling 1-800-STATE-FARM.

 **State Farm®**

State Farm, Bloomington, IL.

The home improvement experts at **This Old House**
trust flooring from Lumber Liquidators...



Scan, call or go online
for a FREE CATALOG
<http://goo.gl/AL7pm>

Bellawood - Golden Bamboo

When it comes to the best in hardwood flooring, nobody beats the flooring experts at Lumber Liquidators.

In fact, our high quality floors have been featured on television's most prominent home improvement shows, such as This Old House®. And after 20 years in business, our stylish floors can be found in **over two million homes.**

So, for the lowest prices, the highest quality and the best selection anywhere—**trust the flooring experts the pros trust. Trust Lumber Liquidators.**

**LUMBER
LIQUIDATORS\$**
HARDWOOD FLOORS FOR LESS!

Proud sponsor of **This Old House**

Hundreds of stores nationwide | 1-800-HARDWOOD | www.lumberliquidators.com

Room to move

Reworking a chopped-up bath creates a spacious and sunny retreat

BY MEGAN BAKER + PHOTOGRAPHS BY NATHAN KIRKMAN

➔ **A CROWDED BATH** can be downright scary. When Jim and Jane Breihan moved into their 1996 ranch, in Geneva, Illinois, the master bath felt so cramped, dark, and dated that Jane refused to use it. “I just closed the doors and went to the guest bathroom,” she says. No wonder: Between a giant corner tub, two hulking vanities, a massive walk-in closet, and a separate toilet enclosure, there was little room to maneuver. So the couple enlisted the help of local design firm The Kitchen Studio of Glen Ellyn to bring the master bath some much-needed airiness.

To maximize the space, everything had to go—especially the extra walls that broke up the room. The new layout allows for an expansive shower, complemented by a charming claw-foot tub. Two vanities were replaced with one that boasts six drawers and a marble counter with plenty of deck space. And with vintage-style paneled wainscoting, a basketweave tile floor, and polished-nickel finishes, the new bath has a timeless look. “Now,” Jane says, “the guest bath is just for guests.”



BEFORE

BEFORE Dated fixtures, two vanities, and a built-in corner tub overwhelmed the bath, while a giant walk-in closet and a separate room for the toilet made it feel claustrophobic. **AFTER** Removing the walk-in closet and moving the toilet made space for a claw-foot slipper tub, an large single vanity, and a roomy walk-in shower. Tub: Elizabethan Classics. Tub faucet: Barclay

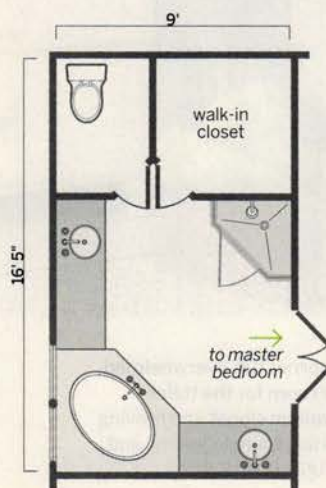
• **before + after:**
bath



Tucking the toilet behind the shower hides it from view, without the need for another door. Sconces installed directly on the vanity's large mirror help reflect light.
Custom vanity: Woodharbor.
Faucet: Rohl

before

A three-part bath gave lots of space to the toilet, tub, and closet, but left only a tiny shower.

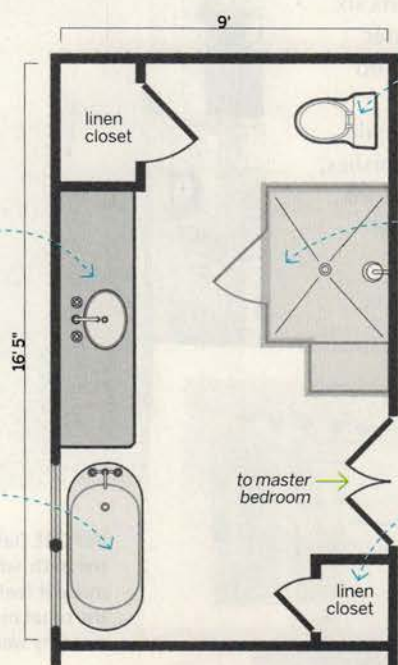


after

Annexing the walk-in and water closets opened up the space, making room for a spacious shower and lots of storage.

1] Replaced the longer vanity with an even bigger one with nearly 5 feet of deck space.

2] Swapped the bulky corner tub for a new claw-foot soaker.



3] Tore out the water closet and relocated the toilet behind the shower.

4] Got rid of the old walk-in closet, using some of the newly freed space to expand the footprint of the shower.

5] Eliminated the second vanity in favor of a second linen closet to store towels and other essentials.

Basketweave marble floor tile, framed by a pencil-thin ceramic border, is warmed by an electric heat mat. *Marble tile: AlysEdwards*



A clear glass enclosure keeps sight lines open. The shower is lined with marble tile and a matching basketweave floor. A built-in bench offers a resting spot for toiletries. *Shower fittings: Rohl. Shower-door pull: Portals*

SHARE YOUR REMODEL



Enter your bath redo in our America's Best Remodel contest for a chance to appear in our October issue. Scan this page with the Blippar app or go to thisoldhouse.com/yourTOH



pro advice SUSAN KLIMALA, GLEN ELLYN, ILL.

"Think about what you want to see when you first walk in—a footed tub makes a sculptural focal point."



Curvy feet give the vanity the look of a vintage furniture piece.

Paneled wainscoting and chunky crown molding add period style, complemented by a delicate crystal chandelier overhead. *Chandelier: Crystorama*

PHOTO BY /
EMA PETER PHOTOGRAPHY

COURTESY OF /
SARAH GALLOP DESIGN

SOMETIMES YOU JUST HAVE TO STOP & SMELL THE WESTERN RED CEDAR.

It's time to move the indoors outdoors. And nothing performs better on outdoor structures than 100% natural Western Red Cedar. Real Cedar is naturally resistant to rot and decay, and its deep, rich lustre and limitless finishing options means it will look fantastic in any yard. This year, make the most of your outdoor living: build with the real material.

Then take a break and smell the Real Cedar.



1 866 778 9096 | www.realcedar.com

Guilt-free container roses

Disease-resistant varieties let you grow glorious roses in pots—without the chemicals BY KATE KARAM

→ **AS SUMMER STARTS**, you may be surveying your deck, your patio, or even your garden borders with an eye toward adding some potted plants for a splash of color. This time around, consider walking past the usual annuals and perennials at the nursery and heading for the rose section instead. Many of the newest varieties are the opposite of the fussy, disease-prone older tea roses and once-blooming, space-eating shrubs of years past. Some call them “millennial” roses, after the groundbreaking Knock Out, a compact shrub rose introduced in 2000 that pumped out rich red flowers all season with minimal care. These recent introductions, such as the Drift, Flower Carpet, Easy Elegance, Veranda, Sunblaze, Vigorosa, and Oso Easy series—as well as some David Austin and heirloom roses, such as the wild rugosas—have proved their power to flower without chemical fungicides. These roses bloom like crazy, resist black-spot disease, and have a compact or spreading habit that makes them ideal for filling pots. Turn the page for easy-care, container-friendly choices, expert care tips, and great ideas for mixed plantings where roses are the stars.



HAVE A LOVELY YARD?



Show us the transformation for a chance to win our America's Best Remodel contest and appear in our October issue. Scan this page with the Blippar app or go to thisoldhouse.com/yourTOH

With containers and the right varieties, such as the Apricot Drift shown here, you can have beautiful, healthy roses just about anywhere there's full sun and a nearby hose.

Get growing

"Easy care" roses still need care. Here's how Michael Marriott, technical director of David Austin Roses, keeps them healthy.

PLANTING Potting soil is fine, but for best results mix equal parts soilless potting mix and good-quality garden soil. This combination promotes root growth, holds moisture, and adds microbes that foster the growth of beneficial bacteria.

WATERING Plentiful water is essential for roses. Water deeply by hand or install a drip irrigation system to ensure that the root ball is thoroughly moistened; in warmer climates that means once a day. Wondering whether to water? Lift the container; if it's light, grab the hose.

FEEDING Purchased planting media usually have sufficient nutrients to feed roses for around six weeks. After that, you'll need to feed with a slow-release all-purpose granular fertilizer (such as Osmocote) that lasts all season.

SUN Position containers in full sun for at least 6 hours each day. Where excessive heat is an issue, be sure the site receives some afternoon shade.

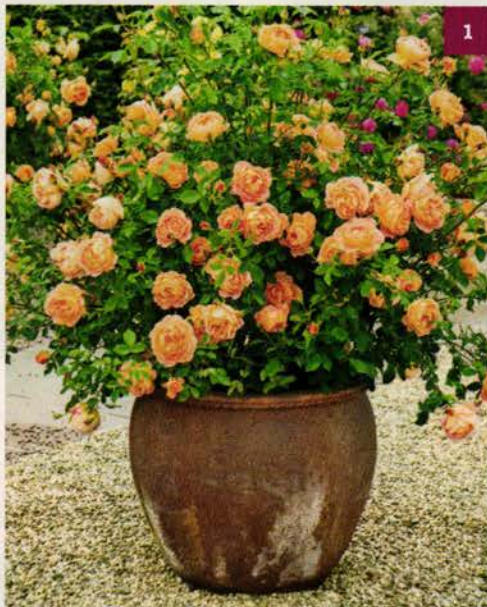
LONG TERM Prune in spring, and deadhead throughout the season. Repot with fresh soil every two to three years, sooner if blooming notably decreases. In areas with harsh winters, protect roses and ceramic or terra-cotta planters from freezing temperatures by moving them to a shed or an unheated garage until spring.

MORE ROSE OPTIONS

Find five additional rose recommendations for container plantings at thisoldhouse.com/jun2015

PICK A ROSE

Here are a few of the many easy-care shrub and groundcover roses that thrive in containers.



1] 'Lady of Shalott' has peach-orange blooms with a warm tea-rose fragrance; davidaustrin.com. **2]** Sunbeam, a bright-yellow rose from the Veranda series, fits with tidy plants, such as this salvia and creeping thyme; chambleerose.com. **3]** Flower Carpet Yellow rose pairs with sweet potato vine and 'Celebration Apricot' calibrachoa; monrovia.com. **4]** Flower Carpet Appleblossom is a groundcover that can produce over 3,000 flowers in a season; easytogrowbulbs.com. **5]** 'Anne Boleyn' is exceptionally free-flowering, with large sprays of pink flowers; davidaustrin.com



Choose the right pot

While most roses can be grown in a container, the more naturally compact the variety, the better the success rate, according to rosarian Tom Carruth. Good candidates include small shrubs, compact floribundas (a cross between long-stem hybrid tea roses and shrubbier polyantha species), groundcover roses, miniature roses, and 18-inch-tall standards, or tree roses. When in doubt, says Carruth, opt for a deeper, wider container, which can help prevent the growing medium from drying out too quickly, a condition that roses hate.

MINIMUM CONTAINER DEPTHS

18"-24" → **SMALL SHRUB AND GROUND COVER ROSES**
(3'-4' mature height)

15" → **COMPACT FLORIBUNDA AND STANDARD ROSES**
(2'-3' mature height)

12" → **MINIATURE FLORIBUNDA ROSES**
(18"-24" mature height)

WINNING COMBOS

Roses, even repeat-blooming types, flower in flushes throughout the season. To keep the show going, mix them with flowering perennials and annuals or foliage plants that will strut their stuff when roses are resting. Select a large container (at least 24 inches wide and deep) to ensure room for the rose's deep roots; avoid overcrowding by paying attention to each companion plant's habit and mature size. As roses flower best in full sun and rich soil with plenty of water, any partners should have similar requirements. Here, four container "recipes" to inspire you. ■



1

COTTAGE CHARM

This pink and blue combo blooms nearly nonstop from late spring to early fall.

A > **Larissa rose**

Long-stemmed rosy-pink clusters on a small bushy shrub. Grows up to 4 feet high and wide. Zones 6-9. 1-gallon pot, \$17; rosesunlimiteddownroot.com

B > **'Little Trudy' catmint**

Compact version of the classic border plant. Grows up to 1 foot high and 16 inches wide. Zones 3-8. 3½-inch pot, \$12; bluestoneperennials.com

C > **'Rozanne' geranium**

Large violet-blue flowers with white centers that bloom until frost. Grows up to 3 feet high and wide. Zones 5-8. 3-inch pot, \$16; whiteflowerfarm.com



2

MOON GARDEN

Consider white and silver that glow by the light of the stars.

A > **Icecap rose**

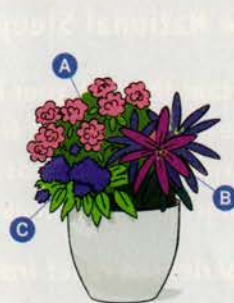
New in 2015. Pure white blossoms in dense masses on a compact shrub. Grows up to 4 feet high and wide. Zones 5-9. Bare-root, \$22; edmundsroses.com

B > **'Hameln' fountain grass**

A dwarf clump that sends up arching deep-green leaves with a pinkish-white bloom. Grows up to 3 feet high and 2 feet wide. Zones 4-11. ¾-gallon pot, \$18; monrovia.com

C > **Dusty miller**

Grown from seed in a mound of silvery-white, felt-like foliage. Grows up to 18 inches high and 1 foot wide. Zones 7-10 (annual elsewhere). 100-seed packet, \$3.95; burpee.com



3

COLOR CRAZY

Create a showstopping display of contrasting bold color.

A > **Coral Drift rose**

Groundcover with bright coral-orange flowers that bloom in profusion from spring through frost. Grows up to 2 feet high and 3 feet wide. Zones 4-10. 1-gallon pot, \$26; greenwoodnursery.com

B > **'Chameleon' spurge**

Burgundy-purple leaves with yellow-tinged purple flowers. Grows up to 18 inches high and 1 foot wide. Zones 5-9. 4-inch pot, \$9.95; bluestoneperennials.com

C > **'Marine' heliotrope**

Clusters of fragrant purple flowers throughout the summer. Grows up to 2 feet high and 3 feet wide. Zones 9-10 (annual elsewhere). 3-inch pot, \$6.95; whiteflowerfarm.com



4

KITCHEN DOOR

Blend edibles with the famed chef's namesake floribunda shrub.

A > **Julia Child rose**

Large butter-yellow flowers with a distinct licorice fragrance on a short, bushy shrub. Grows up to 3 feet high and wide. Zones 4-9. Bare-root, \$19; edmundsroses.com

B > **Bronze fennel**

A colorful, nonbulbing version of standard fennel. Grows up to 6 feet high and 2 feet wide. Zones 4-9. 3-inch pot, \$5.95; whiteflowerfarm.com

C > **Alpine strawberry**

Continuous harvests of tiny, supersweet berries from the first season. Grows up to 1 foot high and wide. Zones 5-9. 3½-inch pot, \$5.95; thegrowers-exchange.com

GUARANTEED TO BE THE MOST COMFORTABLE PILLOW YOU'LL EVER OWN!



MyPillow was invented over a decade ago by Mike Lindell. Since then, in addition to delivering better sleep to more than 5 million people, Lindell's company has grown from merely family members to over 500 employees. MyPillow has been featured in the New York Times and has been the subject of numerous television and radio interviews. In 2013, MyPillow won QVC's Q Star Award for product concept of the year, and most recently MyPillow was honored by being selected as the Official Pillow of the National Sleep Foundation.

Sleep is the most important thing to your health, and MyPillow is the most important thing to your sleep. MyPillow helps you achieve more restful sleep because it is made from a patented interlocking fill that stays cool and adjusts to your individual sleep needs. MyPillow is washable, dryable and guaranteed to not go flat for 10 years. MyPillow is manufactured in Minnesota and uses materials made solely in the U.S.A.

MyPillow users have experienced relief from the following ailments:

- Insomnia
- Neck & Back Pain
- Migraines
- Snoring & Sleep Apnea
- Fibromyalgia
- Colds, Allergies & Flu

DISCOVER WHAT 5 MILLION SATISFIED SLEEPERS ALREADY KNOW



BUY ONE PILLOW - GET ONE FREE!

Use Promo Code: house

CALL NOW

CLICK

800-419-4944 OR mypillow.com

Metal garden benches

Sturdy all-weather materials and a punchy palette make for standout seating

BY MEGAN BAKER + PHOTOGRAPHS BY ANDREW MCCAUL

→ 'TIS THE SEASON to enjoy the great outdoors. Tuck a garden bench in a corner of the yard, and you've got a perfect spot for soaking up the view of your prized petunias. Make it metal, and it's not only impervious to rain but a prime canvas for color. A powder-coated finish offers maximum durability; if you can't find just the right shade to flatter your flowers (or house), there's always the power of spray paint. Naturally, these seats are made for summer, but you'll find their elegant shapes and brilliant hues add a welcome design element to your yard in every season. Coming up: seven favorites—any one will have you sitting pretty in no time.



double crossed

GRIFFITH CREEK DESIGNS

Made of: Powder-coated steel; assembly required

Size: 56"W x 19"D x 35"H

Highlights: Crisscrossed bars on the back and splayed legs give this bench a bold geometric look. \$174; wayfair.com

twining vines

PLOW & HEARTH

Made of: Powder-coated cast aluminum; assembly required

Size: 50"W x 17½"D x 34½"H

Highlights: This looker comes in black—we added color with Krylon's ColorMaster indoor-outdoor spray paint in Sea Glass. For best results, sand lightly and use a metal primer first. \$100; plowhearth.com



park perfect

INNOVA HEARTH AND HOME

Made of: Powder-coated cast aluminum; assembly required

Size: 50¾"W x 24½"D x 32"H

Highlights: A simple shape gets a boost from wide slats and curved arms in revved-up red. \$308; wayfair.com

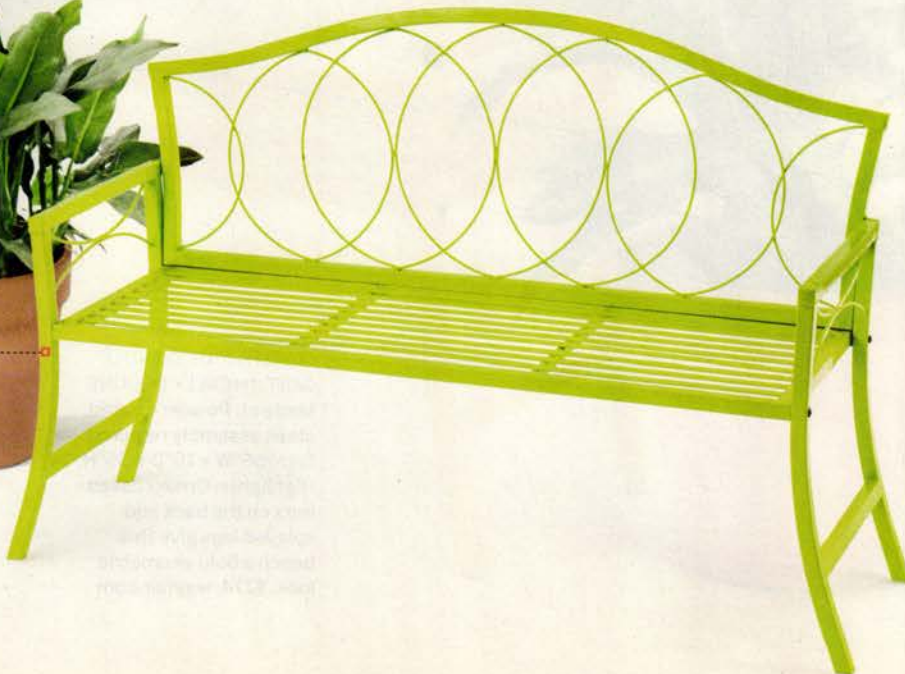
full circle

GRIFFITH CREEK DESIGNS

Made of: Powder-coated steel; assembly required

Size: 56"W x 19"D x 35"H

Highlights: Interlocking hoops across the back enliven this lime-green bench. \$174; wayfair.com





You've put your
HEART and **SOUL**
into restoring your home.

