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MAKE IT YOURS

FLAT PACK HACK

Reimagined Furniture • Flat Pack Hacks
How I Turned My Hobby Into A Business • Meet The Bloggers
Kids' Corner • Handmade Wedding • Trend Watch

COMPETITION £250 AND RUST-OLEUM PAINTS TO BE WON EVERY MONTH

Hello again...

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Welcome to the sixth issue of Make It Yours! This handy magazine is crammed full of ideas, tips and inspiration designed to get those creative juices flowing. Just like you, we're passionate about painting, interiors and crafts. We keep a close eye on the latest trends and we're always looking for something new to inspire us. That's why you'll see a whole host of our favourite crafty bloggers in our Meet The Bloggers section.

One trend that doesn't seem to be going away any time soon is upcycling. We've become a nation of upcyclers, no longer happy with the same generic piece of furniture – we want to add our own stamp onto our homes. Transforming the old or bland into something unique can be a daunting task but you'll find plenty of ideas in our Flat Pack Hacks section where we've revealed five easy, DIY ideas.

And that's not all! We've got the lowdown from the creative folk who make a living out of their upcycling hobby, an insight into the latest trends and the need-to-know when it comes to adding unique detailing and finishes to truly make your interiors stand out.

So what are you waiting for? Seeing your next great idea come to life is just a weekend project away. Read on...





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FURNITURE REIMAGINED

WE HUNTED HIGH AND LOW TO FIND THREE INTERESTING PIECES OF FURNITURE WITH THE CHALLENGE OF GIVING THEM A NEW LEASE OF LIFE WITH A LICK OF PAINT.

We are always on the lookout for furniture at online auctions, charity shops and car boot sales. Upcycling and reviving older pieces of furniture with paint can create unique and characterful pieces that last for years to come. Regardless of your style or taste, painted furniture helps to personalise the look and feel of a home.

We created a real statement piece from this standard sideboard (left) by integrating two contrasting colours adding a modern twist to a classic piece. Firstly, we unscrewed the existing handles and painted them with Rust-Oleum Neon Spray Paint in Pink. The main side board was painted with Rust-Oleum Satin Finish Furniture Paint in Slate.

To create the metallic detailing of the smaller sideboard (below) we applied two coats of Rust-Oleum Metallic Finish Furniture Paint in Gold as a basecoat and then, once dry, we applied a coat of Rust-Oleum Chalky Finish Furniture Paint in Antique White. Once the top coat was dry we used a damp cloth to remove selected areas to allow the metallic paint to show through, giving it an antique feel.



Welsh dressers are perfect for adding rustic charm to kitchen and dining areas. Fortunately there are some beautifully made examples to be found in secondhand furniture stores which are sold for an inexpensive amount. We picked up this solid oak dresser for just $\pounds 20$!

As it was originally painted white, we started the transformation by sanding the worktop back to the original finish. We then wiped it down with a damp cloth to ensure it was clean before painting it with Rust-Oleum Chalky Finish Furniture Paint in Powder Blue, leaving only the dresser top which remained in its original finish.









cost us a mere £17.50 on eBay. But, because it was such a bargain there was still a little preparation work to do before we could start painting. The original varnish finish was scratched so we sanded the surface and gave it a good clean. After removing the seat fabric we applied two coats of Rust-Oleum Satin Finish Furniture Paint in Teal. To finish, we reupholstered the seat with brightly patterned cotton fabric, providing a vibrant contrast. The beauty of these pieces is that they can look totally different with just a few new colour combinations and finishes - so if you ever get bored of your furniture, you can easily transform it again.





