

31 Real BEFORE + AFTER ROOM REVEALS

# Make It **215** Over

One-Day  
Rehabs:  
... **10** ...  
Easy DIY  
Projects

Ideas for Big Style  
on a Small Budget



Get Organized!

**15** FRESH SPACE-SAVING  
SOLUTIONS

FALL 2015 • BECKETT HOME STYLE SERIES  
\$9.99 US • DISPLAY UNTIL 10/05/2015



Engaged Media, Inc.

# 15 IDEAS For Upcycled Style

Exercise your creativity with these impactful ways to use your favorite bargain flea-market scores and craft supplies.

BY KAREN WILHELMSEN  
PROJECTS BY JEANIE ENGELBACH  
PHOTOGRAPHY BY RIKKI SNYDER



USING VINTAGE FINDS FROM A FLEA MARKET AND GOOD OLD-FASHIONED ELBOW GREASE, YOU CAN TRANSFORM YOUR SPACES INTO COLORFUL, VIBRANT CREATIONS.

Here, designer and professional organizer Jeanie Engelbach shows you how to use a range of vintage items that can found for as little as \$10 to take your home from blah to beautiful. Let's get crafting!

## 1. KEEP YOUR CANS

Upcycle a metal can into the perfect office-supply organizer. Give it personality with a coat of paint or your washi tape.

### PEN AND PENCIL CUPS

#### What you'll need:

- Metal food cans

#### Optional:

- Painter's tape
- Spray paint
- Washi tape

#### What you'll do:

1. Remove all the food from the cans. Remove the paper labels if you're not planning to preserve them. Thoroughly wash the cans in a dishwasher or by hand. If you want to preserve the paper label, cover the edge of the can's open end with painter's tape to protect it and gently hand-wash it.
2. If painting the cans, follow the spray paint application directions. Spray the can's exterior completely or try spraying off to one side of the can for a light dusting effect to keep some of the metal finish exposed.
3. **OPTIONAL ADDED TOUCHES:** Use colorful washi tape to create an optional design around the rim or all over the can, such as stripes.
4. Fill the cans with similar-style pens or pencils for greater visual impact and organization. Use these cans to organize cosmetics, too.



## 2. USE PAINT ROLLER COVERS

Accessory organizers are often expensive and impractical. Put your pretties on display in a vertical way by using paint roller covers, which can be purchased for as little as \$8. Cut them to size if needed. "I can see what I have and nothing gets tangled or lost in a jumble in a drawer," Jeanie says. Use other finds like a tiered cake plate or the arms of a wooden mannequin to also hold jewelry.

### 3. REINVENT YOUR FURNITURE

Give a tired piece of furniture a colorful facelift with a collage.

#### DECOUPAGE WARDROBE

##### What you'll need:

- Old cabinet, wardrobe or side table
- Laser-printed scans of artwork
- Removable spray adhesive
- Epoxy resin kit
- Clear spray paint or Mod Podge
- A few sponge brushes
- Painter's tape
- Utility knife

##### Optional:

- Bottle caps
- Fine-grain glitter
- Strong and quick-drying clear glue
- Kitchen torch
- Toothpicks
- Plastic (disposable) squeeze bottle

##### What you'll do:

1. Arrange your selected scans on the surface. Spray the back of each print with spray adhesive and set it into place. The removable spray adhesive will allow for removing and reconfiguring placement if desired.
2. Trim all the edges of the excess paper with your utility knife.
3. If working in a well-ventilated area, apply one coat of clear spray paint over the entire collage; otherwise apply one coat of Mod Podge with a sponge brush and allow it to properly dry.
4. Use painter's tape to cover the sides of the surface to prevent epoxy resin drips.
5. Follow your epoxy resin directions precisely and then pour the mixture onto the collage. Working quickly but carefully, spread the epoxy with a clean sponge brush to cover the entire collage area. If air bubbles appear, use a kitchen torch to dissolve them or pop them with a toothpick.
6. Remove all the painter's tape while the epoxy is still curing and has yet to properly dry. Epoxy usually takes 72 hours to cure, depending on the climate conditions (refer to the manufacturer's suggestions on the packaging).
7. **OPTIONAL ADDED TOUCHES:** Coat the inside of all of the bottle caps with thin layer of glitter. Allow them to dry. Glue the scanned images inside bottom of cap. Repeat step #3 from above. Repeat step #4 using a squeeze bottle to fill each cap with epoxy resin. After the caps have cured, adhere them to the collage with glue.



Photo by Britt Abner



Photo by Seth MacGraw



### 4. REUSE A FRAME

Jeanie reinvented this French antique mirror frame as a memento board with a coat of matte black paint and glitter. All you'll need to recreate one at home is spray paint, a hot glue gun and ribbon. Spray your frame—the larger the better for more impact—in the color of your choice. Using a hot glue gun, affix strands of braided thread to the back. Hang your frame and use clothespins to adorn it with photos, notes or vintage finds for a personalized touch.