ADDING AIR CONDITIONING DOESN'T
MEAN YOU HAVE TO TEAR IT APART.

Trusted in more than 250,000 homes, the Unico System® fits into older homes where conventional heating and cooling units can't. Its modular air handlers install easily into attics, crawl spaces or closets, while the small flexible supply ducts route simply above ceilings, below floors or through wall cavities. And by eliminating the need for unsightly metal ductwork, the Unico System provides quiet, draft-free comfort that fits beautifully with your home's aesthetics.

**To learn more about adding the Unico System to your home,
call (800) 527-0896 or visit unicosystem.com today!**



National Trust for
Historic Preservation
Save the past. Enrich the future.

The Unico System®

Outlets are available in styles and finishes to match any décor.

UNICOSYSTEM.COM (800) 527-0896



• shopping



lacy look

ALFRESCO HOME

Made of: Powder-coated steel; one-piece construction

Size: 48"W x 23"D x 35"H

Highlights: A filigree design softens the bench's otherwise clean lines. \$325; wayfair.com

bold blooms

MAINSTAYS

Made of: Powder-coated steel; assembly required

Size: 43"W x 24"D x 34"H

Highlights: Oversize daisy petals in a sunny color give this seat a touch of whimsy.

The deep seat provides a comfortable resting spot. \$69; walmart.com



birds and branches

LOWE'S

Made of: Powder-coated steel and cast iron; assembly required

Size: 54"W x 24"D x 32"H

Highlights: The arched back frames a cast-iron inset of perching birds; the slatted seat is comfortably curved. \$98; lowes.com

El programa
que acompañará
a tu familia
cada sábado,
transformando
hogares

SOS

SALVAMICASA



PATROCINADO POR:



GMC

State Farm

**SÁBADOS
12PM|11C**



TELEMUNDO

SOSSALVAMICASA.COM

telemundo.com
A Division of NBCUniversal

French country patio

Say *oui!* to a summer spent outdoors with salvage-style furniture and colorful vintage touches BY KATHRYN O'SHEA-EVANS + PHOTOGRAPH BY CHRISTIAAN BLOK

→ IN THE SOUTH OF FRANCE, cheery alfresco terraces are as commonplace as the sunflowers that dot the landscape. But you don't have to hop the pond to create an American version of Provence here at home. Take this shady spot, which homeowner Kim Rawlins, owner of Phoenix's Sweet Salvage monthly market, put together for an impromptu party in her backyard. Weathered white bistro chairs and a welcoming round table provide a charming backdrop for colorful accessories, including a hooked rug and sun-washed vintage-look linens. Rustic finds, such as a rusted bottle rack and woven baskets, add character and keep fixings organized for grazing guests.

Read on for more ways to feel like you're under the Provençal sun.



drink dispenser

Serve up the beverage of your choice from this sophisticated holding tank inspired by antique apothecary jars. \$30; worldmarket.com

GOT A ROOM WITH STYLE?



Share your vision with us for a chance to win our America's Best Remodel contest and appear in our October issue.

Scan this page with the Blipper app or go to thisoldhouse.com/yourTOH

PHOTOS: (BOTTLE RACK, RUG, WATERING CAN, DRINK DISPENSER, BASKET, TABLEWARE, LINENS, CHAIR) ANDREW MCCAUL; STYLING: SUNDAY HENDRICKSON



get this look
for less

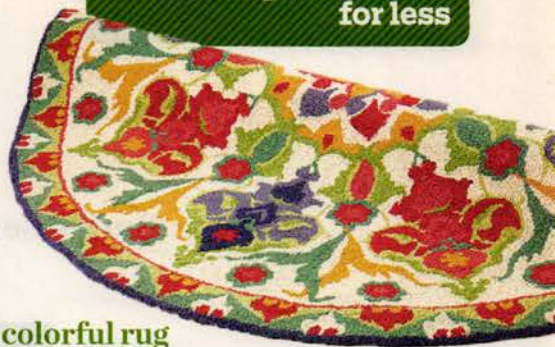
watering can

Comb flea markets for galvanized classics or invest in a sturdy tool, such as this handsome hoop-handle model. \$35; barebonesliving.com



colorful rug

Add personality and softness to a poured-concrete patio with this round patterned rug made of durable polyester for outdoor use. 6-foot-diameter rug, \$300; pier1.com



woven basket

A lidded jute hamper brimming with fruit brings a farmers' market feel to your backyard. \$17; homegoods.com for stores



bottle rack

Once used to dry bottles in French wineries, *hérisson bouteilles*—or “bottle hedgehogs,” so called for their prickly form—make a prime perch for freshly washed glassware. \$15; worldmarket.com. Glasses, 79 cents each; ikea.com

metal table

Pick up a well-worn table at a yard sale or opt for this wrought-iron one, with its elegant curves and hand-distressed finish. \$239; orientalfurniture.com



1950s-style linens

Soft, colorful cotton makes any tabletop summery; this red-and-yellow design jibes with the homeowner's version. \$44; antiquekitchen.com



DIY

DIY patina

The homeowner's vintage seats were fashioned after 19th-century Parisian bistro originals. We whitewashed a bargain acacia-wood folding chair, then distressed it with sandpaper and a few jabs with the point of a screwdriver. Age the steel legs and frame by painting them with a rust antiquing kit from Sophisticated Finishes. Chair, \$15; ikea.com. Rust antiquing kit, \$13; dickblick.com ■



From tired to turreted

Buried beneath vinyl siding lie the bones of a charming Queen Anne

BY KATHRYN O'SHEA-EVANS + ILLUSTRATION BY DRAWGATE INC.



BEFORE

→ “THE OUTSIDE of our house is so...ugh,” says Ashleigh Swinehart, who shares this 1901 home, in Fremont, Ohio, with husband Brian, their two kids, and her mother. For curb-appeal-boosting ideas, we turned to Cleveland-area architect Rebecca Pantuso.

“The facade has been stripped of its Queen Anne details over the years,” Pantuso says. Despite a vinyl shroud, she could still see the style’s basic forms, including cut-away bay windows and a steeply pitched cross-gabled roof. Pantuso would start by peeling off the porch enclosure and adding turned posts, railings, and spandrels. The second-floor dormer could serve as the foundation for a round turret. Other details, such as eye-catching stained-glass windows, corner brackets, and gable appliques, pile on the Victorian-era charm.

Ashleigh’s reaction? “Wow! This is definitely the way our home was meant to look.”



Queen Anne porches often had spindle-work, like the beaded spandrel shown here.

finishing touches

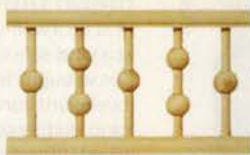
Fancier finishes and more gracious windows befit a Victorian-era home.



sconce

This six-sided solid-brass wall lantern has antiqued patina; place one on either side of the door for symmetry.

Lowe’s; \$50



spandrel

Knob-like beads—such as those on this 6-inch pine-and-birch panel—were a hallmark of the style’s millwork.

Vintage Woodworks; \$15 per foot



hardware

Forged in solid brass from a 1910 filigree pattern, this handleset has modern, spring-assisted levers.

House of Antique Hardware; \$287



window

Larger double-hungs would be truer to a Queen Anne. This wood one has an aluminum-clad exterior and sashes that tilt in for easy cleaning.

Marvin; \$530

WANT A PHOTOSHOP REDO?

Send snapshots to redo@thisoldhouse.com

If You Were Exposed to, or Harmed by, ASBESTOS or ASBESTOS-CONTAINING Products Made, Distributed or Sold by THE FLINTKOTE COMPANY or FLINTKOTE MINES LIMITED,

Please read this Notice of Voting Rights and Hearing to consider whether to approve Reorganization.

TYPES OF PRODUCTS

During the 1930s to the 1980s, products sold by The Flintkote Company and Flintkote Mines Limited (the "Debtors") may have contained asbestos. These products could have included floor tile, roofing shingles, joint compound, cement pipe, asphalt and other products.

Persons or entities exposed to, or harmed by, the Debtors' asbestos or asbestos-containing products may have personal injury, wrongful death or other claims against the Debtors. You do not need to (i) have been diagnosed, (ii) have symptoms, or (iii) be impaired to be affected by the Plan.

If you believe you may have been exposed to, or harmed by the Debtors' products, you may be entitled to vote on the terms of the Reorganization. You should carefully read this notice and the important documents located at <http://www.flintkotebankruptcy.com>.

PLAN OF REORGANIZATION

The Debtors have filed for bankruptcy. On February 9, 2015, the Debtors filed a modified Joint Plan of Reorganization (the "Plan") with the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Delaware (the "Bankruptcy Court"). The Plan includes the terms of a settlement reached between the Debtors and their former indirect parent company, Imperial Tobacco Canada Limited ("ITCAN"). The Plan has been jointly proposed by the Debtors, the Asbestos Claimants Committee and the Future Claimants Representative (collectively, the "Plan Proponents"). As background, the Plan is a modified version of a bankruptcy plan on which Debtors previously solicited votes in 2008 and 2009, and which was confirmed by the Bankruptcy Court on December 21, 2012 (the "Original Plan").

A document describing the Plan's changes (the "Disclosure Supplement"), which the Bankruptcy Court approved on March 17, 2015, and a copy of the Plan itself and voting materials (a "Resolicitation Package"), has been mailed to known holders of claims against the Debtors or their lawyers.

THE TRUST

The Plan provides for a trust to be established to pay eligible asbestos personal injury claims against the Debtors (the "Trust"). The Plan states that all current and future holders of asbestos personal injury claims will be forever prohibited from asserting claims directly against the Debtors and other parties protected under the Plan, including ITCAN. Such persons can receive money only from the Trust. The Plan and the Disclosure Supplement have important additional details and are available at <http://www.flintkotebankruptcy.com>.

SUPPLEMENTAL SETTLEMENT BAR ORDER

Under the Plan, ITCAN will also obtain protection from certain claims by a settlement bar order, which is described more particularly in the Plan and Disclosure Supplement.

VOTING PROCEDURES

The Bankruptcy Court has issued an order describing who can vote on the Plan, how to vote, and how votes will be counted. The Disclosure Supplement has information that will help you decide whether and how to vote on the Plan if you are entitled to do so. Votes cast on the Original Plan will be counted as votes on the Plan, unless a holder changes such vote. **If you voted on the Original Plan and do not wish to change your vote, you do not need to submit a ballot.** If you did not vote on the Original Plan, you may obtain and cast a ballot, which would be subject to the Plan Proponents' right to object. **To be counted, a completed ballot must be received by the Voting Agent at the address below by 4:00 p.m. (prevailing Eastern time) on June 2, 2015. Any ballot received after that deadline will not be counted.**

Proof of an asbestos personal injury or wrongful death claim does not need to be filed with the Bankruptcy Court. Special procedures have been established for holders of asbestos personal injury and wrongful death claims to vote on the Plan. Lawyers for holders of these claims may vote on the Plan on behalf of their clients if authorized by their client. If you are unsure whether your lawyer is authorized to vote on your behalf, please contact your lawyer.

THE HEARING TO CONFIRM THE PLAN

A hearing to confirm the Plan will be held before the Honorable Mary F. Walrath, United States Bankruptcy Judge, at the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Delaware, 824 Market Street, 5th Floor, Wilmington, Delaware 19801, commencing **on August 10, 2015 at 10:30 a.m.** (prevailing Eastern time). You may attend the hearing but are not required to do so.

OBJECTING TO THE PLAN

Objections to the Plan are limited to changes between the Original Plan and the Plan and must be submitted in writing and received by July 8, 2015 to be considered. All objections must comply with the requirements in the notice of the Confirmation Hearing, available at <http://www.flintkotebankruptcy.com>.

HOW TO OBTAIN DOCUMENTS

If you would like additional information about the Plan, Disclosure Supplement and the Trust (including copies of the Plan and the Disclosure Supplement), you may contact the Debtors' Voting Agent at (800) 290-0537 or visit <http://www.flintkotebankruptcy.com>.

For complete information, including all relevant forms, notices and instructions, please consult:

Flintkote Reorganization Website
www.flintkotebankruptcy.com

Flintkote Reorganization Helpline
1-800-290-0537

**Write to: The Flintkote Company and Flintkote Mines, Limited,
c/o GCG, P.O. Box 10127, Dublin, Ohio 43017-3127**

Outdoor privacy screen

Use folding wood panels to dress up your landscape and block out its less appealing aspects

BY THOMAS BAKER + PHOTOGRAPHS BY JOHN GRUEN

➔ **IF THAT EYESORE** of an AC compressor or compost bin or neighbor spoils the view from your deck or patio, the solution may be as simple as setting up a wood privacy screen like the one here. These screens typically come in three- and four-panel configurations that stand on their own when partially folded, assuming there's not too much wind. In turf, you can anchor them with edging spikes driven through attached angle brackets, but whenever the forecast calls for blustery conditions, it's best to fold them up and stow them away until the wind settles down.

Whether you build a screen like the eucalyptus one shown or buy it ready-made, rot-resistant wood and rustproof fasteners are must-have materials. Then you only need to give the screen regular applications of a penetrating oil-based deck or fence finish to keep it looking its best. That's not much to ask in return for what is sure to be many years of solid, view-enhancing service.

A folding lattice screen made of eucalyptus softens the rough stone wall looming over this patio.



build it
or buy it

BUILD IT

Use factory-made lattice panels to simplify construction

COST \$291

TIME 4 hours

DIFFICULTY Easy, with the help of a router and a jigsaw

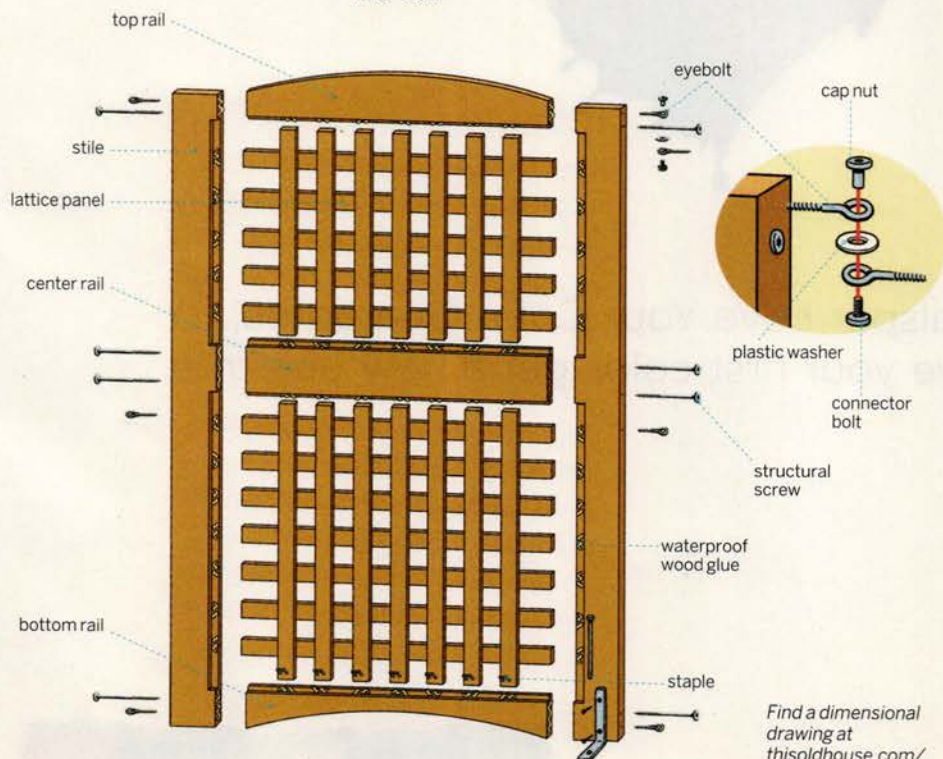
on a flat surface, with the best-looking side of the board facedown, then fasten the parts using glue and clamps, and structural screws driven through the stiles and into the ends of the rails.

2] Rout the frame. Chuck a ½-inch rabbeting bit with a ball-bearing guide into a router and set the bit depth to the thickness of two lattice strips combined. Rabbet the inside edges of the frame's stiles only. Next, reset the bit to the depth of one strip and rout the inside edges of the three rails.

3] Attach the lattice. Cut the lattice panel in half lengthwise and cut off sections to fit the rabbeted openings. Drop one large and one small panel into the rabbets of the appropriate frame openings, with the strips that run parallel to the rails facing down. Glue and staple the lattice strips to the rabbets. Repeat Steps 1 through 3 to make the two remaining panels.

4] Connect the panels. Using a ⅜-inch bit, drill three 1½-inch-deep holes evenly spaced along the outside edge of one panel's stile. Screw an eyebolt into each hole. Do the same with the stile of the adjoining panel, but locate the holes ¼ inch lower than those in the first stile, to overlap the bolts. Repeat for the adjoining stiles. Place a plastic washer between each pair of overlapping eyebolts, and join them with connector nuts and bolts.

Rear view



Find a dimensional drawing at thisoldhouse.com/jun2015.

BUY IT

Clear redwood is the pricier pick; save money by choosing a knotty or more plentiful wood

\$256

the basic model

Made of China fir, a type of cypress, the solid panels offer more privacy than lattice alone. 95"W × 64"H; wayfair.com



\$449

the mid-range model

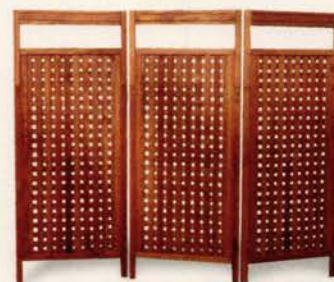
The mix of narrow and wide cedar strips gives this screen a contemporary flair. 113"W × 65½"H; bestnest.com



\$743

the luxury model

Clear, all-heart redwood resists decay and insects and takes stain beautifully. 81"W × 64"H; hayneedle.com





With the Valspar Love Your Color Guarantee®,
if you don't love your first color, get a new one free.

exclusively at



Now available on all interior products.
See valsparcolorguarantee.com for details.

Restrictions apply. ©Valspar. Lowe's and the Gable design are trademarks of LF, LLC.
All are used with permission.



