

## IDEAS FOR DOING MORE WITH LESS

### Save me ...

#### money

**Cheap updates.** Simple ideas from Better Homes and Gardens that offer a lot of bang for not so much buck:

**Table topper.** Paint over a hand-me-down side table with two coats of metallic paint and a coat of metallic glaze for shimmer. After drying, cut a scrap of wallpaper to fit the top, coat the table with decoupage glue and position the paper. Cover with several more layers of glue.

**Cover it up.** Add zest to a room by adding a reversible slipcover to a sofa. One that is a wintry color on one side and a summer white linen on the other will help span the seasons in affordable style.

**Showcase storage.** Show off storage style with eye-catching creative displays that are functional too. Mount a ready-to-assemble bookcase directly to a wall and a few feet off the ground for a modern look. Store books, decorate with flowers and picture frames.

#### space

**New for fall.** Keep your style seasonably fresh with these autumn design trends from Dallas interiors expert Elaine Williamson:

**Vintage accents:** Earth-friendly French burlap is great for chic pillows imprinted with a vintage stamp or family initial. Couture lamps and replicas are hot, especially those with milk glass and natural material bases. Use color-washed wood accessories such as candlesticks, urns and bowls as oversized accessories.

**Wallpaper:** Wallpaper is making a comeback with an endless number of choices from bold patterns to elegant solids. Faux finishes and walls painted in solid, primary colors are on their way out.

**Timeless art:** Ditch "matchy-matchy" pictures and mix mediums and styles. To add depth to pieces, forgo the distracting glass cover.

#### time

**Gutter cleaning tips.** Robert Lenney, inventor of the Gutterglove Gutter Protection System, shares these tips to get the job done:

**Always let someone know** you are cleaning gutters.

**Use a ladder** with a shelf and a plywood platform for stabilization.

**Clean off the roof first.**

**Wear rubber-soled shoes** for stability when walking on the roof.

**Use a small plastic spade or gutter scoop.**

**Use gloves** and proper eyewear.

**Unclog downspouts** with a garden hose that has an adjustable spray.

**Install a downspout chain** to eliminate annoying rain dripping sounds.

**Watch out** for hazardous power lines.