FLAT PACK HACKS

OVER THE PAST DECADE, OUR HOMES HAVE BEEN INVADED BY FLAT PACK MANIA. THE DO-IT-YOURSELF NATURE OF THESE PIECES HAS ALLOWED US TO UPDATE OUR HOMES MORE FREQUENTLY. YET, AS MUCH AS WE LOVE OUR QUICK AND COST-SAVING FINDS, THINGS ARE BECOMING A LITTLE SAMEY. HOW OFTEN DO YOU VISIT A FRIEND OR RELATIVE ONLY TO FIND YOURSELF SAYING "OH, WE HAVE ONE OF THOSE"? Well, fear not. There is a new trend sweeping the UK which is seeing these generic pieces take a much more imaginative and creative form. By innovating with transformative hacks and new colour combinations, these bland fixtures can become something new and unique.

Trust us, it's not as hard as you think. Regardless of your level of experience, a lick of paint can instantly spruce up flat pack furniture and the more confident you get, the more creative your paint creations will become.

Give it a go with these five easy to follow flat pack hacks...



What can be more boring and functional than a step stool? Well, we think we've done a pretty good job in turning this one into a real statement piece.

To start, we used Rust-Oleum Surface Primer in Grey before covering the stool with two coats of Rust-Oleum Neon Spray Paint in Yellow and allowing to dry. We hand-painted the design with Satin Finish Furniture Paint in Carbon and Cotton to create on-trend, chevron detailing. To get the look, use masking or painter's tape to corner off your design before painting and removing it once dry.





Wooden storage crates are perfect blank canvases for trying out colour combinations. For the larger crate, we used a combination of Chalky Finish Furniture Paint in Powder Blue and China Rose.

We transformed the small crate below into a stylish record box with Satin Finish Furniture Paint to achieve a mid-sheen lustre. For the outer area we chose Cotton and then opted for a bright Teal on the inside so when stored on the shelf a little pop of colour can be seen.







For this children's table set project we used Rust-Oleum Chalky Finish Furniture Paint in Coral for the seats and surrounding table areas. We then used Rust-Oleum Chalkboard Spray Paint in Black to achieve a creative table top. To finish, we secured a silver bar to the side of the table along with three hooks and added three chalk pots. We painted inside the pots with Rust-Oleum Painter's Touch in Gloss White and used more of the Black Chalkboard Spray Paint to cover the outside of the pots, allowing you to add and wipe away labels or doodles to suit!

The cute cross stool below was transformed into a little coffee table in just a few hours. We painted the majority of the stool in Rust-Oleum Mode Spray Paint in Pure Aqua and marked off the legs with masking tape before adding Rust-Oleum Mode Spray Paint in Celeste to finish.



HOW I TURNED MY HOBBY INTO A BUSINESS

MEET CHERYL LUMLEY WHO RECENTLY MADE HER DREAM OF STARTING HER OWN CREATIVE BUSINESS A REALITY...





WHAT HAS BEEN YOUR CAREER PATH TO DATE?

I'm a qualified graphic designer and while working in advertising agencies then an in-house team, I dabbled in the world of interiors through decorating my own home and writing for a few magazines along the way. I took the plunge to work for myself 15 months ago and I've never looked back.

WHAT MADE YOU DECIDE TO START YOUR OWN BUSINESS?

I've always loved making and creating! I wanted to pursue something in the field of upcycling, I just wasn't sure how I was going to do it or if I could even make a living from it. Alongside my midlife crisis at 40, my husband really needed to expand his graphic design business so I quit my job, joined him half the week as a Creative Partner leaving me the other half of the week to pursue self employment. I now write a blog that recently won North East Blogger of the Year, run upcycling workshops and I'm starting to make upcycled items to sell this year.

WHAT IS A NORMAL DAY FOR YOU?

There are so many different aspects to my work, I really don't think I have a normal day. One day I will be sourcing materials and objects in charity shops to use in my upcycling workshops. Others I'll be testing out paint techniques and drying times to make sure my ideas all work - I have to know the processes work before I unleash them onto others. Then around that, I fit in networking events and write features for my blog, www.allroundcreativejunkie.com.



HOW DID YOU GET INTO UPCYCLING THINGS?