Planter's punch

Before putting down your container plants' roots, dress up their pots

BY DEBORAH BALDWIN + PHOTOGRAPH BY ANDREW McCAUL

→ **READY TO LIVEN UP** some of those ho-hum planters from the home center? We used FrogTape's Shape Tape, with precut patterns, plus four shades of exterior latex paint-and-primer-in-one to add pizzazz to a trio of new terra-cotta pots. For a dynamic look, we took advantage of the containers' flare by adding vertical bands of color that naturally widen toward the top. We spaced lengths of tape evenly for two-color designs on pots with pronounced lips and made random-width stripes in four colors on the simplest cone shape. Because terra-cotta holds moisture, which will break the paint's bond over time, we sealed every inch, inside and out, drain holes included, with our first paint color. Once it was dry and the tape was in place, we painted over the tape edges with the same color so that any bleed-through wouldn't show, and used a 1-inch foam brush to apply the next color. It's key to gently pull up the tape when the paint is nearly dry and wait a day if you're retaping. A protective coat of clear sealer is optional. All that's left: Pop in plants and enjoy your new field of color. ■



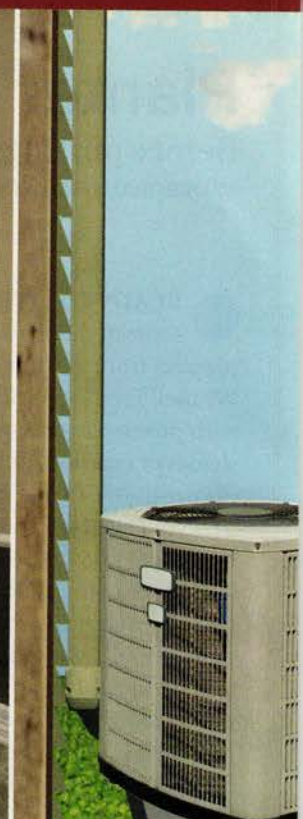
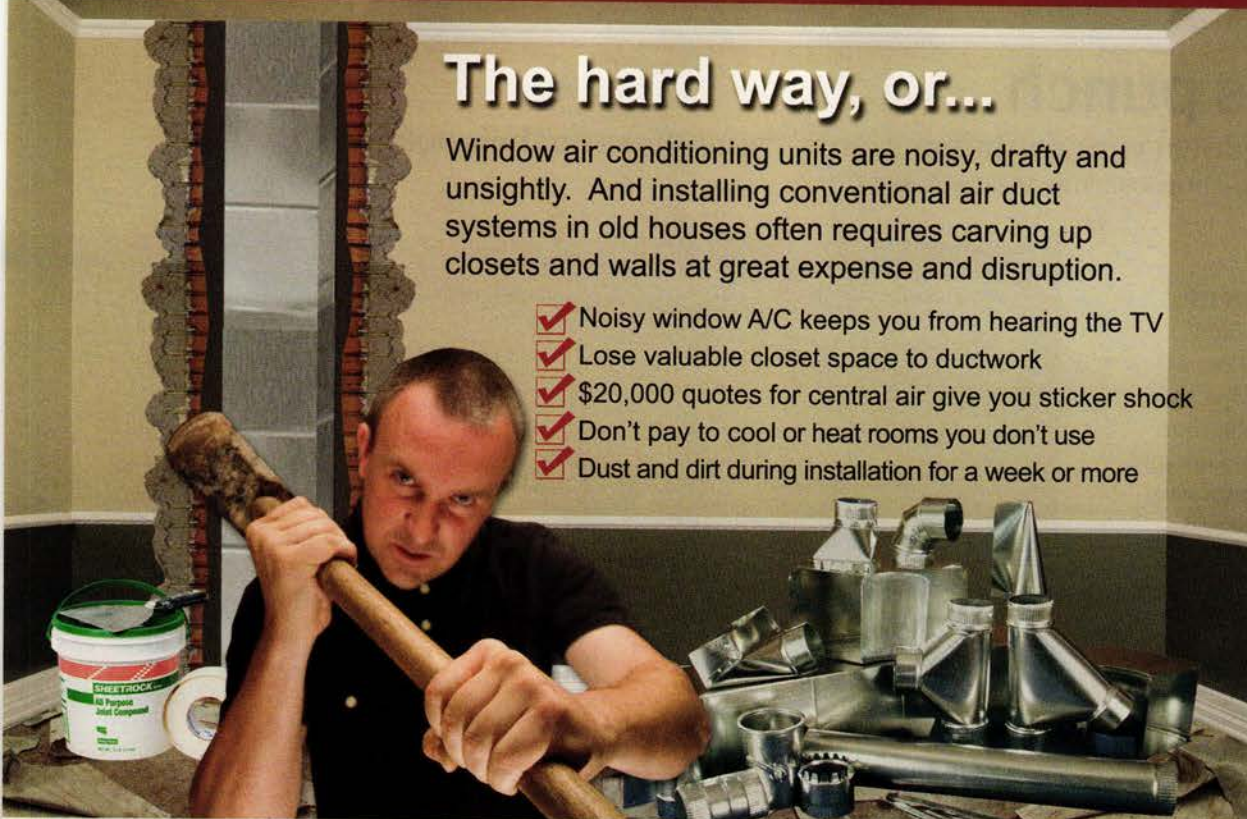
FrogTape's Shape Tape in Wave (far left) and Chevron, \$16 per roll; frogtape.com

Heating and Cooling Your Old House

The hard way, or...

Window air conditioning units are noisy, drafty and unsightly. And installing conventional air duct systems in old houses often requires carving up closets and walls at great expense and disruption.

- ✓ Noisy window A/C keeps you from hearing the TV
- ✓ Lose valuable closet space to ductwork
- ✓ \$20,000 quotes for central air give you sticker shock
- ✓ Don't pay to cool or heat rooms you don't use
- ✓ Dust and dirt during installation for a week or more

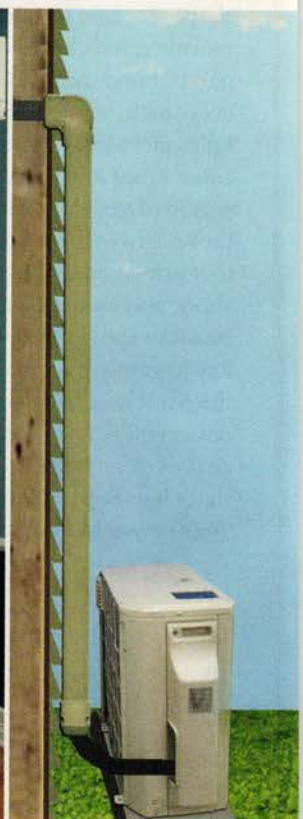


...the easy way!

Fujitsu mini-splits are today's most advanced form of heating and air conditioning. One unit can power up to 8 indoor units simultaneously. Systems are quick and easy to install.

- ✓ Whisper quiet operation
- ✓ Comfort only the spaces you use
- ✓ Cost effective alternative to central air
- ✓ Lowers utility bill up to 50%*
- ✓ Quick, professional installation in as little as a day

*Savings may vary based on model selected, hours of operation and geographical location. Example given based on 26-SEER system versus 13-SEER system.



FUJITSU

Comfort your house the easy way.
Visit www.constantcomfort.com

Halcyon 

Build a copper trellis

Transform plumbing tubing and fittings into an elegant garden accent

BY PAUL HOPE + PHOTOGRAPHS BY KOLIN SMITH

→ **THE NOBLE TRELLIS** comes in many shapes and sizes, all in the service of giving flowering vines an attractive scaffolding on which to climb. This version in copper can be built for about as much as wood options you'd find at the garden center. Gluing together plumbing tubing and fittings makes assembly very easy, and the method eliminates the need for saws and fasteners. Over time, the copper will oxidize, giving the structure a worn patina that's every bit as unique as the plants it supports. Follow along as *This Old House* special projects editor Eric Hagerman shows you how to create a timeless garden ornament.



Finial: 6-by-6-inch
Copper Ball Fence Post
Cap, \$31; themetal
peddler.com



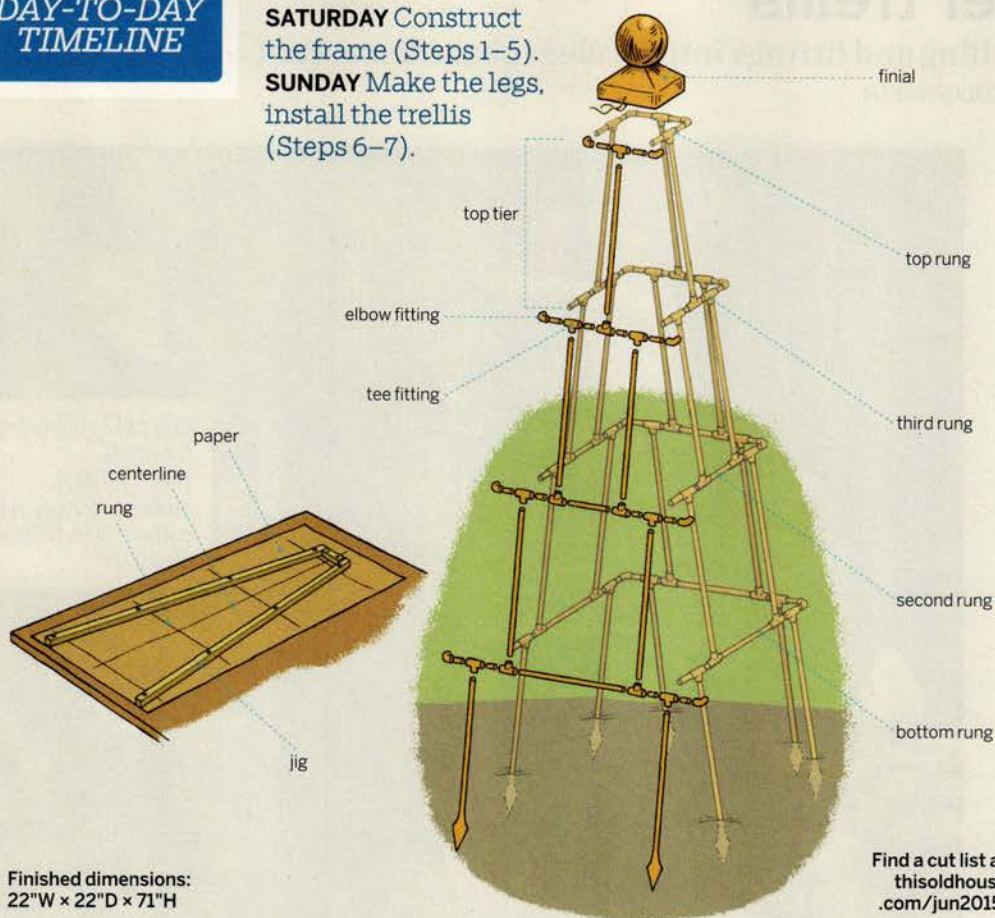
COST \$173 (including the finial)

TIME Two days

DIFFICULTY Easy. A tube cutter makes for quick, clean cuts.

DAY-TO-DAY TIMELINE

SATURDAY Construct the frame (Steps 1–5).
SUNDAY Make the legs, install the trellis (Steps 6–7).



TOOLS

straightedge
pencil
drill/driver and bits
tape measure
combination square
marker
tube cutter
hammer
tin snips
pliers

MATERIALS

1× scrap wood Get two 7-foot lengths.

½-inch 90° cup × cup copper elbow fittings Get 16.

½-inch three-way copper tee fittings Get five bags of 10 fittings.

½-inch copper tubing for the uprights, legs, and couplings Get six 8-foot lengths.

copper finial Purchase to fit.

16-gauge copper wire to attach the finial Get 1 foot.

paper

super glue

1½-inch wood screws to secure the jig

wire plant ties

Find a cut list at thisoldhouse.com/jun2015.



1 MAP OUT THE DESIGN

A] Draw the template. Tape a sheet of paper to a worktable. Use a long straightedge to draw a line down its center the distance from the top to the bottom rung, based on a design of your liking. At the top of the line, draw a perpendicular line the same length as the interior dimension of your finial; at the other end, draw a perpendicular line the width of the bottom rung. Now make two more perpendicular lines equidistant between the first two, as shown, for the two middle rungs.

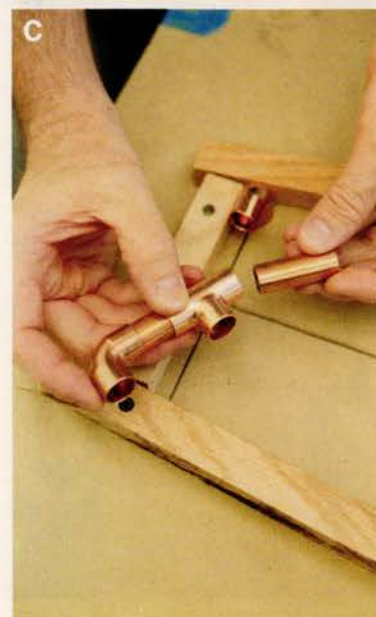
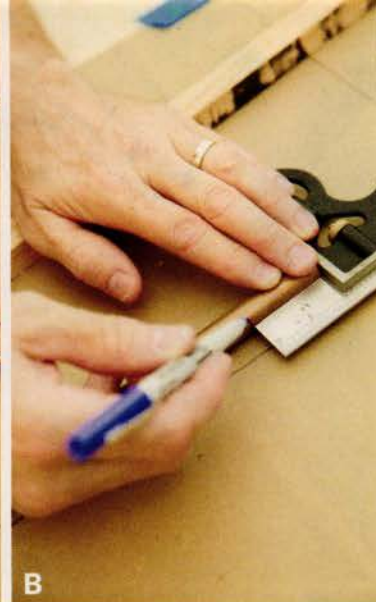
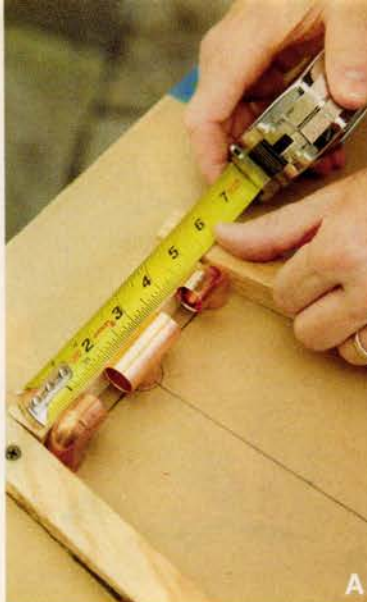
B] Build the jig. Cut a long scrap of wood, and, working along one side, line it up with the ends of the lines for the top and bottom rungs. Drill pilot holes through the scrap and secure it to the worktable with 1½-inch wood screws. Fix a second piece of scrap in a mirror image on the opposite side. Add a short piece of scrap between the two, positioning it ¼ inch above the line for the top rung.

2 ASSEMBLE THE TOP RUNG

A] Lay out the fittings. Stand a tee fitting against the jig, centered at the intersection of the line for the top rung and the template's centerline. Stand an elbow fitting upright at each end of the line. The openings of all three fittings should be in-line. To determine your coupling length, measure the space between an elbow and the tee and add 1 inch to account for the stops, which are $\frac{1}{2}$ inch deep on each fitting. Jot down the length of the couplings as you go.

B] Mark the couplings. Adjust the combination square to the coupling length, and use it to mark a length of copper tubing, as shown. Slip the tube cutter onto the tubing, line up the blade with the mark, and clamp the cutting wheel down. Spin the tube cutter in place, tightening it as needed until the piece is cut. Cut another one to the same length.

C] Dry-fit the tier. Insert a coupling into each side of the tee, and slip the elbows onto the couplings' exposed ends, as shown. Place the assembly on the template line to make sure it fits within the jig. The tee should be flat on the table, and the elbows should be pointing up.



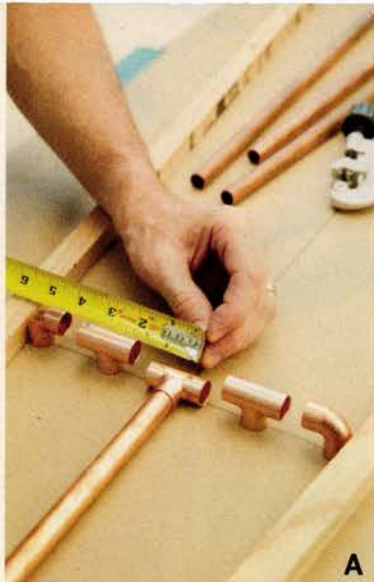
TIP When using a tube cutter, tighten the knob one-quarter turn after each full rotation around the tube.



3 BUILD THE TOP TIER

A] Measure the upright. Place a tee where the centerline intersects the third rung, with its stem pointed toward the top rung. Measure between the two tees and add 1 inch for the stops. Transfer that measurement onto a length of copper tubing, as shown, to mark the upright that connects the two rungs.

B] Cut the upright. Cut the tubing, as shown. Fit the upright between the tees in the two rungs. Make sure the tee for the third rung lands on the line.



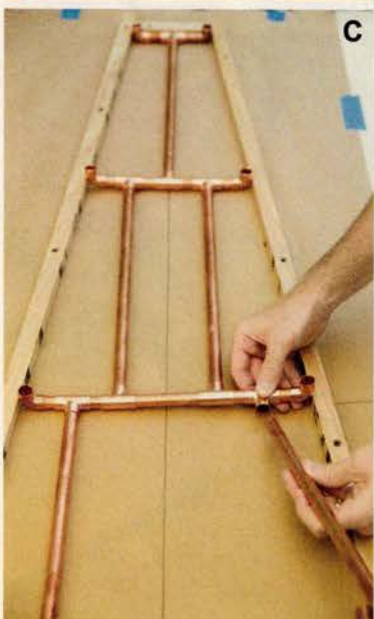
A



B

SEE HOW IT'S DONE

To watch an instructional video of this project, go to thisoldhouse.com/jun2015



C

4 BUILD OUT THE SIDE

A] Assemble the third rung. Stand an elbow at either end of the line for the third rung, against the jig, openings toward the center. Stand two more tees on the line, for the uprights in the tier below, centered in the space between the center tee and the elbows. Measure, mark, and cut four couplings of the same length to connect the five fittings. Assemble the pieces to finish the rung.

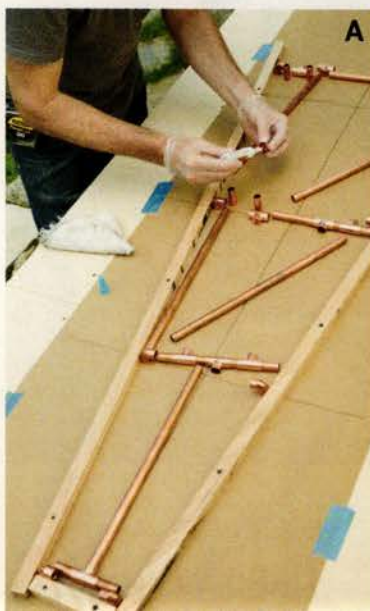
B] Connect the middle rungs. Cut two uprights the same length as the one in the top tier. Fit them into the tees of the third rung, put tees on the other end, and measure to the outer line at both ends, to get them parallel. Measure and cut a coupling to fit between the tees, and slip it into place, as shown.

C] Finish the rungs. Stand elbows at each end of the line for the second rung. Center a tee fitting between the elbows and the tees for the uprights. Cut couplings to connect the fittings, and assemble the rung. Cut the next set of uprights to extend to the bottom rung. Add a pair of tees between the elbows and tees for the uprights, to hold the legs. Measure, cut, and fit the couplings to complete the bottom rung.

5 ASSEMBLE THE TRELLIS

A] Glue the pieces. Disassemble the side. Now, one connection at a time, apply a bead of super glue inside each tee—but not the elbows yet—and press the coupling into the shoulder for 1 minute. Glue together each rung assembly, then glue the uprights in place to connect the rungs of the first side. Cut three of each coupling, and build the remaining three sides the same way.

B] Join the sides. Dry-fit the elbows on the side in the jig. Rotate the four along one side so that they're vertical, and apply glue to their open ends. Take an assembled side and fit it into the elbows, one rung at a time. Press the side in place until the glue sets, then glue and install the third side, too, as shown. Place the fourth side in the jig with dry-fit elbows, and glue and install the three-sided assembly to the elbows. Glue the last set of elbows one at a time, taking care not to break any of the bonds.



A



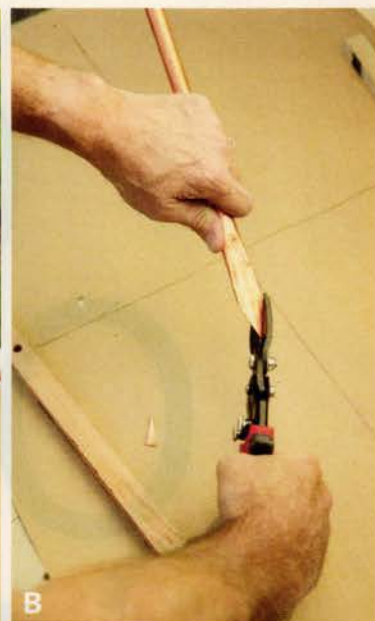
B

6 ADD THE FINISHING TOUCHES

A] Hammer the legs. Use the tube cutter to make eight legs of an equal length—at least 12 inches so that they can be tapped securely into the soil. Rest a leg on the jig, and hammer the bottom few inches flat.

