

THE GUIDE TO LIVING WITH STYLE

Holiday 2013

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For a money-saving alternative to built-in shelving, McGrath recommends finding a good carpenter and using cost-efficient materials to create custom bookcases for little more than the price tag at IKEA.

An ottoman doubles as a coffee table and extra seating.



McGrath describes this chest inherited from her grandparents (coated in Benjamin Moore's Elephant Tusk) as "the real workhorse of the room—it holds everything."



## wide open spaces

"It was more important to me to have one really big room than several small rooms," says McGrath, who coauthors the blog *Good Bones, Great Pieces* with her design partner (and mother), Suzanne McGrath. "I work in my home, so I laid the space out in such a way that it could segue from office to bedroom with ease." Her chic solutions include a faux-bamboo daybed, carefully concealed storage, and—in keeping with her eclectic, feminine style—a neutral background spiced up with colorful pillows and artwork scored at Kenise Barnes Fine Art. "I'm forever changing patterns and colors," McGrath explains. "It allows my furniture and decor to constantly evolve."



## skirt the issue

Rather than buy a new console, McGrath designed a kick-pleated cover for the unappealing—but well-proportioned—metal number she already owned. “Table skirts are a chic, cost-effective way to dress up an old table,” she explains. And when she tires of the look, she can reinvent the space with just a couple of yards of fabric and a trip to her seamstress.



A foolproof way to tone down traditional decor. *Blu Dot “Strut” medium table in ivory \$699 domino.com/form-and-function*

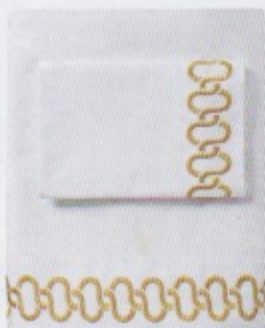


A delicate frame with modern appeal. *Mirror Image Home “Queen Anne” horn mirror \$1,804.80 domino.com/form-and-function*

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Demure luxury at a high thread count. *Serena & Lily “Savoy” links embroidered sheet set in ocher \$145-\$260 domino.com/form-and-function*



Classic lines get a boost with orange leather. *Global Views “Marilyn” side chair in orange leather \$999 domino.com/form-and-function*