I think my love of upcycling started with a chair I rescued from a skip. It's been used in every room in my house for the last 18 years and has developed a genuine shabby chic finish following years of wear and tear, it's almost an heirloom now.

I can't bear to see things thrown into landfill and I think everything can and should be reused. Through the blog and workshops I want to inspire children and adults alike to re-use the things around us to be creative and save money on buying new.

ANY ADVICE FOR GETTING INTO THE CREATIVE ZONE?

My main tip is just get started and go for it. If you're looking for ideas for a specific room or project, Pinterest is a good place to start. Gather together your ideas in your mood boards and you'll soon see your scheme develop. If you paint something and it's not exactly what you were after, then just paint it again – you can't really go wrong.

WHERE DO YOU LOOK FOR PROJECT INSPIRATION?

Inspiration is everywhere. I find colour ideas in nature mostly, there are no clashing shades in nature so it's a great place to start for colour schemes. Even our British grey skies are the perfect backdrop for splashes of colour. I love following other designers too, I'm a member of the Upcycled Hour Forum and each week on Twitter and Facebook we share our creations and bounce ideas around.

WHO DO YOU FOLLOW ON INSTAGRAM?

For a daily dose of inspiration, @jay_n_co posts a 'thought of the day' pic and a beautiful furniture picture every day. @sophierobinsoninteriors is a mix of interiors, products and so much colour! One to watch is @welcometoamateurhour, she is really experimental with colour and paint techniques.

WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE ROOM IN YOUR HOME AND WHY?

I love my kitchen / family room. It's a large open plan space perfect for lazy weekends with family, friends and food. It opens straight onto the garden. It's the reason we bought our home. For other projects I think kids' rooms are great, you can be really quirky and they tend to be a lot more adventurous than grown up spaces.

SO, WHAT'S THE NEXT BIG TREND?

I think people are getting much more creative and adventurous with their interiors. I think colour is back in a big way and paint is going to play a big part in that with people upcycling and revamping their current furniture rather than buying new. From wardrobes and shelves to even painting fabric and whole sofas with chalky finish paints and fabric spray - the possibilities are endless.

www.allroundcreativejunkie.com @cheryl_lumley



Cheryl gave this metal table a splash of bright colour with Rust-Oleum Mode Spray Paint in Sunflower.





Sarah Akwisombe joined forces with photographer Dan Annett on a still life project called 'The Object of My Profession'. Using a mixture of Rust-Oleum spray paints (Universal, Neon and Painter's Touch), Sarah created these images to reveal the objects different people come into contact with because of their profession. Can you guess the profession just by looking at the photographs?

MEET THE BLOGGERS

BLOGGERS HAVE BECOME THE NEW AUTHORITATIVE VOICE IN THE WORLD OF UPCYCLING AND INTERIORS. WE CAN (AND OFTEN DO) LOSE HOURS PERUSING THE LATEST PROJECTS ON OUR FAVOURITE BLOGS. NEED SOME PROJECT INSPIRATION? LOOK NO FURTHER...





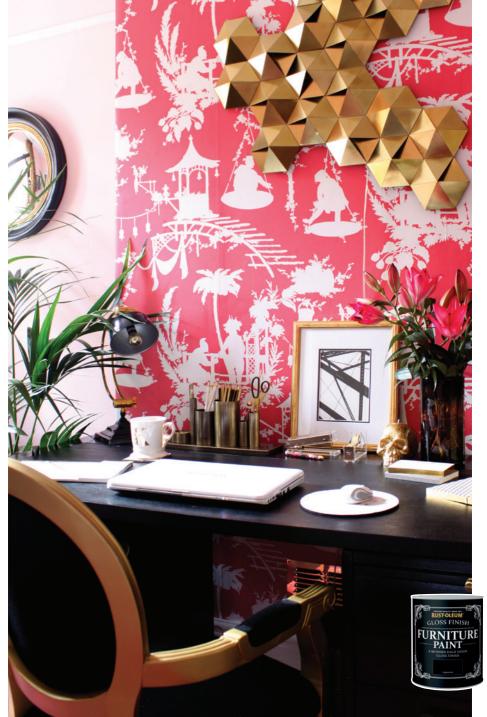
SARAH AKWISOMBE

Sarah is on a mission. Her blog was founded to help people find the confidence to show their true personality through their home styling. It's all about bold and rebellious statement pieces. We're also totally obsessed with her own personal fashion – she's definitely our one to watch. Lots to see here folks!