B] Cut the legs. Using the tin snips, cut a V-shaped point into the bottom of each leg, as shown; the point will make it easier to pound the leg into the soil.

C] Install the finial. Set the finial in place. Thread 16-gauge copper wire through the holes, wrap it around the copper tubing, and twist the wire with the pliers to secure the finial.



SHARE YOUR DIY PROJECT!



Upload pictures of something you built for a chance to appear in October's reader-created issue. Scan this page with the Blippar app or go to thisoldhouse.com/yourTOH



7 INSTALL THE TRELLIS

A] Install the legs. Select a spot for the trellis. Make a hole with a garden stake, then tap the first leg into the soil, as shown. Set the trellis on the first leg and use it as a guide to position the remaining legs. Tap them in place, adjusting their height as needed to get the structure to stand plumb.

B] Guide the vines. Plant a vine at the base of the trellis and wrap it around the uprights, as shown. Every foot or so, tie the vine to the tubing with a wire plant tie. Check back periodically during the growing season, guiding the vine around the trellis and securing it with ties. ■

Great Outdoor Getaways

Now's the time to fling open those doors and start living outside. A patch of green, a porch to perch on, even a simple patio—follow along for 45 design ideas that can turn any of those spaces into an inviting open-air room

by Amy Hughes



Breezy Porches

Add splashes of color and a few creature comforts to turn a ho-hum extension off the house into a spot to welcome the day—and guests.

Setup for conversation

- 1. HAVE SEATS TALK TO ONE ANOTHER** A row of rockers is great for watching the parade go by but requires neck-craning if you want to converse. Here, vintage furniture is arranged to encourage an easy exchange while offering varied views of the landscape. For all-weather wicker seats, try International Caravan's Chelsea four-piece Conversation Furniture Set in Antique Moss, \$599; target.com.
- 2. DEFINE SPACES** Area rugs can suggest distinct "rooms" without walls. Here, one rug channels visitors toward the front door while the other signals a gathering spot. Shown: Color-bound Natural Sisal Rugs, from \$59 each; potterybarn.com

- 3. ADD A STATEMENT LIGHT** A covered porch offers the advantage of a solid ceiling to protect an eye-catching chandelier, such as this Arts and Crafts stunner. Invest in a high-quality fixture and it can last for decades. Similar to shown: Alameda Mission Single-Pole Art-Glass Chandelier in Black Enamel, \$816; rejuvenation.com
- 4. CONNECT WITH POTTED PLANTS** Container gardens can bridge the gap between a porch and its lush surroundings; these glazed ceramic pots also reinforce the porch's red and green scheme. Similar to shown: Festive Large Red Planter, \$35; crateandbarrel.com



3

1

2

4

Breezy Porches

continued



Cozy and coordinated

5. ECHO EXTERIOR COLORS For a tied-together look, reinforce the paint scheme. The furnishings here coordinate with the ceiling, trim, and shutters.

6. HANG A SWING This wicker one, made from woven resin, offers vintage charm with little maintenance; just hose it down a few times a year, no need to repaint. Similar to shown: International Caravan's Chelsea Wicker Resin and Steel Outdoor Porch Swing in Antique Pecan, \$257; wayfair.com

7. LET PIECES DO DOUBLE-DUTY When space is at a premium, seek out multitaskers like this rustic green bench. When not in use for sitting or for setting out wine and cheese, it's a plant stand. Similar to shown: Painted Cottage Bench in Light Sage, \$139; lbean.com

8. MAKE IT COMFY Throw pillows and blankets can turn a sturdy outdoor seat into a cozy lounge. Here, pillows with cases of naturally weather-resistant wool kilim offer back support, and a quick-dry, easy-clean polypropylene rug warms up the floor. Similar to shown: Kilim Throw Pillows, \$39 each; grandinroad.com. Damask Bordered Indoor/Outdoor Rug in Terracotta, \$239; ballarddesigns.com

Bright and cheery

9. ADD A VIVID ACCENT On a cool, gray day, this painted table, scored at an antiques shop, offers a bit of sunshine and a focal point. Customize your own vintage piece with spray paint. Krylon indoor/outdoor enamel in glossy Sun Yellow, about \$8; amazon.com

10. ASSEMBLE A SET Mismatched furniture looks harmonious when painted one color, especially if the materials, scale, and shapes are similar. Glossy white unites these three seats. Find old wicker chairs for as little as \$25 apiece on Craigslist.

11. CREATE PRIVACY Flower baskets skirting the porch roof act as a green screen. Here, one basket is set off by the oval "window" of a neighbor's trellis. Consider cascading-type begonias for their showy flowers and Boston ferns for their arching fronds. Hanging Basket Begonia Collection of 10 plants, \$60; brecks.com. Boston fern in a 10-inch basket, \$17; homedepot.com

12. KEEP IT COOL The air on even a shady porch can get stagnant on a hot day. A ceiling fan keeps it breezy while thwarting mosquitoes—their little wings are no match for a mighty wind. Choose an outdoor-rated version with a light so that you can linger after dark. We like the Hampton Bay Seaport 52-inch White Indoor/Outdoor Fan, \$119; homedepot.com.





Colorful and convivial

13. SIDLE UP AN EXTENSION A grilling island alongside the porch adds a sense of enclosure while moving both cook and guests outdoors. This custom version boasts prep space and storage below. Kits make DIYing easier: Cal Flame's 6-foot Outdoor Kitchen Island Frame Kit has steel panels with cutouts for the grill, a fridge, and door—you supply the appliances and cladding. \$799; homedepot.com

14. PERK UP THE FLOOR Instead of going with brown planks underfoot, borrow the blue that's traditionally overhead. Then mix in cobalt accents to really liven it up. Similar to shown: Porch and Floor Enamel in Undercool and Blue Chip, \$57 per gallon; sherwin-williams.com

15. PLANT A PERIMETER Trees may start out as scrawny saplings, but they provide privacy once they fill in. Trawl the garden center for compact ornamental trees that won't threaten your roof with overhanging limbs, such as a 5-foot kousa dogwood, about \$100 at brighterblooms.com.

Stylish sleeping porch

16. SET UP A SNOOZE SPOT A chaise longue or a hammock is great for naps. Here, a more substantial, vintage wrought-iron daybed is even more inviting. To keep the mattress fresh and mildew-free, use a waterproof cover. Protect-A-Bed's Plush Fitted Protector is softer than the zip-up vinyl versions, and it's machine washable. \$70 for a twin; target.com

17. ADD STYLE WITH SALVAGE Period architectural details lend patina to a new porch and can boost the historical cred of an existing one. This stained-glass window, set within an open wood framework, provides the illusion of a windowed wall. Find similar stained glass for less than \$300 at historichouseparts.com.

18. GO FOR WEATHERED AND WORRY-FREE The rust and chipped paint on this iron bed and wood table give the space a relaxed, lived-in vibe. Leave surfaces exposed so that they'll wear even faster, or freeze them in time by spraying on a few coats of clear sun- and moisture-resistant varnish, such as Cabot Satin Spar Varnish Aerosol Spray, \$8.67 for an 11½-ounce can; lowes.com.



Pleasant Patios

Let a fence, hedge, or facade serve as a wall, and a pergola, tree canopy, or wide umbrella as a roof. Then furnish your outdoor room for dining, entertaining, or gathering around a fire.



Leafy and layered

19. PLAY OFF THE ARCHITECTURE Like handsome shutters or a brightly painted door, a house's double-hung windows can offer a focal point, as here. At night they act as light boxes and cast an ambient glow.

20. INSTALL A LITTLE LATTICE Here, trellises provide ladders for vines to scramble up while adding dimension and color to the white facade. Planters filled with high-contrast blooms amplify the layered look. Similar to shown: Cedar Trellis Screen Panel, \$156 for a DIY kit; cedarwood furniture.com

21. MAKE IT FESTIVE String lights are simple scene-setters—just plug and play! These outdoor-rated globes unite the trellises. Similar to shown: G50 15-foot String Light Set with 5-watt bulbs, \$26; partylights.com

22. ADD CHARACTER Flea markets and antiques shops offer thrifty vintage patio furniture, and often it needs just a light sanding and a couple of coats of paint. Refinished metal gliders like this 1940s two-seater go for \$100 to \$500 on ebay.com.



Lush spot to linger

23. CHOOSE PORTABLE PIECES A folding table and folding benches transform a bare corner into a temporary dining room. Similar to shown: Beer Garden Outdoor Dining Collection in blue or red, \$510; worldmarket.com

24. HANG A NO-WIRE FIXTURE You don't need electricity to string up a patio pendant. Here, a candle lantern tethered to a rope is simply lashed to a tree branch. Similar to shown: Landen Lantern, 25 inches high, \$30; pier1.com

25. COVER WALLS WITH CLIMBERS A vertical garden of evergreen vines softens the appearance of plain siding. Noninvasive creeping fig (*Ficus pumila*) masks brick on this South Carolina home. \$15 per plant; gardenvines.com

26. CREATE A TRAY GARDEN Small potted plants clustered on a tray are an all-weather decorative touch—and can easily be moved to make room for cocktails. Herbs de Provence 6-pack of potted herbs, \$30; williams-sonoma.com





Warm and welcoming

27. TURN UP THE HEAT A crackling fire offers a snug spot for congregating on chilly nights. If space and budget allow, spring for a full-size fireplace like this wood-burning one, raised on a custom masonry hearth. A portable propane heater can boost the temperature as well. For a similar effect: Chesterfield Grand Outdoor Fireplace, made of cast concrete and fiberglass composite, \$2,899; Fire Sense Tapered Patio Heater, \$415; woodlanddirect.com

28. PUT A ROOF ON IT A pergola offers a bit of shade and a sense of enclosure while still letting in fresh air. This stained-wood version is custom, but you can build your own from a kit. The Suncast Cedar Pergola is a generous 10 by 12 feet and comes ready to assemble, no cutting required. \$1,300; target.com

29. ADD RUNNING WATER The sound of a fountain helps drown out lawn mowers, air conditioners, and passing cars and also creates a sense of calm. For masking white noise, fountains are most effective when paired with a barrier, such as this shingled partition wall. Similar to shown: Arcadian Single Fountain in Terracotta, \$220; haddonstone.com

Formal, not fussy

30. PUT A PATTERN UNDERFOOT The way you lay a brick or paver floor sets the tone for your outdoor space. The bordered herringbone shown here works well in a large expanse and with a traditional house style. Find the best fit for your house among six popular patterns at thisoldhouse.com/jun2015.

31. MAKE SHADE A market umbrella is the simplest way to beat the heat on an exposed patio. To shelter four chairs, choose a model 9 feet or larger that has a sturdy base to prevent tips; tough aluminum ribs to weather high winds; and a fade-resistant, UV-rated canopy. Similar to shown: 9' Round Market Umbrella 43478, with a Sunbrella fabric, from \$299, base not included; frontgate.com

32. FIRE UP A PORTABLE PIT A store-bought fire bowl is an affordable alternative to a built-in fireplace, and you can move it around. This vessel-style pit has a lid, so it doubles as a table. Similar to shown: Sonoma Fire Pit & Grill with lid, firewood storage cubby, BBQ grill grate, and spark screen, \$135; wayfair.com



Garden Retreats

Tuck chairs under an arbor or place a pavilion at the end of a winding path—look for ways to make an outdoor space feel like a real destination.

Glowing gazebo

33. GO FOR FILIGREEDED FLAIR An ornate metal structure evokes a Victorian-era English country garden and offers a romantic prefab option for a backyard room. Similar to shown: Lattice Pavilion made of powder-coated steel in a hammered-bronze finish, \$1,800; garden.com

34. OPT FOR SOLAR MOOD LIGHTS Strands of bulbs powered by the sun are an easy way to light up a far-flung garden room. A solar panel staked in the ground harvests enough energy for 6 to 8 hours of illumination. Add a candle chandelier to enhance the mood. Solar String Lights with 200 bulbs, \$60; plowandhearth.com. Wrought Iron 6 Arm Candle Chandelier with Bird Cage, \$40; amazon.com

35. UNFURL A RUG An outdoor rug can cover a worn or unremarkable surface while also adding warmth, color, and an indoor touch. This rug echoes the vibrant hues of the annual blooms nearby. Similar to shown: Koko Company Melange 6-by-8-foot Indoor/Outdoor Floor Mat in Tutti Frutti Red Mix, \$100; hayneedle.com



Terraced gathering place

36. FOLLOW THE NATURAL CONTOURS By working with the landscape rather than fighting it with an earthmover, you can turn a flaw into a design element. Here, a steep rise presented an opportunity for an intimate patio buttressed by a multilevel sitting wall. Watch a video on how to build your own round patio ringed by a sitting wall at thisoldhouse.com/jun2015.

37. CREATE A FOCAL POINT A single standout feature, such as this built-in fire pit, provides a central spot around which to arrange furniture and orient views. Find a step-by-step for building your own fire pit at thisoldhouse.com/jun2015.

38. ENCOURAGE A JOURNEY A winding path holds the promise of undiscovered vistas and nooks. The mulch trail with split-log steps above this sitting wall, for example, invites an exploration of the garden. To make a similar version, use flexible plastic edging for borders and buy mulch by the yard—your town may offer it for free—and have it delivered by truck.

HAVE A LOVELY YARD?



Enter your outdoor-space redo for a chance to win our America's Best Remodel contest and appear in our October issue.

Scan this page with the Blippar app or go to thisoldhouse.com/yourTOH

Sheltering pavilion

39. RAISE IT UP A DIY platform made of pressure-treated pine slats helps protect against rot and termite damage while giving a structure a more prominent, multilevel look. It also keeps pooling water away from the floor and furnishings. Top Choice #2 Prime Pressure Treated Lumber in 8-foot lengths, \$3.77 each; lowes.com

40. ERECT SEE-THROUGH WALLS Screens on the back and sides and gauzy drapes framing the front offer the feeling of an enclosure without blocking views or breezes. Similar to shown: Indoor/Outdoor Grommet Drape in Natural, from \$59 per panel; potterybarn.com

41. STAY DRY IN A DOWNPOUR A porous pavilion roof is of little help during a shower. Here, clear plastic panels overlay the rafters, offering a respite from the rain while still allowing sunlight to filter in. Suntuf 26-inch by 12-foot Clear Polycarbonate Roofing Panels, about \$32 each; homedepot.com

42. HANG A FLAMELESS LANTERN Chinese candle lanterns are a fun way to create ambience but can be a fire hazard. Battery-powered LED candles and lightpacks offer safe alternatives. Similar to shown: 14-inch Gold Yellow Traditional Nylon Chinese Lantern with Tassel, \$4.95, and 16 LED Hanging Battery Terminal for Lantern, \$3.70; paperlanternstore.com



Secluded platform

43. BORDER WITH POTS Containers can serve as low walls around a garden room. Vary the sizes for a more dynamic look, with a few standout specimens in large containers and bright flowering plants in small- to medium-size pots that are easier to move around. Consider a matched trio in graduated sizes, such as the Three-Piece Textured Planter Set by Zingz & Thingz, \$71; wayfair.com.

44. INJECT COLOR Revitalize a worn platform with a therapeutic stain for aged wood while brightening it with a garden-friendly azure hue. We like Rust-Oleum's Restore 10X Advanced Resurfacer, in Blue Sky, about \$25 per gallon; rustoleum.com for stores.

45. DRESS UP RAILINGS Planter boxes that hook onto deck or porch railings bring cheery blooms to eye level. Choose from two types: planters with brackets that sling over the rail and ones like these that clip onto the top. The 28-inch Rounded Cedar Deck Rail Planter (\$49; hooksandlattice.com) will help get you growing in no time. 🌱



CIRCA 1933

ABOVE: The vintage house looks much the same as it did 82 years ago (INSET), but with gray paint on the original cedar shakes, a berry-red door, and lush plantings. The cast-iron window grilles on the second floor, a hallmark of the architect's work, are made more prominent with a coat of black paint. When it was built, the Depression-era house was praised for its elegant simplicity. OPPOSITE: Homeowner and green-building expert Rick Fedrizzi and his wife, Cathy, enjoy the backyard deck with Charley, their standard schnauzer.



where the ♥ is

A series of sensitive remodels and energy-smart upgrades turns a couple's modest 1931 starter house into their home for the long haul



by Nina Fitzgerald • photographs by Mark Samu • styling by Anna Molvik

S

OME HOUSES SWEEP YOU off your feet from the start. With others, the romance grows over time, a “good for right now” feeling slowly becoming something more. Rick and Cathy Fedrizzi experienced a bit of both with the home in Syracuse, New York, they bought more than 30 years ago. “When we first saw it, there was a crackling fire in the fireplace and a pair of skis stuck outside in the snow,” says Rick, who was born and raised in the area. “I don’t know if that was staged or not, but it felt more like we were buying a lifestyle than an empty house. We put in an offer that day.”

Built in 1931 by up-and-coming local architect Charles H. Umbrecht, the then 1,600-square-foot three-bedroom, one-and-a-half-bath Colonial Revival was ideal for the young couple. Their first improvement—completed shortly after the pur-

chase—was fairly minimal: Rick screened in the open side porch before Cathy came home from the hospital with their first baby, giving the couple a place to rock their newborn while taking in the breeze on balmy summer evenings. Three years later, they extended a simple shed roof off the back of the house, adding an 18-by-26-foot family room with much-needed play space. Five years in, they added a master suite upstairs over that family room, maintaining the steeply sloped ceiling template the architect had established. “How many times have I bumped my head on those ceilings? Just about every day of my life,” says the 6-foot-2 Rick. “But we wanted to preserve Umbrecht’s style.”

Those early changes helped make the house comfortable enough not only to welcome a second baby but to see both children into their college years. But by 2010, Rick, who co-founded

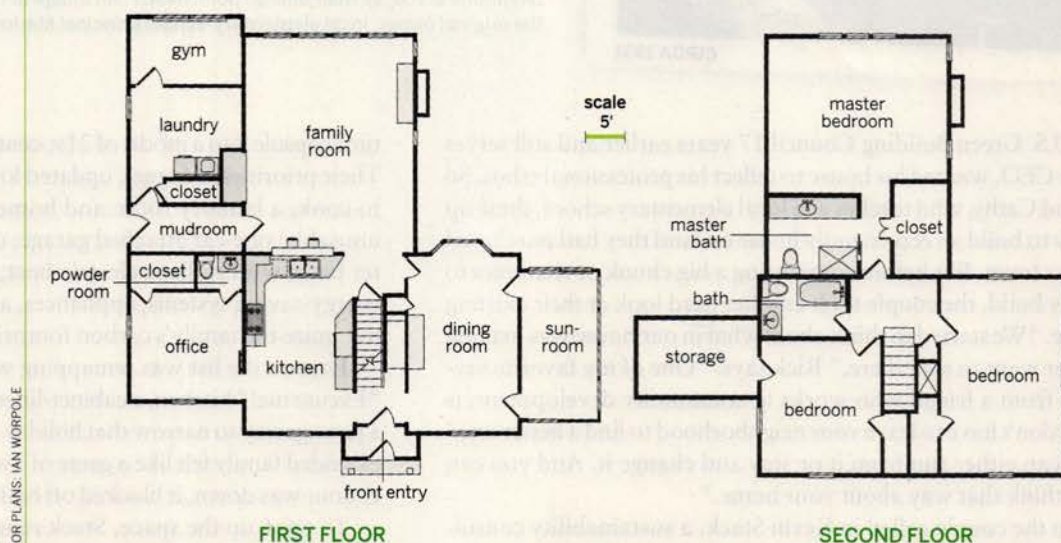


OPPOSITE: The new kitchen reflects the homeowners' love of Craftsman design, which works well in the early-20th-century house. The art-tile backsplash is a nod to the blackbirds they spot in their yard daily. The pegged wide-plank oak floors are a seamless blend of old and new. RIGHT: A large pass-through over the breakfast bar connects the kitchen to the family room. Induction cooktop and oven: GE Monogram. Cabinets: Medallion. Tile: Motawi Tileworks. Hardware: Acorn



floor plans

Earlier additions to the 1931 home include the family room and master suite. This latest remodel combined the galley cook space and a sitting room into a well-proportioned kitchen, turned the attached garage into laundry and workout rooms, rebuilt the screened porch as a sunroom, and refreshed the master bath.