### 5. DIY MEMO BOARD

Take a cue from Jeanie by using every inch of available wall space, which is essential in a small home or apartment. Here, she hung a vintage Mission Beverage sign on the inside of a closet wall. "Anything flat and metal can make for a cheap and cheery memo board," she says. Place one by the door to put reminders, hang keys and stay organized.

### 6. PUT A PHOTO GALLERY ANYWHERE

If it's metal, all you'll need are magnets to instantly display your favorite photos. Jeanie hung these adorable pictures to camouflage a dingy metal pole, which added color to her work table. "This is especially useful when surface space is at a minimum for frame display," she says.

## 7. RESTORE YOUR DRAWERS

We've all seen dressers as curbside castoffs—and we keep on driving because we know we don't have the space. But, here's one idea that makes a tired dresser worth taking another look. Jeanie took these drawers and revamped them with a simple coat of paint and black framecore cut to size to make shelving. She uses them to display her Pez collection, but you could also make a shadowbox.



## 8. ADD INSPIRATIONAL ARTWORK

Add nostalgic appeal to your spaces by framing vintage comic book pages or high-quality scans in inexpensive clip frames. Their vibrant colors and aged appearance will instantly light up your spaces. If you want to go for a sophisticated look, find antique advertisements that appeal to you. Or take a page from a comic book and adhere it to a switch plate cover with a layer of epoxy resin for easy cleaning, Jeanie says.



## 9. STORE IN STYLE

Keep everything in its place with this cute hair accessory organizer that makes your collection a functional and eye-catching display.

### ACCESSORY ORGANIZER

#### What you'll need:

- Mirror
- Temporary wallpaper or one sheet of high-quality gift wrap paper
- Spray adhesive (or double-stick tape)
- Utility knife
- Set of strong mini magnets
- Burnisher or ruler

#### What you'll do:

1. Clean the metal side of your mirror thoroughly.
2. Using a low tack spray adhesive, cover the entire mirror or back (skip this step if using temporary wallpaper).
3. Carefully apply the decorative paper (or temporary wallpaper) to the sprayed area and smooth it with a burnisher or ruler.
4. Using a utility knife or blade, trim the excess paper away from the edges.
5. Arrange mini magnets to hold metal hair accessories in a decorative yet functional way.

**Tip:**

INSTEAD OF MAGNETS, USE MAGNETIC HOOPS TO HANG NECKLACES OR HAIR ACCESSORIES.



Photo by Kristin Meadows

## 10. MAKE A GLITZY LAMP

Give a plain, secondhand floor lamp a glamorous facelift with inexpensive glitter contact paper. Get creative and make your own design on the lamp's base, such as stripes or a chevron pattern. If you have leftover contact paper when you're done, use it as lining inside shelves for an unexpected surprise.

## 11. CREATE A ONE-OF-A-KIND DESIGN

Keys are a fun flea market find that will cost you mere pennies. Collect them to make a sparkling design on a lamp base or lampshade. Simply use a hot glue gun to adhere them in a pattern you like. You can use pieces of glitter contact paper to fill holes in your design if necessary. Oh, the possibilities!



## 12. SODA CRATE CANDELABRA

With fun designs and graphic patterns, there are so many things you can do to upcycle a soda crate. For Jeanie, sometimes she displays them as-is or fills them with vintage soda bottles to use as bud vases or candleholders. Use your soda crate as a centerpiece while entertaining for a fresh and funky retro vibe.

## 13. COVER UNSIGHTLY CHAINS

Add a punch of pizzazz to your chandelier by hanging it from a vine of tush flowers.

### CHANDELIER CHAIN COVER

#### What you'll need:

- Silk flowers in various sizes (wide-open flowers work better than tightly closed bud styles)
- Floral wire
- Wire clippers

#### What you'll do:

1. Cut the largest flowers' stems to less than 1 inch (this can be more or less depending on the diameter of your chandelier's top).

2. Starting at the bottom of the chandelier and base of its chain, gingerly weave the largest flowers through the chain. Make sure to work around in circles to fill all of the exposed chain.
3. Continue to decrease the flower size while continuing to work up the chain.
4. For small flowers towards the top, cut them to 1.2 inches.
5. Use floral wire to wrap smaller flowers to chain links.



## 14. EASY MAGAZINE HOLDER

Another nifty idea to upcycle a soda crate, here's one way to organize your collection of magazines. Add casters to the bottom so your crate can be easily transported. Roll up magazines to fit into each of the slots—it's even a great place to store your remote controllers so they never go missing again. You could also add a Plexiglas top to turn a crate into an end table or hang it on the wall as a display case for teacups, Jeanie says.

## 15. HIDE UGLY CORDS

No one likes unattractive wires and cords visibly hanging from the walls. But if you can't hide them, you might as well use them to your advantage. Grab some photos from your collection and stick them onto the cords with clothespins. This is one instant display that couldn't get any easier or more cost-effective.