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Easy Ways to Express Your Style

Make It Yours!

30 Inspiring Projects
You'll Want to Try Now

Reader Room
Makeover
You Could Be
Next!
p.5

Amazing

Furniture Updates
with Fabric and Paint

Best-on-the-Block
Container Gardens

Dress Up
A Slipcover
p. 40

Clever
Clutter Busters
That Look Great

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72 >

and a light green slipcover.

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When it comes to atmosphere, true antiques like this chandelier are hard to beat. But if cost is a factor, look for a nice reproduction.



{GIRLFRIEND GATHERINGS}



If you don't want to commit to a mural painted on your wall, paint instead on artist canvases and hang them on the wall.



◀ Nikki fell in love with this faceted glass bowl with shells attached to the base. She piled in more seashells and created a pretty centerpiece for her dining room table. Pink roses in crystal vases add a burst of color to the tablescape.

▼ The worn, painted finish of the antique dining room chairs fit Nikki's style, but she replaced black leather upholstery with a joyful mix of fabrics. She felt toile alone was too formal and stripes were too playful, so she combined them for just the right touch.

“I love the casual lived-in look of our house—
even our guests say it feels like home.”

—homeowner Nikki LaBelle

➤ Most of Nikki's antique furniture pieces came with painted finishes. This dining room buffet, with its mirrored stand, was an exception. Nikki had the dark wood painted white and then distressed and fitted with new hardware before it graced the wall in the dining space.

◀◀ An antique French crystal chandelier and a shell-studded mirror made by a local craftsman add sparkle, shine, and texture to the eclectic dining room. A new table was customized to coordinate with the antique chairs—a lightly stained natural wood tabletop is paired with curvy white legs in a distressed, antique finish.