ABOVE: Preserving the house's period details was a top priority for the couple, who have long used the original pine-paneled living room, with its beamed ceiling, slate hearth, and telephone stand, as their dining room. **INSET:** An image of the room when it belonged to the original owner, local elementary-school principal Marion Parsons.



CIRCA 1931

the U.S. Green Building Council 17 years earlier and still serves as its CEO, wanted his house to reflect his professional ethos. So he and Cathy, who teaches at a local elementary school, drew up plans to build an eco-friendly house on land they had purchased across town. But before committing a big chunk of resources to a new build, the couple took another hard look at their existing home. "We started to think about what in our house was making us not want to stay there," Rick says. "One of my favorite sayings, from a friend who works in community development, is 'You don't have to leave your neighborhood to find a better one.' You can either run from it or stay and change it. And you can also think that way about your home."

So the couple called in Kevin Stack, a sustainability consultant and builder, who mapped out a plan to turn their snug 1930s

time capsule into a model of 21st-century, eco-friendlier livability. Their priorities: a bigger, updated kitchen for Cathy, who loves to cook; a laundry room and home gym in the vintage (read: unusable) one-car attached garage; updated finishes in the master bath, with radiant electric heat; improved insulation; and energy-saving systems, appliances, and windows throughout to minimize the family's carbon footprint.

First on the list was remapping what Cathy liked to call her "Excuse me!" kitchen, a cabinet-lined 7-by-11½-foot galley with a passageway so narrow that holiday dinner preparation with her extended family felt like a game of Twister. "When the dishwasher door was down, it blocked off half of the kitchen," she recalls.

To open up the space, Stack removed the wall between the original galley kitchen and the adjacent sitting room, revealing



SHOP THIS STYLE

To find furnishings similar to those used in this house, go to wayfair.com/thisoldhouse

ABOVE: New paneling and casings are Craftsman-inspired; antique and reproduction Stickley furniture carries rich wood tones throughout the house. **RIGHT:** The fireplace mantel in the family-room addition is based on designs by the house's architect, which Rick Fedrizzi researched at house tours and at the local library. The hearth is finished with slate dug from the backyard to match the original stone hearth in the dining room. Windows: Eagle. LED lighting: Cree

a 5-inch difference in ceiling height. He and kitchen designer Denise Miller opted to embrace the resulting quirks, fitting upper cabinets around the drop and camouflaging an irregular corner with a corner display cabinet with a piano-hinge door. Stack extended the former sitting room's original wide oak planks into the new cook space by having a local woodworker mill and distress boards to match, reproducing the visible pegs and leaving no trace of the near century's worth of time that separates the old floors from the new.

In order to upgrade the 1930s shell, closed-cell spray-foam insulation was added to opened walls, and double-paned low-e Eagle windows went in to make the most of a new high-efficiency gas furnace and air-conditioning system, both from Carrier. Ceiling fans help modulate the temperature zones, which are controlled by programmable Nest thermostats. A new Navien tankless water heater reduced gas usage by almost 20 percent, and Cree LED lighting was added throughout. The result: a 30 percent savings on monthly energy bills.

To make use of space where function had waned, the garage slab was excavated to allow for hydronic radiant heat, and a new wall sectioned off laundry and workout rooms. French doors filled the old door opening. Cars are now parked outside on Belgard pervious pavers, so there's no storm water runoff.

Most decisions were a success, but not all were grand slams. The on-demand water heater took some getting used to. "There





the family station wagon. “I could always tell when Rick had had a bad day at work, because he’d come home with another tree,” Cathy says. As the kids outgrew the need for a grassy expanse for playing tag and soccer, Rick carved out a series of garden rooms: an Asian-inspired meditation corner with red Japanese maples; a perennial garden incorporating anemones planted by the house’s first owner; and raised beds filled with organic herbs and vegetables. A couple of years ago, he brought in landscape architect Dan Reeder to create a riverbed water feature, complete with waterlilies and koi.

Now one year out from their latest—and they swear last!—renovation, Rick and Cathy couldn’t be happier with the results. And although they didn’t buy their home with grandkids in mind, Cathy looks forward to the day she’ll be rocking babies on her side porch once again. Only this time, along with double-paned windows to usher in the breeze, there’ll be radiant heat underfoot. ■

LEFT: The master bedroom, an earlier addition, repeats the steep roofline of the original second-floor bedrooms. A Palladian window with a fan detail keeps it bright. **RIGHT:** Containers hold organic herbs, including chamomile for tea and a mix of greens, tomatoes, and edible flowers. The reclaimed-cypress shed stores garden tools. *Pervious pavers: Belgard*

is a warm-up period, but the savings are huge, so it’s worth it,” says Rick, adding that in the winter, when the hydronic radiant heat is on, the wait time is less. The couple also went through three frustrating trial runs with low-flow showerheads, going round for round against shampoo suds until they found a Kohler model that aerates the stream, offering enough pressure.

In other cases, Cathy and Rick found themselves weighing sustainable alternatives against preserving the house’s architectural integrity. Though the dining room fireplace was converted to gas, Rick says a more efficient enclosure was out of the question, aesthetically—as was giving up the sounds and smells of a real wood fire in their family room. “We can’t forget that we’re human beings, too,” he adds. “Everything’s a trade-off.”

That preservation spirit extended outdoors as well. To turn the screened-in side porch into a sunroom, they had to remove the original wood-decked structure and put in a new foundation. But excavators might have damaged a 20-year-old Japanese white pine that offered shade to the roof in the warmer months, so the foundation was dug by hand.

Losing a tree or two during a renovation isn’t unheard of, but for Rick, who refers to his garden as his “therapist,” it was out of the question. The Fedrizzis’ third-of-an-acre suburban lot is dotted with more than 15 species of trees, about 60 specimens in all, which arrived one at a time over the years, in the back of



SHARE YOUR REMODEL



Enter your whole-house redo for a chance to win our America’s Best Remodel contest and appear in our October issue. Scan this page with the Blippar app or go to thisoldhouse.com/yourTOH

RIGHT: A pergola shelters the dining area on the backyard deck, which is built from FSC-certified Brazilian garapa. The structure's corrugated-steel roof offers welcome shade in summer. Candle chandelier: Crate & Barrel



LEFT: A small patio with Adirondack chairs overlooks the riverbed water feature, which is lined with stone trucked in from the nearby Salmon River.

THE INCREDIBLE EDIBLE LANDSCAPE

How a designer blends fruits, vegetables, and flowers to whip up a garden that's both beautiful and bountiful

BY TOVAH MARTIN + PHOTOGRAPHS BY JOHN GRUEN

A

LOCATE THE
PHOTOS ON
THE GARDEN
PLAN, PAGE 76.



OPPOSITE: The right angles and straight lines of the kitchen garden set a formal tone; rugged stone edging and metal trellises relax it a bit (A). THIS PAGE: The front deck, which looks out toward a mountain, is flanked by overflowing beds that mix colorful perennials and annuals, including hydrangea, baneberry, sedum, ornamental cabbage, and allium (B).



STYLING: TOVAH MARTIN

B

Tucking a vegetable patch planted with tidy rows in the backyard puts tomatoes on the table, but an edible landscape—a combination of flowers, herbs, fruits, and veggies mixed together in beds and borders—can be downright pretty, turning production into an artistic expression.

But pretty also has to be functional. Edible landscaping needs to reflect a larger set of priorities than the purely ornamental, as veteran garden designer Jenny Lee Hughes knows well. Strong bones, including well-defined paths and stone walls, fencing, and hedges that enclose individual spaces, are critically important in an edible garden to balance the sometimes chaotic mix of plants, with their different textures, sizes, and shapes. Elements like birdbaths, fountains, and containers yield focal points in the typically billowing mass of greenery. Arbors and trellises not only provide height and vertical surfaces for vining plants but also keep the garden visually interesting when the beds are filled with young seedlings or sit empty following a harvest. And purposeful structures placed close at hand, such as a potting shed or greenhouse for seed starting, as well as all the essential systems for watering and composting, also top the list of edible-landscape must-haves.

Hughes started putting these indispensables to work five years ago when



THE PLAN

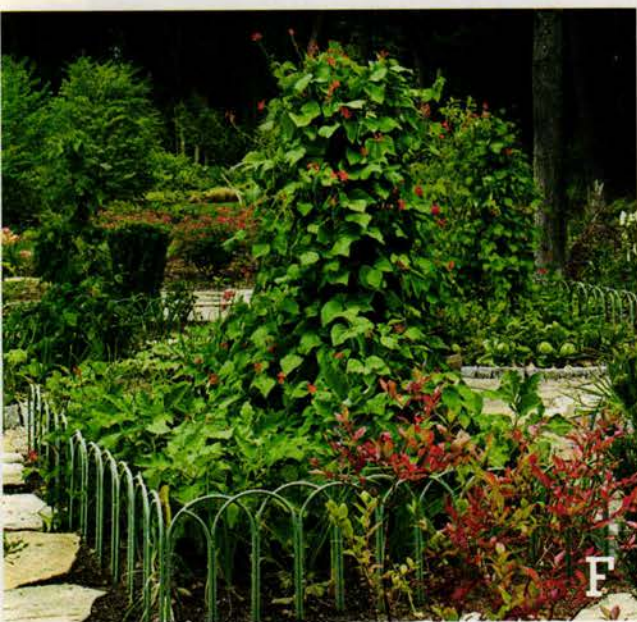
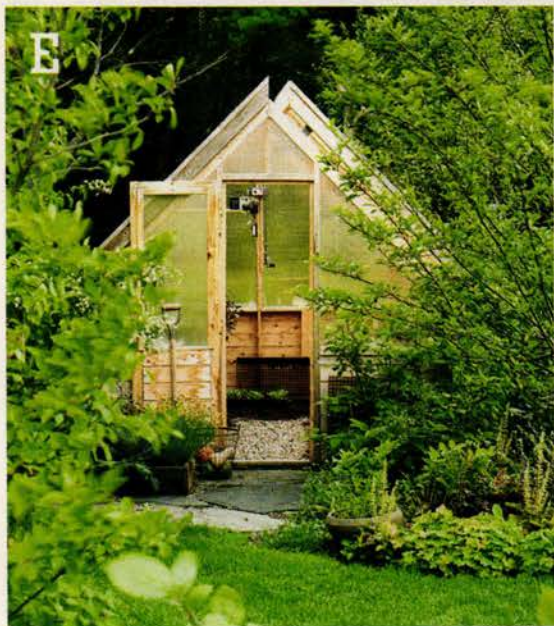
Garden designer Jenny Lee Hughes first broadened the sloping meadow in front of the house by clearing trees and adding a gravel terrace. The following year, she began the edible theme, adding the formal kitchen gardens, fruit-tree orchard, and contrasting woodland garden beds.



creating this series of garden rooms surrounding the New Hampshire home of Rebecca Henderson. Utilizing the same design principles she would employ if planting a strictly ornamental garden, Hughes cooked up a jam-packed but easy-to-navigate landscape. Flowing out from the house are grids of symmetrically laid beds, a fruit-tree orchard, and deep borders filled with a vigorous array of herbs, flowers (many of them edible), and flowering and fruiting shrubs, such as high-bush blueberries, interplanted with vegetables and other fruits. Within easy reach is an 8-by-12-foot greenhouse with solar-powered ventilation, which produces a nearly continuous supply of seedlings during the growing season.

When you have a starting point as enviable as Rebecca's stunning views of Mount Monadnock, you make the most of it. Hughes began by clearing new-growth pines that blocked the vista and added a small but elegant semicircular terrace looking toward the mountain. Finished with pea gravel underfoot, it's ringed with a clipped boxwood hedge. A sphere-shaped fountain placed at the center gives the scene music and a place for honeybees to

OPPOSITE: Homeowner Rebecca Henderson (left) teamed up with designer Jenny Lee Hughes to build a landscape that's equal parts European formality and English-cottage exuberance. **ABOVE:** The fruit orchard, planted with 48 trees, includes peaches, apricots, plums, and cherries (C). **LEFT:** The home's front steps lead to a semicircular terrace paved with pea gravel and ringed with boxwoods (D).



TOP LEFT: A simple greenhouse extends the short gardening season in this Zone 5b growing zone. Sowing seeds every few weeks keeps the harvest coming; even in winter the homeowner can grow turnips and kale within its walls (E). **ABOVE:** In what Rebecca calls her “Beatrix Potter” garden, near the back of the property, she grows lettuces, flowers, and scarlet runner beans that scramble up sturdy wood teepees that look good in all seasons (F). **TOP CENTER:** In the formal vegetable garden, masses of curly ‘Winterbor’ kale, rhubarb, and Swiss chard surround weeping ‘Red Jade’ crabapple trees (G). **OPPOSITE, TOP and BOTTOM:** Eggplant, purple-edged leaf lettuce, and ‘Red Gem’ marigolds form just one of the potager’s colorful combinations. To add verticality, Hughes straddled the potager’s carrot and lettuce beds with tall metal arbors, covered in red-flowering cardinal vine to soften the hard metal without shading the garden (A).

drink. Looking back toward the house, Hughes edged 4-foot-deep beds flanking the deck stairs with granite cobblestones and filled them with perennials, like coneflowers, sedums, daylilies, and Russian sage, and sprinkled in herbs, such as agastaches and salvias.

Just outside the side door, the star is the potager—a fancy term for a formal kitchen garden—made up of rectangular raised beds edged with Belgian block and gravel pathways that reduce maintenance while also echoing the gravel in the front perennial garden. The beds are packed with lettuce, beets, chard, kale, tomatoes, eggplant, artichokes, cardoons, leeks, herbs, and ornamentals from A (angelica) to Z (zinnia). A long border runs along the far side, with arched metal trellises supporting tomatoes underplanted with eggplants and, for added color, ‘Red Gem’ marigolds and calendulas.

Working with Rebecca’s desire to have even more grounds for growing, Hughes added the large formal vegetable garden adjacent to the new orchard. Dwarf crabapple hedges satisfy early flying pollinators in spring and feed hungry birds in autumn. As the centerpiece of each bed, a crabapple tree set in crushed gravel is bordered by more Belgian block, with large swaths of kale around the edges.

The following spring, she added the “Beatrix Potter” garden, as it’s come to be called. Against so many right angles and straight lines, this rustic addition is a visual treat. Set near the encroaching forest, its fieldstone paths, weathered-metal scalloped hoop edging, and primitive fence made of posts from nearby locust trees put a whimsical spin on the otherwise tailored landscape.

The result of all this careful planning is a garden that pumps out produce while looking good throughout the year. “In May, I think it couldn’t be more beautiful,” says Rebecca. “And then June comes, and I think it’s the loveliest ever. And then comes July, August, September, and October, and it’s gorgeous. Plus it’s a usable garden. That’s such a pleasure!” ■



GET GROWING

Garden designer Jenny Lee Hughes offers ideas for incorporating edibles in your landscape

Enrich your soil. Most vegetables grow best in rich, organic, well-drained, fluffy soil with a pH between 6.0 and 7.0. Amend beds with copious amounts of compost at the start of every growing season.

Start small. Try mixing herbs into sunny, established beds and borders. Rosemary, sage, thyme, winter savory, basil, and oregano all blend in well with flowering perennials. Just 2 to 3 feet is enough width for a border full of edibles.

Adapt to your site. Lacking a full 8 hours of sun? Plant vegetables that can tolerate some shade, such as beets, cabbage, cauliflower, leaf lettuce, spinach, turnips, radishes, and beans.

Add fruiting shrubs. Blueberry, currant, and elderberry shrubs are attractive in their own right, putting out pretty flowers in spring and, especially in the case of blueberries, a colorful fall show.

Consider looks as well as taste. Alternate purple cabbage with snowy-white cauliflower, and use curly parsley or lettuce as an edging plant in an ornamental bed. Tuck colorful 'Bright Lights' Swiss chard, radicchio, Osaka purple mustard greens, or Tuscan kale between perennials. Plant scarlet runner beans on arbors, trellises, or along fences.

Choose plants that produce over a long period. Eggplants, chili peppers, chard, and kale yield a large harvest for the amount of space they take up. Experiment with planting them in clusters rather than rows for a more decorative effect.

Try a few of her favorite combinations: Cucumbers on a trellis with coral gladiolus; yellow zucchini with red zinnias and purple basil; carrots and dwarf nasturtiums; artichokes with dahlias.

THERE'S MORE!

Find 10 additional photos from this idea-packed garden at thisoldhouse.com/jun2015

<ALL ABOUT> Hardwood Decking

Ipe is the gold standard, but plenty of other species stack up quite nicely on looks and longevity, often at a lower price BY TOM O'BRIEN

THERE'S A REASON they build boardwalks out of tropical hardwood: It's dense and hard enough to shrug off the insults of skateboards, high heels, hail, and just about anything else you or Ma Nature can muster. Ipe (pronounced *EE-pay*), the most durable and best known of the Brazilian hardwoods, is three and a half times as hard as teak. Its natural oils deter pests, rot, and decay so well that you could pound a stake of it into the dirt, come back 25 years later, and expect to find it intact. Above ground, ipe can last up to a century—longer than it takes to grow in the first place—making it one of the greenest choices available (assuming it's sustainably harvested). Incredibly, this wood has the same fire rating as steel and concrete.

Add in its rich brown luster, and ipe is the ideal material for decking. Such performance comes at a price, of course, but anyone who decides to make the investment in hardwood decking has other choices, too. Lesser-known tropical species such as cumaru, garapa, cambara, massaranduba, and tigerwood are nearly as amazing. A relatively new candidate for a deck that's as durable as it is attractive comes from Thermory, which takes domestically harvested white ash—the stuff of baseball bats—and heat-treats it in such a way that it's rendered rot resistant and extremely stable.

Whichever grain you go with, here's everything you need to know to make sure you don't go wrong.

RICH WOOD Deck boards made of ipe, sometimes called Brazilian walnut for its handsome hue, provide a stunning backdrop for this outdoor furniture.





VITALS

WHAT'S IT COST?

Ipe decking starts at \$2.29 per linear foot for 1x4s from online retailers. Alternatives range from \$1.55 to \$4.30. Add about 25 percent for $\frac{5}{4}$ decking, which is thicker.

WHAT'S THE WARRANTY?

Some companies offer warranties of three to 25 years on certain woods, excluding insect damage and minor issues, such as stains, scratches, or checks (the shallow cracks on the wood surface). Your best guarantee? Buy from a reputable supplier.



KILN- OR AIR-DRIED? All hardwood decking except ipe must be kiln-dried to minimize shrinkage and warping after installation.

WHERE TO BUY IT?

Many full-service lumberyards stock ipe as 1x4s, 1x6s, $\frac{5}{4}$ x4s and/or $\frac{5}{4}$ x6s and also as posts and rails. Finding other species in stock is hit or miss, but they can be special-ordered. Online suppliers can also ship right to your door in one to two weeks.



