

MARCY MASTERSON

Make tableskirts for your

contrasting flange at the

bottom. If your tables are round, put a square piece of plywood on top before

feels more contemporary.

For an instant fireplace,

add a biofuel fireplace

unit. It's a wonderfully

and they're fueled

by ethanol-easily

purchased at the

hardware store.

simple installation, with

no ventilation required,

you start, Square just

81 DAVID EASTON

end tables in some

offbeat color, with a

WINDSOR SMITH

Buy a piece of marble from a stone yard and have them hone it and make it into a new top for a table you already own. Instant patisserie!

KIM ALEXANDRIUK

Create a tented effect with Indian fabric. Suspend it from the center of the ceiling to the corners of the room and then drape it down the walls, over horizontal rods mounted just under the ceiling.





ANDREW FLESHER 86

Since darkness comes so early in the winter months and windows look like black holes at night, get handwoven shades from conradshades.com, They will visually warm the room and insulate you from cold drafts.

ALESSANDRA 87 BRANCA

Upholster an ottoman with carpeting. You could use an old kilim, a striped dhurrie, or something really wild like a David Hicks geometric.

KENFULK

Take a dull set of dining room chairs and spray-paint them black. Then splurge on a glorious fabric, perhaps something from Raoul Textiles, to cover the seats. Or what about pink patent leather?



Hike to make simple slipcovers for the square headboard on my bed. Just get a great piece of fabric, cut out a front and a back, and stitch them together. I might do white linen in summer, velvet in winter.

MALLORY 90 MARSHALL

You know you're really confident when you put your bed in the middle of the room. Add bed curtains and it becomes a private domain. I like the mattress to be a little high, so I'll buy bed lifts from bedbathandbeyond. com. They're like high heels for beds.

ERIC COHLER

I'll put leather tiles on a front hall floor or on the walls for a subdued glamour. I also see them in a library or around a fireplace or on a headboard. I buy them at edelmanleather.com or artistictile.com. And the more scuffed up they get, the better.

SUZANNE

RHEINSTEIN

De-electrify your dining room. Put candles on the sideboard and in the sconces and even in your chandelier-Marjorie Skouras makes one that's dripping with coral. So romantic. Who cares what you servel

TOM FLEMING

If you have a room paneled in new wood that is trying to look old, take a paintbrush and add a thin line of black in the flutes of a column, or along the raised part of a panel. That touch of black will add authenticity.

CHRISTOPHER MAYA

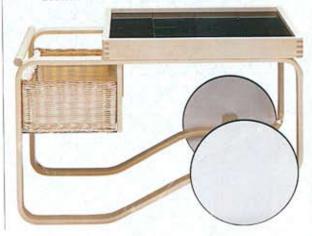
Make a folding screen. All you need is four pieces of plywood and some hinges. I'm doing one for my office and upholstering it in linen, with cork on the other side so I can tack up pictures. A screen adds texture and scale to a room. It's another layer.

93PAT HEALING

Inset mirrors into the panels on a door. I just did it in my dining room and my bedroom, and it perks up the whole house.

DD ALLEN

Create a bar corner and buy beautiful bar accessories very Nick and Nora Charles. I like the Alvar Aalto Tea Trolley from unicahome.com, or you could just commandeer a console table.



NANCY BOSZHARDT Hang art in surprising

locations, like over a door or above a tall cabinet or on the nilesters of a bookcase.

DARRYL CARTER

Instead of the usual coffee table, try a pedestal table at tea height. It's more versatile—you can even pull up a few chairs and eat at it. And the scale and height creates a different landscape in the room, which is much more interesting.

MEGBRAFF 99

Line the backs of your shelves with raffia. Phillipjeffries.com has all sorts of colors and weaves. I've used it in kitchens and bathrooms. It gives a little depth and texture, and anything you put in front of it. looks great.



100 ASHLEY WHITTAKER

Find a great antique mirror for your powder room. The slight mottling of vintage glass seems to make those tiny lines and wrinkles miraculously disappear. And when people know they look great, they have more fun.



ALEXA HAMPTON

Take a nap. When you wake up, everything will seem much nicer.



JEFFRY WEISMAN

If you have something-a lamp, a table, even a chair -with great shape but not quite enough dash, take it to your framer and have them gild it.