www.sarahakwisombe.com @SarahAkwisombe







Desk painted in Rust-Oleum Gloss Finish Furniture Paint in Black. Chair painted in Rust-Oleum Metallic Finish Furniture Paint in Gold.







SWOONWORTHY

Kimberly Duran is an award-winning UK interiors blogger. She describes her style as 'Eclectic Boho Glam' so don't expect to see anything resembling the minimalist look. Instead, you'll find luxurious ideas, plenty of animal prints, textured fabrics and bold patterns – all based around an affordable budget.

STYLED BY CHARLIE

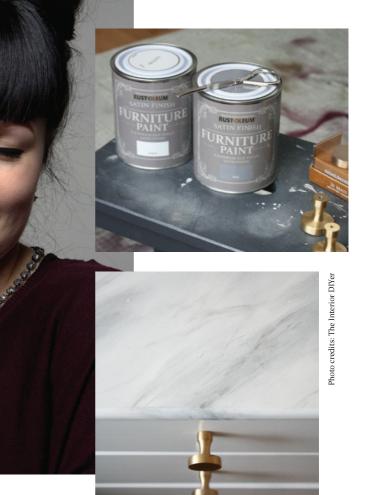
At just 21 years old it's exciting to see what else is in store for Charlie Pallett. Her homes and interiors section is filled with curated inspiration articles and how-to guides.

We can't get enough of her stylised Instagram feed either – her black and white photography is dreamy.

www.styledbycharlie.com @pallettBLOGGER

www.swoonworthy.co.uk @Redlilocks

LIFESTYLE MEET THE BLOGGERS



THE INTERIOR DIYER

Based in Dublin, Alex Carberry is an interior designer and DIY guru. Passionate about creating bespoke and affordable designs, you'll be amazed at some of her work but fear not, she makes all of her projects accessible and easy to follow. Many of her projects have a touch of luxe to them, we especially love her recent project where she transformed an every-day set of drawers into a lavish bedroom feature. She used Rust-Oleum Satin Finish Furniture Paint in Cotton and Slate to create a faux marble effect before topping it off with some designer-looking handles. The result, we're sure you will agree, is pretty impressive. From pine to divine in just two days!

Fancy giving it a go? Visit Alex's blog or follow her on Twitter for a daily dose of inspiration...

www.theinteriordiyer.com @InteriorDIYer



LIGHT UP

DRAB AND DULL LAMPSHADES CAN SUCK THE ENERGY OUT OF A ROOM NO MATTER HOW BRIGHT THE BULB. STEAL THE LIMELIGHT BACK WITH A COUPLE OF QUICK TIPS.

COLOUR POP

A lamp or light shade is the perfect way to add a pop of colour into a room. Multiple hanging lights are always chic when it comes to dining areas, as seen in trendy restaurants across the UK. If you have the option for several lights, try incorporating contrasting colours.

For maximum impact on a white backdrop, pair bright colours like Painter's Touch Spray Paint in Berry Pink and Rust-Oleum Mode Spray Paint in Pure Aqua with a neutral tone to add balance, such as Rust-Oleum Metallic Paint in Silver.