IS HARDWOOD RIGHT FOR YOU?

It's an investment. Be sure the benefits justify the cost

PROS

- > **Luxury look** Put it this way: Premium composite decking is out to mimic the rich appearance of these beautiful boards.
- > **Tough** All these decking boards are hard enough to stand up to hail, claws, and heels.
- > **Durable** They're immune to insects and rot, even if they come in contact with the ground.
- > **Stable** These hardwoods don't shrink as much as pressure-treated softwoods or expand and contract with temperature fluctuations like plastics and composites do.
- > **Fire resistant** If a hardwood deck does catch fire, it won't billow toxic smoke like one made of composite boards or pressure-treated lumber will.

CONS

- > **Pricey** The least-expensive hardwood decking is at least twice the price of pressure-treated pine.
- > **No grading standards** It's up to you to suss out the quality of your supplier's inventory. Look for boards that are clear (free of defects) on one face and two edges.
- > **Stubborn** Ipe and its rock-hard ilk resist drill bits and saw blades, which slows down installation.
- > **Hot** The denser and darker the wood, the hotter it gets in the sun—a liability for bare feet.
- > **Regular maintenance** Unless you want your deck to turn gray, you need to oil it to preserve the color.

Keep the forest green

The only way to be sure that your hardwood decking is not contributing to deforestation is to look for the logo of the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC), which certifies that the wood comes from a sustainably managed forest. Though FSC certification can add 25 to 50 percent to the cost of decking, the standards limit the size of clear-cuts, protect waterways by retaining trees along their shores, protect water quality, prohibit the use of highly hazardous chemicals, and protect rare species.

Pick a species

7 boards that will outlast your mortgage—if not the house itself

1] IPE

PRICE: \$2.55 per lin. ft.*
DENSITY: 69 lbs. per cu. ft.
CHARACTER: A dense wood with a brown or olive cast.
WORKABILITY: Difficult. Slows down even carbide-tipped blades.

2] CUMARU

PRICE: \$1.92 per lin. ft.
DENSITY: 68 lbs. per cu. ft.
CHARACTER: More red than brown, with a grain like teak.
WORKABILITY: See ipe.

3] MASSARANDUBA

PRICE: \$2.21 per lin. ft.
WEIGHT: 67 lbs. per cu. ft.
HIGHLIGHT: Reddish brown, with a straight, subtle grain.
Prone to checking.
WORKABILITY: More difficult to cut than ipe.

4] TIGERWOOD

PRICE: \$1.75 per lin. ft.
DENSITY: 58 lbs. per cu. ft.
CHARACTER: Orange with intermittent dark streaks.
WORKABILITY: Moderate. Carbide-tipped bits and blades not mandatory.

5] GARAPA

PRICE: \$1.77 per lin. ft.
DENSITY: 51 lbs. per cu. ft.
CHARACTER: Honey color goes gray very quickly.
WORKABILITY: Easy. Saw blades cut in one pass.

6] CAMBARA

PRICE: \$1.73 per lin. ft.
DENSITY: 37 lbs. per cu. ft.
CHARACTER: Mahogany-like, with a contrasting grain.
WORKABILITY: Like butta!

7] HEAT-TREATED WHITE ASH

PRICE: \$3.59 per lin. ft.
DENSITY: 37 lbs. per cu. ft.
CHARACTER: Coffee-brown, with a pronounced grain.
WORKABILITY: Easy as pine.

* All prices are approximate for non-grooved, non-FSC-certified 1x4 decking boards. Shipping not included.



INSTALLATION STRATEGIES

Wood is wood, naturally, but there are things to consider when building a deck with the hard stuff

FRAMING It's fine to build the structure from pressure-treated lumber, given that it'll be protected from UV rays by the decking. Just be sure to flash properly where it meets the house—don't let aluminum come into contact with treated wood—and use PT-rated fasteners. And if the decking outlives the structure, well, your grandchildren will need to pull up the boards and reframe it.

VENTILATION Invincibility aside, any deck needs adequate space underneath it for air to circulate. Otherwise, moisture from the ground builds up and causes the boards to cup and swell. If the joists can't be at least a foot off the ground, use $\frac{5}{4} \times 4$ boards for their stability over thinner, wider stock.

SPACING Though far more stable than pressure-treated woods or composites, kiln-dried hardwoods do expand and contract slightly



across their width. Follow supplier recommendations to set the gaps.

DRILLING AND CUTTING

The sawdust may not contain the heavy metals found in pressure-treated boards, but with some of these species it will irritate skin and respiratory passages. Best to wear an N100 respirator and protect your skin when the dust flies.

SEALING After cutting a board to length, seal the end grain with a water-based wax sealant, such as Anchorseal, to prevent checking and splits near the ends.

Custom-milled profiles

How to improve on an already great product



> **Thermory JEM Joints** Interlocking ends butt together between joists, saving the time and material you'd waste by cutting each board back to the nearest support. thermoryusa.com



> **Iron Woods Vanish Decking** A shiplap profile truly hides clips and grooves while leaving space for the boards to breathe. ironwoods.com



> **Grooved edges** Most suppliers offer decking with a groove cut into the edges to accept hidden fastener clips, sometimes at no upcharge.

Critical connections

However you choose to attach hardwood decking, you'll need plenty of elbow grease and stainless-steel fasteners. Here are our picks for each method



FACE SCREWS

SplitStop Exotic Brown stainless-steel screw. The serrated head countersinks into all but ipe and is painted to hide the shine. Simple to install, low cost, and easy to back out when replacing a board. \$7.67; splitstop.com



SCREWS AND PLUGS

Starborn Smart-Bit Pro Plug System. The bit bores a stepped hole: one for the screw and one to accept a glued wood plug of the same species. Attractive finish; slow, multistep install. \$9.10; starbornindustries.com



HIDDEN FASTENERS

DeckWise Ipe Clip. It slips into a grooved edge and guides angled pilot holes and screws through the groove and into the joist on one side only. Doubles as a spacer. \$9.49; ipeclip.com



EDGE SCREWS

Camo trim-head deck screw. The jig directs screws at a consistent angle through both edges of the board and into the joist. Buries the screwheads out of sight. Fast install, clean look. \$4.60; camofasteners.com



FACE NAILS

2½-inch stainless-steel nails plus DAP Smartbond. A finishing nailer set at 100 psi shoots nails through 1× boards set in polyurethane adhesive. "Quick and easy," says TOH general contractor Tom Silva. \$2.52; senco.com

Pricing for fasteners, plugs, and clips calculated per 16 linear feet of decking on joists spaced 16 inches on-center; decksdirect.com



Choosing posts and rails

Styles to complement your gorgeous new deck

1 > COMPOSITE If you like a clean look, this option offers its own imperviousness and contrasts crisply with dark tropical decking. It also cleans up just as easily, with a blast from the garden hose. azek.com

2 > CABLE RAIL Install posts and handrails milled from hardwood or fabricated from steel, and thread horizontal cables through them in place of vertical balusters (check local building codes for spacing). feeneyinc.com

3 > METAL BALUSTERS For an appropriately enduring material to go with hardwood, powder-coated aluminum and galvanized steel are strong and attractive and need only an occasional washing. homedepot.com

4 > MATCHING WOOD Many decking suppliers also furnish posts, rails (top and bottom), and balusters milled from the same species as the decking. Keep it a rich wood tone or paint it for contrast, like the Chippendale railing here. ironwoods.com

MAINTENANCE

KEEP THE GRAY AT BAY

As beautiful as hardwoods are, ultraviolet light soon fades their vibrant color. To preserve it, you'll need to apply a high-quality UV-inhibiting penetrating oil specifically formulated for this dense material. The short list of oils to consider includes those by Penofin, Olympic, Messmer's, Duckback, DeckWise, Cabot, and Thompson's WaterSeal.

Hardwoods don't easily absorb stains or oils, so treat your deck like a giant piece of furniture. Starting with a clean, dry surface, brush on the finish and wipe off the excess with a clean rag. Reapply it once a year or whenever the gray starts to return. And if you neglect your deck and it goes gray, don't fret: Even after many years in the sun, the natural look can be restored by cleaning with oxygen bleach and then oiling.



NO PRESSURE

To clean a deck without damaging the wood, you need only three things: a pump sprayer to apply a wood cleaner that contains oxygen bleach, a soft-bristled brush, and a garden hose. That's the way *TOH* general contractor Tom Silva prefers to do it (watch him in action in the video at thisoldhouse.com/jun2015).

If you must use a pressure-washer, here's how to minimize the risk of damage.

> **SET** the pressure no higher than 3,000 psi.

> **USE** only a fan-tip nozzle (15° or wider).

> **HOLD** the tip at least 12 to 16 inches from the surface—no closer!—and keep it moving.

Quick Fixes

Even the hardest decking boards need regular care to look their best.



DEBRIS > Don't allow leaves, dog hair, and detritus to accumulate between the boards and promote rot.

At least once a year, clear off the deck and give it a good sweeping and a light scrubbing with soap and water.



MILDEW AND ALGAE > These can grow on any surface but are easily kept in check with regular cleaning, using

oxygen bleach and a soft-bristled brush. Rinse with a garden hose and water.



SCRATCHES > Erase them with a palm sander and 80-grit paper, then apply a penetrating oil.

Design your deck

It doesn't have to consist of uniform strips laid parallel to the house. Here are four creative ways to make beautiful hardwood stand out

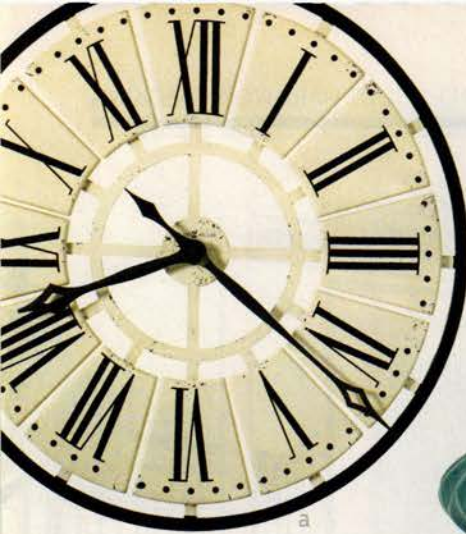
1> PATTERN Angling the boards in a chevron pattern, as on this tigerwood deck, moves the eye toward the view. Hardwoods are suited to making diagonal patterns because of their stiffness; joists can be spaced 16 inches on-center, instead of 12 inches, as they must be when using pressure-treated wood. Shown: $\frac{3}{4}$ ×6 grooved tigerwood decking, \$2.99 per linear foot; advantagelumber.com

2> MULTIPLE LEVELS Steps set on a diagonal play off the pattern in the upper deck while offering casual seating. This decking is thermally modified white ash, a walnut-colored wood with a pronounced grain. It's used here in combination with light-colored western red cedar, providing a striking dark accent on the privacy screen, pergola, and stair risers. Shown: 1×6 grooved, thermally modified white ash, \$6.48 per linear foot; thermoryusa.com for dealers

3> CONTRASTING BORDER The builder of this deck used light-colored garapa to define the edge of a dark field of ipe. Maintaining that color difference requires regular applications of a UV-absorbing finish, though this border treatment will still be evident if all the wood goes gray. Shown: 1×6 grooved ipe, \$3.83 per linear foot, and 1×6 grooved garapa, \$2.09 per linear foot; advantagelumber.com

4> MIXED-WIDTH BOARDS Using different widths is an easy way to create a refined architectural look. In this case, a pair of narrow boards is alternated with a wider one in a repeating pattern. Shown: 1×4 grooved ipe, \$2.29 per linear foot, and 1×6 grooved ipe, \$3.43 per linear foot; advantagelumber.com ■





b



c



d

Charming Finds for your All-American Home

Shop our editors' picks at Wayfair.com/ShopThisOldHouse



h



e



f



i



j



k

a. Wall Clock **Howard Miller** b. Grove Hill Coffee Table **angelo:HOME** c. Vase Set **Woodland Imports** d. Desk Phone **Crosley** e. Twin Sleeper Sofa **Simmons Upholstery** f. Gear Sculpture **Woodland Imports** g. Woven Area Rug **Dash and Albert Rugs** h. 28" H Table Lamp **Lamp Works** i. Metal Wood Cart **Woodland Imports** j. Wagon Wheel Mirror **Barneveld** k. Bryn Chair **Sam Moore**

wayfair.com
a zillion things home

Ask

THIS OLD HOUSE

55
tips, tricks, and
answers to
your home-
improvement
questions

INSIDE

MAKE COMPOST / MATCH MORTAR / SAVE WISTERIA
/ REMOVE SAP / FINISH A TABLE / MORE

Q Can I propagate the hydrangeas at my mother's house so that I can grow them around mine? —PAT KNAUER, HERNDON, VA.

A You sure can. In midsummer, take several 6-inch cuttings of new stems. Remove the soft green tips, the flowers, and the bottom two pairs of leaves from each cutting; snip the remaining leaves in half. Now trim the lower end, quickly dip it in rooting hormone, and stick it in a moist mix of perlite and peat moss. Keep your cuttings warm and moist—a video at thisoldhouse.com/jun2015 shows how—and they'll be ready to plant in about four weeks.

—ROGER COOK, TOH LANDSCAPE CONTRACTOR

STYLING: DAVID YARRITT FOR PAT KNAUER

PHOTOGRAPH
BY BURCU AVSAR

*Our cast
of veteran
experts*



TOM SILVA
General Contractor



NORM ABRAM
Master Carpenter



RICHARD TRETHEWEY
Plumbing and Heating
Expert



ROGER COOK
Landscape Contractor



KEVIN O'CONNOR
Host

I'd like to learn how to make compost and how to use it in the landscape around my new house. What do I need to get started?

—KIM EDWARDS, CROFTON, KY.



Roger Cook wheels a barrowful of compost to a garden bed, where it should improve the soil's fertility, porosity, and its ability to retain moisture.

ROGER COOK REPLIES: The real work of making compost is done by bacteria and fungi. All you need to do is create an environment in which they can thrive. When they do, they'll efficiently turn garden waste and kitchen scraps into rich black, crumbly soil.

To thrive, these microbes need the right amounts of oxygen, moisture, and warmth. They also need the right balance of carbon-rich ingredients, such as leaves, and nitrogen-rich items, like grass clippings and coffee grounds.

These ingredients go into a container at least 3 feet wide and tall. That's enough volume to insulate the pile's core from extreme cold and dryness. The container should have openings on the sides to aerate the pile and an opening near the base for harvesting the finished product. And if you're tossing in kitchen scraps—coffee grounds and vegetables are okay, but definitely no meat, dairy, or cooked rice—you'll need a lid to keep critters out.

You can get compost without a lot of work just by mixing the carbon- and nitrogen-rich items and letting nature take its course. The ideal carbon-to-nitrogen ratio is about 30 to 1. Florida's Online Composting Center (sarasota.ifas.ufl.edu) explains how to make that calculation. Or, for simplicity, add two bags of grass clippings for each bag of leaves. Such a pile will probably stay fairly

cool, and it could take up to a year before any compost is produced.

Or you can take a more activist approach and turn the pile over every week or so to mix the layers, adding more dry material if it turns soggy or more water if it's too dry. That way, you could be harvesting usable compost in as little as two months. This hands-on method keeps the microbes well supplied with oxygen, allowing them to generate enough heat to kill weed seeds and other pathogens. That's why I prefer using compost that's gone through this natural heat treatment, though I don't use it until it's cool, when the decay process is done.

Compost is the perfect elixir for all plants. Adding 1 inch of it to your garden beds before you mulch is a sure way to give flowers, shrubs, trees, and vegetables a boost. And raking ½ inch into your aerated lawn in the fall is the best way I know to give a lawn a good start next spring.

Q Slate roof upkeep

We're thinking about buying a house with a slate roof that was installed in 1999. What sort of annual maintenance does this kind of roof require?

—VENKI P., VIA E-MAIL

TOM SILVA REPLIES: A slate roof won't need much, if any, maintenance for its first 60 years or so, assuming that the contractor who installed it used top-quality materials and workmanship.

A roof with Grade-S1 slates (the most durable) held in place with copper or stainless-steel nails and flashed with 20-ounce copper can easily last 100 years or more. These details are all spelled out in the installation guidelines of the Slate Roofing



What is it?

A

Basic T folding rule

B

Multipoint scribing tool

C

Plant spacer

D

Collapsible paint-drying rack

FOR THE ANSWER, SEE PAGE 90



Re-creating the distinctive mortar (INSET) on an old brick house probably requires a custom mix, but the basic ingredients can often be found at a home center.



Contractors Association (slateroofers.org). The association's online member directory is a good place to look for an experienced slate contractor who can inspect your roof to determine whether it meets the guidelines.

Slate's biggest vulnerability is its brittleness. The shingles can break if hit by a tree limb, if someone walks on them, or if icy snow slides down a roof. To prevent such slides, snow guards should be installed at the eaves. The guards hold back the entire blanket of snow on a roof, from eaves to peak, keeping the snow in place until it safely melts away.

Q Matching old mortar

The original mortar on our 1931 brick Colonial needs repointing, but the mortar mix at the home center doesn't look anything like the existing material. Is there a way to match it?

—ERIC BOBINSKY, BEREA, OHIO

KEVIN O'CONNOR REPLIES: To answer your question, I contacted John Speweik, of Speweik Preservation Consultants, which replicates mortars for restoration projects. Here's what he had to say.

"You're not going to find a bagged mortar in any home-center aisle

that matches what's on your house. But for about \$400 you can have a company like US Heritage Group (usheritage.com) or Limeworks (limeworks.us) create a custom mortar mix that precisely matches yours in color, sand size, and chemical makeup. Or you can make your own mix that's close enough for less than \$30.

"If that last option sounds good, crush some of the old mortar into powder and soak it in vinegar to dissolve the cement and lime. Spread the remaining sand to dry. To re-create this sample's variety of large and small sand grains, which is what gives your mortar its special character, buy a bag of all-purpose sand (not play sand) and Quikrete Tubesand. Sift the Tubesand through ⅛-inch hardware cloth to recover the larger grains, then mix them into the all-purpose sand at a ratio of 1 to 4. Tweak the mix if necessary until it looks like the sand from the old mortar.

"Moisten the sand until it's the consistency of brown sugar, and use a mason's hoe to blend 1 part portland cement with 2 parts hydrated lime and 8 parts of your custom sand mix. This mortar recipe was widely used across the U.S. from 1915 to 1932. However, it should *not* be used on houses built before 1895.

"For instruction on how to repoint,

What is it?



© Plant spacer

The Perfect Planter's pivoting 12-inch arms accurately establish the layout of the plantings in a garden. Flags pinpoint the hole locations. \$40; redhedtools.com

a good source is 'Preservation Briefs 2: Re-pointing Mortar Joints in Historic Masonry Buildings,' published by the National Park Service (nps.gov). [To see the technique in action, go to thisoldhouse.com/jun2015.]

"Your new patch won't start off looking like old, weathered mortar. You can bring more aggregate to the surface by pounding the ends of a dry, stiff-bristled brush against just-set mortar. But it will take time and exposure to the elements for the difference in color to disappear."

Q Replace the pergola without losing the vine

Our big old wisteria is supported by a wood pergola that's rotting away. How can we replace the structure without losing this wonderful specimen?

—JENNIFER LARSEN, SACRAMENTO, CALIF.

ROGER COOK REPLIES: I can think of three different ways to approach this. If only a few pieces of the pergola need replacing, you can brace up the good parts and selectively remove the ones that are rotten. I recommend that you do so after your wisteria blooms, in case you have to trim any of it back to do this work.

If the whole pergola has to come down all at once, you can try to tie back the wisteria and provide some temporary support while the new pergola is being constructed. Then, when the new pergola is complete, just lower the vine back down. That will be a lot of work. The third option—aggressively pruning the wisteria back to get it out of the way—would be the easier way to go and would give you more freedom in the rebuilding process.

If you decide to go the last route, don't worry about whether you'll stunt or kill the

10 CIGARS + HUMIDOR



\$160
VALUE

Ultimate Humidor Combo #451

If you're on the prowl for the ultimate cigar deal, look no further. Ten premium handmade cigars from Rocky Patel, Gurkha, Carlos Torano, and many more. That's worth the price of admission alone. But I'm also including a gorgeous desktop humidor. The whole package is worth \$160, but it's yours for just \$19⁹⁹. I'm losing on this one, because I'm confident that after you experience the quality, freshness, and value we deliver, you'll become a customer for life.

Includes 1 each of: Rocky Patel • Torano • Amati • Gurkha • Ramón Bueso • Bahia 5 Vegas • Mark Twain • Argonese • La Perla • 40-Capacity Desktop Humidor

*Offer expires 7-31-15. Plus \$5.99 s/h. PA residents add 6% tax—taxes on orders shipped outside of PA are the responsibility of the purchaser. Offer available to first-time purchasers. One per customer. From time to time substitutions may occur. Cigars International only sells products to adults who meet legal age requirements to purchase tobacco products. For more information please see www.cigarsinternational.com/ageverify.

ONLY \$19⁹⁹*

1-888-244-2790

mention code SA1550

www.CigarsIntl.com/SA1550

You must enter complete web address for special offer



plant. Wisterias are vigorous growers, and it won't take long for it to reestablish its canopy on your new pergola. With some fertilizer and extra watering, you should see a full recovery in about three years.

Bleeding knots

Two years ago, we were told to let our new deck weather for a year before staining it. But last year, the knots in the deck boards began oozing sap, and I spent the summer scraping and wiping off sticky goo. Is there any way to avoid that chore this year? I don't want to stain the deck if the sap is going to come back.

—CHRIS ROHDE, WAUKESHA, WIS.

KEVIN O'CONNOR REPLIES: Mark Knaebe, a technologist at the USDA's Forest Products

Laboratory, tells me you have two ways to stop the sap from bleeding out of your boards. Either replace the problem boards with decking that's been kiln-dried to about 160° or bake your existing boards in place under a layer of black plastic. Heat vaporizes terpenes, the solvents in sap that allow it to flow. Without them, the sap resin crystallizes and the oozing stops.

If you'd rather have the sun do the work, spread the plastic on a still, sunny day, and at day's end, pull it back and scrape off the sap. Repeat a few times. Knaebe says, "As long as you can get the wood hotter than it will ever be again, the sap should remain locked in the wood." You can also spot-treat problem knots using a heat gun, but do so very carefully to avoid burning the wood.

Either way, once the sap has set, use a putty knife to scrape off the crusty residue left on the surface. Then wipe the wood

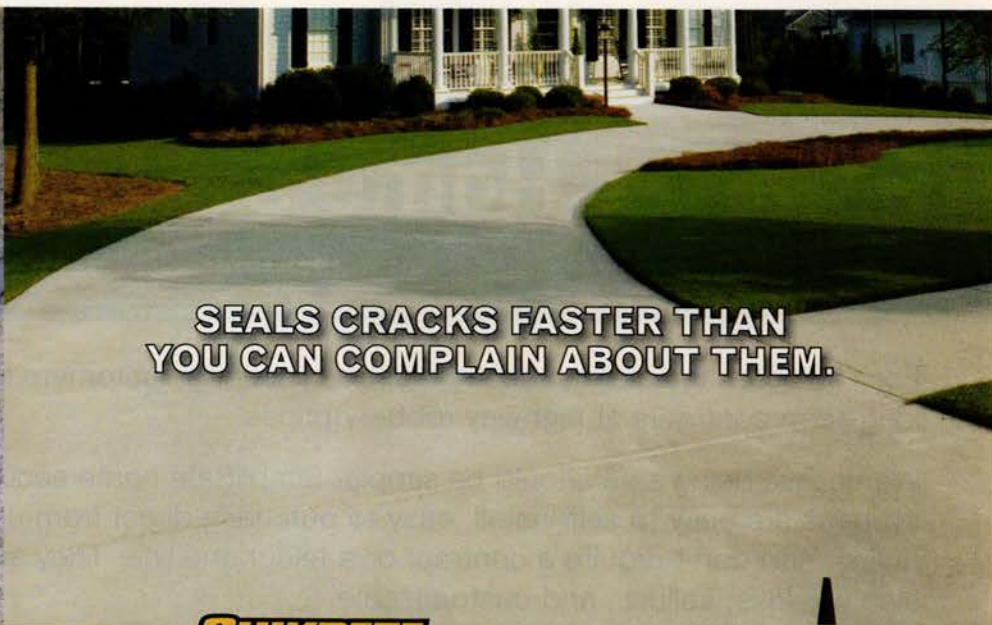
quickly with a rag dampened with mineral spirits. *Dampened* is the key word; if you allow the solvent to soak into the wood, it could reactivate the sap.

One more thing: Your deck has been sitting in the sun unprotected for two summers. So before you stain it, clean it with sodium percarbonate (commonly called oxygen bleach) and a soft scrub brush—no pressure-washer, please. A thorough cleaning removes the dirt, mildew, and sun-damaged wood fibers and ensures that the finish you choose will adhere properly.

GOT TIPS?



If you have a clever solution that would impress the show guys, share it with us for a chance to appear in October's reader-created issue. To post ideas, scan this page with the Blippar app or go to thisoldhouse.com/yourTOH



**SEALS CRACKS FASTER THAN
YOU CAN COMPLAIN ABOUT THEM.**

QUIKRETE

CEMENT & CONCRETE PRODUCTS™

WHAT AMERICA'S MADE OF!™



Concrete crack repair is fast and easy with Quikrete. Just go to our website where you'll find how-to videos, project instructions and shopping lists for over 25 repair and construction projects. You'll also get easy instructions as well as a quantity calculator right on our package. When it comes to concrete repair or any other concrete project, Quikrete helps you turn need to do it into easily done.

To see a how-to video on your smartphone, just snap this tag or visit mvideos.quikrete.com/repairingcracks.

Don't have a tag reader? Get one free at get.beetagg.com



Q Finish for tabletops

I have a dining room table that needs to be refinished, but I'm not sure what's the best finish to use. Varnish? Shellac? Tung oil? Polyurethane? I want something durable and food-safe.

—KEN HAZELTON, ADA, OHIO

NORM ABRAM REPLIES:

Varnish is not easy to apply, and shellac is not durable. Tung oil dries slowly and needs many coats. That's why, for the non-pro, I'd recommend an oil-based wipe-on polyurethane. I've used it on a number of projects—including tables—that I built for *The New Yankee Work-*

shop and for my own use. It offers great protection, has the look of a hand-rubbed oil finish, and is easy to apply. It also dries more quickly than brush-on polyurethanes, so there's less chance of dust getting in the finish. You can buy wipe-on polys that are water-based, but they dry clear as glass. I like the way that oil-based formulas add color to the wood.

When I'm using this finish, I make my own applicator: a clean piece of rolled-up cotton cloth held by a metal binder clip. The clip keeps my fingers out of the finish. I simply pour the poly into a paper bowl, dip the cloth into the finish, and spread it on the tabletop.

The key is to lay down the poly in long, continuous strokes, one right after the other, so you always keep a wet edge. Don't wipe on too much at one time. Thin coats level out better and dry faster than thick

ones. Most manufacturers recommend applying three coats, but I usually do more.

After each coat dries for a few hours, scuff it lightly with 220-grit sandpaper and clean up the dust with a cloth moistened with denatured alcohol. When you're done, you should have a flawless finish that's durable and food-safe, once it cures.



Norm's preferred applicator for wipe-on poly: a metal binder clip and a roll of cotton cloth.

Ask THIS OLD HOUSE

Go to: thisoldhouse.com/asktoh

Or write to: Ask This Old House
This Old House magazine
135 West 50th Street
New York, NY 10020

Include a complete address and daytime phone number. Published questions will be edited for clarity and length and may be used in other media. We regret that, because of the volume of mail received, we're unable to reply to unpublished questions.

It's here. Smarter Home Security: 24/7 Protection. Exceptional Savings. No Annual Contracts.

For 100 years the alarm industry has been scaring customers into long-term contracts at highway robbery prices.

We believe being safe should be simple. SimpliSafe home security systems are easy to self-install, easy to purchase direct from us online, and don't require a contract or a telephone line. They are also wireless, cellular, and customizable.



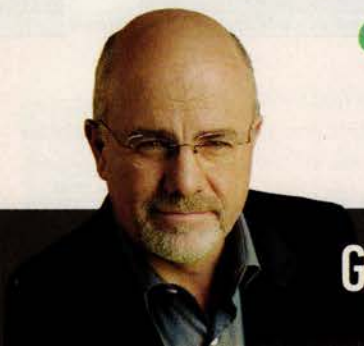
 **SimpliSafe**

“Protecting your family is important, but don't ever sign a contract. Do it the right way with SimpliSafe.”

—Dave Ramsey, financial expert & New York Times bestselling author of “Financial Peace”

Get your 10% off coupon →

 SimpliSafe.com/TOH





NEED HELP?


**TUNE
IN TO**

ask This Old **House** ▶



▶ Join us as we travel the country helping people like you solve everyday home improvement problems.

To watch full episodes, check air times in your area or submit your own home improvement question, visit thisoldhouse.com/watchasktoh

EXCLUSIVELY ON  **PBS**

ASK THIS OLD HOUSE IS SPONSORED BY

GMC
WE ARE PROFESSIONAL GRADE™



 **MITSUBISHI
ELECTRIC**
Changes for the Better

AZEK
Building Products
Designed to last beautifully™



Great stuff

Summer's here, and so are our favorite new tools, materials, and products to help you around the yard and garden. —THE EDITORS



Seating for sundowners

Sconset Chair

This clever update of the classic Adirondack chair, made of top-quality, sustainably harvested teak, features a seat-back support wide enough to stow a bottle and some reading material. A notched armrest securely holds stemware in the event you're not up to the task. Cheers! \$1,295; sconsetchair.com



So long, suckers

Terminix AllClear Mosquito Bait & Kill

When this product is sprayed on leaves, mosquitoes flock to the sugary bait, then die from eating its tiny capsules of garlic oil. Effective against the species carrying West Nile as well as those that spread dengue fever. Safe for humans and other critters, including bees, fish, and amphibians. One can covers 2,500 square feet. \$13; terminix.com

Sleek spigot

Aquor House Hydrant

Taking the place of obtrusive spigot valves, this flush-mounted, freeze-proof fixture opens and shuts when you insert the blue hose fitting (included) and give it a quarter turn. A built-in vacuum breaker eliminates the danger of backflow. \$50; aquorwatersystems.com



No kiln required

ShapeCrete

Add the right amount of water and this high-performance concrete behaves like clay, allowing you to sculpt, bend, mold, carve, or cast it into pots, planters, tiles—almost anything you can imagine. Stays workable for about 45 minutes; turns rock hard in 24 hours. \$25 for 20 pounds; shapecretemix.com



Plug-in power cleaner

Ryobi 2,000-psi pressure-washer

Unlike other electric pressure washers, which are prone to tip over, this one stays upright thanks to its broad stance and low center of gravity. A durable induction motor drives a lightweight, low-maintenance 1.2-gpm pump. Included: three spray tips, a spray wand, and a built-in hose reel. \$199; ryobitools.com

Rapid fire

Bison Airlighter

Forget newspaper and charcoal chimneys. This combination of a butane torch and a cordless blower ignites charcoal in about 10 seconds. Then, with the torch turned off, the blower fans the embers into flames in 2 minutes flat. Includes an LED light for nocturnal use. \$80; thebisoncompany.com





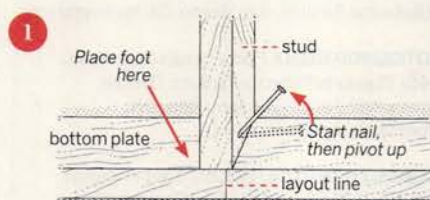
Norm's tricks of the trade

Q Is there an efficient way to toenail studs to the bottom plate? —JEFF DRUMMOND, BIRMINGHAM, ALA.

A Knowing how to toenail with a hammer is a useful skill. Here's the method I use when framing—wearing work boots, of course.

1] Knock the stud $\frac{1}{8}$ inch off the layout line on the plate. Brace the stud with your foot and tap a nail about $\frac{1}{4}$ inch deep straight into the stud's face. Now pull the nail up to about 30° from that face.

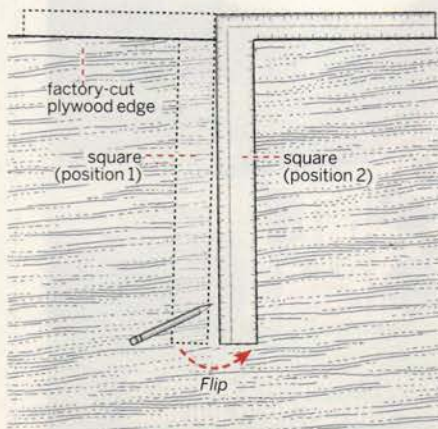
2] Keeping your foot in place, drive the nail into the plate. Your blows will nudge the stud back to its layout line. To prevent twisting, drive a second toenail through the same face, also using your foot as a backstop, then toenail through the center of the stud's other face.



Q How can I tell if my framing square is square?

—JIM WHITE, BAKERSFIELD, CALIF.

A That's easy. Simply rest the square's short leg (called the tongue) on the factory-cut edge of a plywood panel, and mark a line along the long leg (called the blade). Now flip the square over, hook the tongue on the same edge, on the point where the line meets the edge, as shown, and mark another line along the blade from that point. If the lines diverge, replace the square. New or old, it's good to check a framing square frequently because it can easily spring out of square if dropped or banged against something. ■



More saving.
More doing.

PROJECT OF THE WEEK

HOW TO INSTALL A FLOATING ENGINEERED WOOD FLOOR



The quickest way to get new wood underfoot is to install a floating floor. Unlike traditional solid-wood strips, a floating floor isn't nailed down. Instead, the planks are either glued or snapped together to create a floor that "floats"—moves freely—as a unit. The planks go down fast, over virtually any material: concrete, plywood, sheet vinyl, even ceramic tile.

There are several floating-floor materials available, but if you want real wood, the best choice is engineered flooring. This sandwich of wood veneer, glued to layers of pine or plywood, looks like solid wood and is very stable.

You'll find all the tools and supplies necessary for this—and any—home project at The Home Depot nearest you.

For step-by-step instructions, go to thisoldhouse.com/project

Directory

JUNE 2015

COVER: See the listing for "Great Outdoor Getaways."

CHECKLIST (p. 14) Secure patio bricks: **Designer:** Catherine E. Smith, Casa Smith Designs, Saratoga, CA; casasmithdesigns.com.

HOME SOLUTIONS (pp. 17–22) Weatherproofing furniture: **Thanks to** Larry Hagberg; nyblacksmith.com. Yorkville Caning Furniture Repair, New York, NY; yorkvillecaning.com. Pro-approved moving hacks: **Thanks to** Linda Rivera, corporate vice president, quality/customer relations, Hilldrup Moving & Storage; hilldrup.com. Budget redo: **Homeowner's blog:** balancinghome.com.

BEFORE + AFTER KITCHEN: Same layout, new look (pp. 25–28) **Interior designer:** Kelley & Company Home; kellyandcompanyhomedesign.com. **Cabinet refacing:** Jose and Gilberto Barragan, Escondido, CA; 760-532-6737. **Countertop fabrication:** Sunterra Tile & Stone, Vista, CA; sunterratileandstone.com. **Carpenter:** Scott Ornelas, Vista, CA; 760-224-0712. **Marble:** arizonatile.com. **Window treatment:** perfectfitshades.com. **Microwave, wall ovens, and cooktop:** jennair.com. **Dishwasher:** kitchenaid.com. **Dutch oven and utensil crock:** lecreuset.com. **Shelves:** vintagetimber.com. **Faucet:** whitehauscollection.com.

Breadbox: thevintagemanagerie.com. **Thanks to** Susan Morgan; susanmorganinteriors.com. Jenna Burger; jennaburger.com. The American Society of Interior Designers; asid.org.

BEFORE + AFTER BATH: Room to move (pp. 31–33) **Kitchen designer:** The Kitchen Studio of Glen Ellyn, Glen Ellyn, IL; kitchenstudio-ge.com. **Contractor:** Ken Nunkovich, KJN Renovations, Wheaton, IL; kjnrenovations.com. **Paint:** 2154-60 Filtered Sunlight; benjaminmoore.com. **Cabinetry and mirrors:** woodharbor.com. **Shower-wall accent:** walkerzanger.com. **Sinks:** kohler.com.

LANDSCAPING: Guilt-free container roses (pp. 35–37) **Thanks to** Tom Carruth, curator, Rose Collection at The Huntington Library, Art Collections, and Botanical Gardens, San Marino, CA; huntington.org.

PHOTOSHOP REDO: From tired to turreted (p. 46) **Thanks to** Rebecca Pantuso, George Clemens Architecture, Chagrin Falls, OH; clemensarchitecture.com.

WEEKEND REMODEL: Build a copper trellis (pp. 53–57) **Thanks to** The Metal Peddler, West Sunbury, PA; 866-500-9898; themetaldeddler.com.

GREAT OUTDOOR GETAWAYS: (pp. 58–65) **Architects and designers:** Setup for conversation and Leafy and layered: Gary L. Brewer, AIA, New York, NY; ramsa.com. Cozy and coordinated: JV Design Style, Englewood Cliffs, NJ; jvdesignstyle.com. Bright and cheery: The Paris Market, Savannah, GA; theparismarket.com. Stylish sleeping porch: John D. Battle, AIA, Concord, MA; battlearchitects.com. Dana Schock & Associates, Sudbury, MA; danaschockandassociates.com. Lush spot to linger: Beau Clowney Architects, Charleston, SC; beauclooney.com. Glowing gazebo: John Margolis, AIA, Evens Architects, Los Angeles, CA; evensarc.com.

WHERE THE ♥ IS: (pp. 66–73) **Green building consultant and contractor:** Kevin Stack, Syracuse, NY; ngbc.us. **Kitchen designer:** Denise Miller, CKD, Syracuse, NY; casesupplyinc.com. **Landscape architect:** Dan Reeder, Syracuse, NY; greenscapsonline.com. **Paint:** Aura zero-VOC in 216 California Hills (kitchen and family room) and AF-535 Serenata (master bedroom); benjaminmoore.com. **Insulation:** JM Corbond MCS spray foam; jm.com. **Ceiling fans:** Haiku; bigassfans.com. **Water heater:** Navien Condensing Gas Combination Boiler tankless hot-water system; us.navien.com. **Concrete pavers:** belgard.com.

THE INCREDIBLE EDIBLE LANDSCAPE: (pp. 74–79) **Landscape designer:** Jenny Lee Hughes, Stoddard, NH; jennyleehughes.com.

ALL ABOUT HARDWOOD DECKING: (pp. 80–85) **Thanks to** Brian Lotz, director of business development, Timber Holdings USA, Dan Ivancic, director of marketing, Advantage Trim & Lumber; advantagelumber.com. Ryan Mulkeen, director of marketing, Kuiken Brothers; kuikenbrothers.com.

ASK THIS OLD HOUSE: (pp. 87–95) **Ask Q+A:** **Slate-roof upkeep:** **Thanks to** Joe Jenkins, The Slate Roof Experts, Grove City, PA; slateexperts.com. **Matching old mortar:** **Thanks to** John Spewik, Spewik Preservation Consultants, Semora, NC; spewikpreservation.com. **Bleeding knots:** **Thanks to** Mark Knaebe, USDA Forest Product Laboratory, Madison, WI; fpl.fs.fed.us.

SAVE THIS OLD HOUSE: (p. 106) **Thanks to** Kyle Graham, homeowner and licensed broker, Mel Foster Co.; melfosterco.com. Marty Golby, resident of Neponset, IL. ■

Time Inc. and This Old House Ventures do not endorse any product or service mentioned or advertised in this magazine.

Subscribers: Your bank may provide updates to the card information we have on file. You may opt-out of this service at any time. This Old House (ISSN 1086-2633) is published monthly, except for the January/February and November/December issues, by This Old House Ventures, Inc., 135 West 50th St., New York, NY 10020 (GST: 81996300RT0001), Canada Post Publications Mail Agreement No. 40110178. Return undeliverable Canada addresses to: Postal Stn. A, P.O. Box 4015, Toronto ON M5W 2T2 (GST: 81996300RT0001). Principal office: Rockefeller Center, New York, NY 10020-1393 (212-522-9465), Howard Averill, Treasurer. ©2015 This Old House Ventures, Inc. Vol. 20, No. 5. All rights reserved. Reproduction in whole or in part without permission is prohibited. Periodicals postage paid at New York, NY, and additional mailing offices. Postmaster: Send address changes to This Old House, P.O. Box 62376, Tampa, FL 33662-3768; 1-800-898-7237 U.S. Subscriptions: \$19.95 for one year. This Old House and the This Old House Window are registered trademarks of This Old House Ventures, Inc. Printed in the U.S.A.

SupplyHouse.com



SHOP AT OUR HOUSE! 70,000+ PRODUCTS ONLINE TO HELP YOU GET YOUR JOB DONE.

www.supplyhouse.com

GO

888.757.4774 | PLUMBING, HEATING & HVAC SUPPLIES ONLINE

ONLINE COUPON
SAVE 5% WITH CODE:
GREENTOH (EXP. 6/15/2015)

96 THISOLDHOUSE.COM JUNE 2015



This Old House is proud to support Homes for Our Troops.

Join us as we help them build
a specially adapted, mortgage-free
home for returning Veteran
SSG Matthew DeWitt and his family.

**This Old
House**
35TH ANNIVERSARY



Photos: Kevin O'Connor

TUNE IN FOR NEW EPISODES ON  **PBS**

Check local listings or watch at thisoldhouse.com/watchTOH and join the conversation **#TOH4TROOPS**

SPONSORED BY

GMC
WE ARE PROFESSIONAL GRADE[®]



 **State Farm**

**LUMBER
LIQUIDATORS**

Keeps Paint Out. Keeps Lines Sharp.®



FrogTape® is the only painter's tape treated with PaintBlock® Technology. PaintBlock forms a micro-barrier that seals the edges of the tape, preventing paint bleed. Visit frogtape.com to see PaintBlock in action, get painting tips and more!



frogtape.com



Get Your 3-in-1 Outdoor Room Covered • Screened • Enclosed



NO permits!
NO taxes!*

SuperPorch®

**Get protection from the
sun, rain, snow and bugs!**

- EasySlide 4 Track System with sliding screen and window panels
- Many size options to fit on existing decks and patios!

www.gosuperporch.com

SAVE 10% SAVINGS CODE 1905
or call 866-557-1772

SuperPorch®
by SunPorch Structures, Inc.

**FREE Catalogs
& Pricing Guide!**

*varies by locale

Train at home in your spare time to

Be a Home Inspector

Earn up to \$55,000 a year or more!*

Train at home in as little as four months to make great money as a Professional Home Inspector. Millions of homes are bought and sold every year and most of those sales require an inspection. Home Inspectors can save buyers, agents, banks and mortgage companies thousands of dollars - which makes them important to the real estate industry.

Work at home and be your own boss.

More and more Home Inspectors work from home, conducting actual inspections on-site but handling paperwork and other business details at home. As a Home Inspector, you also have the option of working for a home inspection or real estate company, or even running your own franchise.

Get FREE Facts. Contact Us Today!



U.S. Career Institute®
2001 Lowe St., Dept. THSB2A55
Fort Collins, CO 80525

800-388-8765 Dept. THSB2A55
www.uscieducation.com/THS55



Sent FREE!

YES! Rush me my free Home Inspection information package. No cost/obligation.

Name _____ Age _____

Address _____ Apt. _____

City, State, Zip _____

E-mail _____ Phone _____



Accredited • Affordable • Approved
Celebrating over 30 years of education excellence!

*with experience, based on figures from U.S. Dept. of Labor's BLS website

SHELVES THAT SLIDE

- Custom Made for Your Cabinets
- Kitchens - Pantry - Bathrooms
- Limited Lifetime Warranty
- Baltic Birch Construction
- 100 Pound Capacity

1-800-598-7390
www.shelvesthatslide.com
Order On-Line

**Custom pull out shelves
and Kitchen cabinet accessories**



Call or email for a free catalog

WeatherTech®

Automotive Accessories

Laser Measured
FloorLiner™

Available in Black, Tan and Grey
for over 900 applications

WeatherTech.com • 800-441-6287



For US Customers :
WeatherTech.com

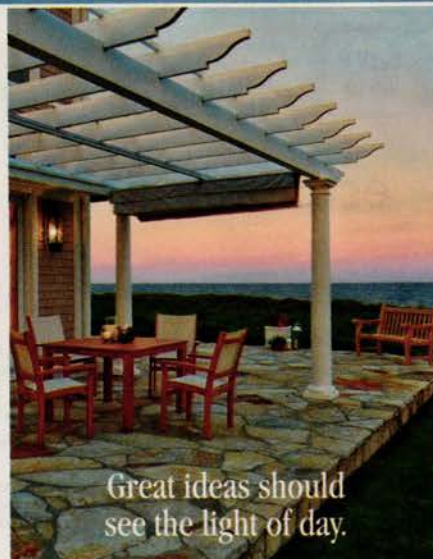


For Canadian Customers :
WeatherTech.ca



For European Customers :
WeatherTechEurope.com

©2015 MacNeil IP LLC



Great ideas should
see the light of day.



Imagine your ideal outdoor area and Walpole can bring it to life with structures, fence, mail & lantern posts, and furniture that complement your lifestyle, good taste, and demand for quality. For help with your next outdoor project, call 800-343-6948 or visit walpolewoodworkers.com

80+ years **Walpole Outdoors™**
Servicing professionals and customers
directly nationwide since 1933

RAINHANDLER® USE RAINHANDLER GET RID OF YOUR GUTTERS

Rainhandler

Prevents Erosion

Runoff is changed to a 3 foot wide band of soft rain-sized droplets.

Self-Cleans

Unique louver design allows leaves and debris to blow or wash away.

Protects Property

The Rainhandler self-cleaning system eliminates clogged, overflowing gutters & downspouts. No ground erosion. No more destructive ice dams from frozen gutters.

For **FREE** information call or fax
Ph: 800-942-3004, Fax: 800-606-2028

SPECIAL OFFER! 30% OFF
Mention Code **TH615**

when you call or enter online at checkout
www.rainhandler.com

OFFER EXPIRES 06/30/2015

Installs Easily

Each 5-foot section comes with 3 brackets & 6 screws. Do an entire home in 3 or 4 hours.

Maintenance-Free

All-aluminum Rainhandler louvers make messy, leaking gutters history.

Protects You

Self-cleaning system protects you from climbing ladders.

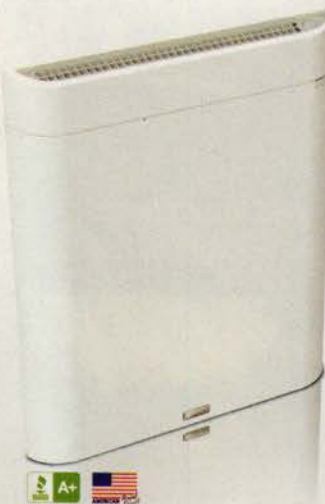
Guarantees

Money-back satisfaction guaranteed for one full year, 25-year warranty.

Save up to **50%** or more on heating costs*

envi
wall-mounted room heater

economical. safe. simple.



energy saving
heats room as little as 4 cents per hour!*

ultra-safe
leave unattended 24/7; cool to the touch

healthy
fanless - doesn't blow dust or dry the air

effective
100% Pure Stack Convection;
gentle whole room warmth!

silent
fanless design;
auto dimming power light

easy install
installs in minutes, no drill required;
hardwired and plug-in models available

stylish
slim space saving design,
only 19" wide x 22" tall x 2" thin!



ehheat.com 1-800-807-0107

(*visit website for details) | 10% OFF Coupon: TH615 | 2 or more 15% OFF Coupon: TH61515 | Free Shipping to USA & Canada*

BARN LIGHT ELECTRIC

2101

WHERE VINTAGE AND MODERN COLLIDE®

visit www.barnlightelectric.com call 800-407-8784

MADE IN AMERICA

f Scan the code to learn more about the light featured in this ad.

Please contact us for more information and pricing.

The Original Trimmer-on-Wheels Just Got BETTER!

The **NEW** DR® TRIMMER/MOWER



NEW LOW PRICE!

TRIMS, MOWS waist-high grass and weeds.

CUTS BRUSH, SAPLINGS up to 3" thick with exclusive accessories.

THICKEST, LONGEST-LASTING CORD available anywhere (225 mil Sawtooth™).



NEW TOW-BEHIND MODELS TOO!

The **ONLY** Trimmer Guaranteed Not To Wrap!

DRtrimmers.com

America's #1 Selling Brush Mower for Over 25 Years!

The most complete line of walk-behind AND tow-behind models ANYWHERE.



20 HP, V-Twin model

ONLY the DR® Field and Brush Mower has...

UNSTOPPABLE POWER to mow down saplings up to 3" thick.

A LOCKABLE DIFFERENTIAL for easy turning and go-anywhere traction.

4-SEASON FUNCTIONALITY with quick-change attachments.



DRfieldbrush.com

FREE SHIPPING

0% | 36 mo. FINANCING

SOME LIMITATIONS APPLY. CALL FOR DETAILS.

Call for a **FREE DVD and Catalog!**
Includes product specifications and factory-direct offers.

TOLL FREE **888-212-8858**



87441X © 2015

87442X © 2015

Keep Your Shop Vacuum Filter Clean!

Saves you **money** on having to replace your filter.

Clean Air
to Vac

Deluxe Dust Deputy®

- Patented design keeps 99% of the dust from reaching your vacuum filter.
- Vacuum doesn't lose suction.
- Retrofits to any shop vacuum.
- Easy to empty dust bucket.
- Wet or dry.

99% of Dust Here!

"Every once in a while you come across a product that seems too good to be true, but in the case of the Dust Deputy, you exceeded my expectations! Thanks for producing such an awesome product!"

- J. Denison

Now Available at these fine retailers.

ACE
The helpful place.

WOODCRAFT
MENARDS
Dedicated to Service & Quality™



Proudly Made in the USA



Like
Call Today for Information!
1.800.732.4065

Oneida
Air Systems

For Online Information
www.oneida-air.com/toh

Transform your garage in one weekend.

**SEAL
KRETE**



EPOXY-SEAL CONCRETE & GARAGE FLOOR PAINT

- 3x more durable than porch & floor paint
- Ready-to-use, no mixing required
- Resists oil, chemicals and hot tire pick-up



Visit seal-krete.com to find a retailer near you.

www.seal-krete.com

HOW TO TREAT CONCRETE® 800-323-7357

NEW



"I love these planters. They are perfect for every season and any plant. Everything looks better in nature."

"Surreal Planters are unbelievably realistic."

MANUFACTURER'S
LIFETIME
Warranty



"The perfect planters! They're beautiful, durable, lightweight and horticulturally superior!"

- Built from the molds of real logs with authentic bark texture!
- Individually hand painted with UV-resistant (fade-free) paint
- Made of high density, space-age polyurethane that's waterproof and tough
- Keep plants cool in hot temps, warm in cold temps and retain water better



See the entire line of Surreal Planters at
surrealplanters.com

Surreal™

"So Real" Performance Planters

Always in Style



Fine Reproduction Hardware & Lighting
www.HOAH.biz

HOUSE OF ANTIQUE HARDWARE

From Rustic Cabins to Custom Designed Homes...

Any Home Can be a Log Home

The Nation's leader in quality tongue-n-groove
Log Siding & Knotty Pine Paneling.

GREAT FOR:

New or Existing Homes • Basements • Dens • Rec Rooms
Kitchens • Baths • Studies • Garages • Out Buildings • Cottages

*Customer
Satisfaction...*

We Guarantee It!



THE WOODWORKERS SHOPPE

Skyline Woods' finest of log home products are available at the
Woodworkers Shoppe in Comins, Michigan. We Ship Nationwide!

Call (800) 818-9971 • woodworkersshoppe.com

Work Less and Play More!

**Cyclone
Rake**



A Cyclone Rake will make your tedious chores of summer mowing and fall leaf removal a thing of the past. It hitches up to nearly any riding mower or ZTR and will let you clean up your property like never before. Plus, It's backed by our **1-YEAR RISK-FREE TRIAL & 3-YEAR WARRANTY**. So, stop working so hard and start enjoying the warm weather and finally have time for the activities you love.

LEARN HOW. REQUEST A FREE INFORMATION KIT TODAY!

Call: **1-800-603-4831** or Visit: **CycloneRake.com**

©2015 Woodland Power Products, Inc., 72 Acton St., West Haven, CT 06516



Folds-up Flat

Use Promo Code **TOH615** when you call, or enter it on our website for a special Cyclone Rake offer.
Expires 12/30/15



ATLANTIS
RAIL SYSTEMS

800-541-6829
www.atlantisrail.com



Wood Turnings for Porches & Stairways

- Stock or Custom Designs • Authentic Replications • Prompt Quality Service •
- Porch Posts • Balusters • Newels • Spindles • Finials • Handrail •
- Lengths To 12 Feet • Free Brochure •

CinderWhit & Company

1-800-527-9064 Fax 701-642-4204
E-Mail: info@cinderwhit.com
Website: www.cinderwhit.com
733 Eleventh Avenue South • Wahpeton, ND 58075

The Perfect Storm!

Innerglass® Interior Storm Windows:

- Maintain the charm and beauty of your existing windows
- Significantly reduce heating and cooling bills
- Compression-Fit to eliminate drafts completely
- Greatly reduce outside noise
- Are perfect for enclosing screen porches
- Save energy, save money and save history!



Innerglass
Window Systems, LLC
The Compression-Fit Advantage

1-800-743-6207 • www.stormwindows.com

SCREEN DOORS & MORE!



Vintage Doors
Vintage Doors

Custom Wood Doors for Your Entire Home

Handmade in the USA...
"Just like the olden days!"

www.vintagedoors.com
Contact us today: 1 (800) 787-2001

THE METALLICS [CONTRACTOR APPROVED] **QuaDrive** CONCRETE SCREW ANCHOR



- Square
- + Hex
- Slotted
- + Phillips
- = **Metallics QuaDrive!**

A large washer diameter with increased bearing surface

Full diameter under washer for more strength means less snapping of heads

Twin lead threads provide quicker applications and more gripping power

CraftCoat™ resists corrosion and matches the strap and conduit making life easier for contractors at the job site

Made in USA by Avanti Screw
an affiliate of Metallics Inc.



Call for your free samples 1-800-243-8272

TOUGH Clear, Repair Anything TAPE.



Clear, Strong and Durable, will fix, patch, seal and hold almost anything.



Inflatables



Toys



Cracked Smartphone



For the Toughest Jobs on Planet Earth®

www.gorillatough.com

©2015 The Gorilla Glue Company




SECRET WEAPONS OF THE MODERN HOUSEHOLD



THE TRUSTED BRANDS for professional strength adhesives. If you take the time to fix something, you want it to last. **Amazing GOOP** is perfect for repairs because it holds just about anything – wood, metal, ceramic, glass and more. Amazing Strength you can count on that is impact and vibration resistant, as well as waterproof.

Amazing GOOP II MAX is the ultimate repair glue. It remains flexible while bonding to almost any material and withstanding harsh environmental elements.



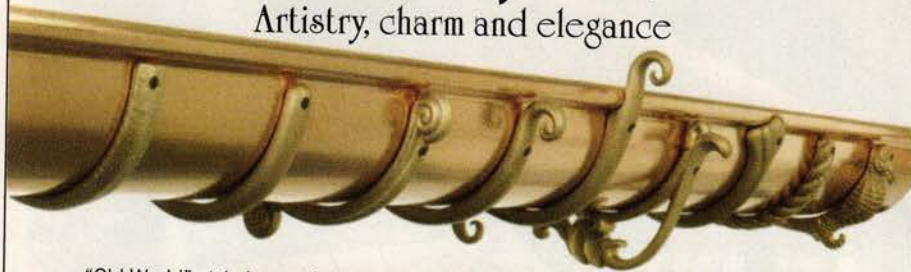
Stay connected with us on   

www.eclecticproducts.com

MADE in USA by Eclectic Products

Classic Gutter Systems, L.L.C.

Artistry, charm and elegance

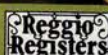


"Old World" style heavy-duty copper, aluminum and galvalume half round gutters
• Up to 26' shipped nationally • 26 styles of cast fascia brackets • Roof mount options available

PHONE 269.665.2700

www.classicgutters.com

FAX 269.665.1234



Choose the beauty of brass or the value of sun gold aluminum

Dept. G1506, 31 Jytek Road, Leominster, MA 01453

1.800.880.3090 • www.reggioregister.com

Your Search For Effective "Natural" Weed Control Products is OVER!



MINI DRAGON™ is perfect for smaller weeding areas & spot weeding. Uses a 1 pound disposable propane cylinder. **FULLY ASSEMBLED!**



WEED DRAGON® is North America's #1 Home & Garden Torch Kit. Ships **FULLY ASSEMBLED** and runs on a standard refillable propane tank. Weed Dragon® pictured below.



Weed Dragon® Model VT 2-23 C

"Very happy with my Weed Dragon. Best tool I have bought all year. Could not work without one now. Going to get another one for my partner to use on the work site. Landscaping just became very enjoyable!" R.G. - Orling, WA

Contact Flame Engineering, Inc. today for more facts and information on flame weeding!

1-800-255-2469
www.WeedDragon.com

FLAME ENGINEERING, INC.
PO BOX 577 • LaCrosse, KS 67548
Member of The Organic Trade Association. Flaming is a USDA approved organic weed control method.

AS SEEN ON



ARE YOUR OLD, DRAFTY WINDOWS ROBBING YOU BLIND?

- Build and install yourself, unbreakable interior insulating window panels. **NO MIDDLEMAN NEEDED.**
- Reduce heating/cooling costs
- Simple tools required
- Materials available at most Home Depot / Lowe's stores
- For complete plans, **plus** step-by-step directions, mail a \$19.95 check to:

D. Kulka
P.O. Box 2571
Wichita Falls, TX 76307

Big Rock Lanterns carries one of the largest, most distinctive collections of "Vintage Style" oil and electric lanterns and lamps anywhere!

Enjoy the Warmth of "Vintage Style" Lighting with or without Oil - Inside or Out!

Order Today & Save 10%
Code: UGx6kg
Expires 4/30/2015



Our historically correct custom (Electric or Oil) lantern and lamp lighting is sure to add a rustic flavor to almost any décor! Choose from many different styles, colors, and finishes.

770-866-5857
www.BigRockLanterns.com

Underbed Dressers



Put Up to 24 Drawers Under Your Beds

ultimatebed.com