NIFTY AND NAUTICAL

A solution to adding light into dark corners is a wall lamp. We love this creation from Cityscape Bliss blogger, Tereza (right). She's cleverly upcycled a clip-on cord lamp, an old shelf bracket and some twine to install a light fixture. Simply spray the head, wrap the twine around the cord and drape over the shelf. Tick the metallics trend by using Rust-Oleum Metallic Spray Paint in Bright Gold or Copper.





THE DEVIL'S IN THE DETAILS

METALLIC DETAILING IS A FEATURE THAT NEVER GOES OUT OF STYLE IN THE HOME. WHETHER IT'S ADDING A TOUCH OF GILT TO A BEDSIDE TABLE OR A ROSE GOLD HIGHLIGHT ON SHELVES, THERE'S ALWAYS A SILVER LINING TO OLD FURNITURE.



As with anything in life, it can be the little things that make the biggest difference - the same goes with furniture. Those extra touches which take just minutes to create are often what makes the piece stand out.

Metallic detailing provides an interesting take on the shabby chic trend which is still high on the homes and interiors agenda. So if you want to add a contemporary touch to your furniture without going all out glam, this may be the look for you.

Thrifty blogger Cassiefairy has put this to the test by adding a new lease of life to a tired-looking chair with just a few licks of paint and a kitchen scourer.

Follow this simple how-to guide to get the look – brushes at the ready...











PROJECT: RUSTIC GOLD CHAIR

STEP 1

To make sure your effort doesn't go to waste and lasts for as long as possible, wipe down the chair to remove any stains, dirt and mould that may have gathered. After a good clean, leave the chair in a warm room on some newspaper to dry out thoroughly.

STEP 2

Turn your attention first to the metal finish you want as this paint will go on beneath the top colour – choose from Rust-Oleum Metallic Finish Furniture Paint in Silver or Gold. To minimise wastage, only paint the areas you wish to expose the detailing or, if you're undecided, a little goes a long way so cover the whole chair, giving it a good stir first with your brush. Allow for it to dry fully overnight.

Cassie's thrifty tip: Keep the rest of the tin for other small projects including picture frames, Christmas decorations and DIY gifts.

STEP 3

Using Rust-Oleum Chalky Finish Furniture Paint in a colour of your choice (Cassie opted for Ink Blue), give the chair a full covering. You can add two layers to be sure all nooks and crannies are reached.

STEP 4

Now for uncovering the buried treasure! Use sandpaper to rub away at the edges of the chair until you see the metallic paint peeping through. Then, arm yourself with a metal scouring pad on the chair tops and legs to finish off the distressed look in a matter of minutes.

Cassie's savvy tip: Do the rubbing off outside to keep the clean-up process painless. The chalky texture comes off really easily and turns into a blue powder that will be carried away by the wind.

The result is a sun-bleached, island-feel piece of furniture with a glamorous touch of gold which can be updated year after year.

For more information on Cassiefairy, check out her blog, www.cassiefairy.com





KIDS' CORNER

MAKING YOUR CHILD'S ROOM SOMEWHERE TO FIRE THEIR IMAGINATION CAN BE AS SIMPLE AS ADDING A TOUCH OF COLOUR AND CREATIVITY TO THE TOYS AND FURNITURE THEY ALREADY HAVE.

GIVE TOYS A NEW LEASE OF LIFE

Whether they're wooden, plastic or metal, a bright paint job can turn a dated toy into something fresh. Be bold and choose eye catching shades - the kiddies can even get involved in the process!

Rust-Oleum Painter's Touch comes in a small brush pot (20ml) and is ideal for any craft project. We upgraded these wooden, toy ducks with multiple colours including Antique Gold, Bright Orange and Aqua. If you fancy taking on some toy transformation, make sure you have the right size paint brushes so you can decorate even the most hard to reach spots.

The paint is water-based and most importantly, it is certified Toy Safe meaning they meet EU safety standards, so all you need to worry about is picking the right project to keep your little ones smiling...



FEATURE KIDS' CORNER



CHALKBOARD CHALLENGE

The opportunity to get creative is lurking in every corner. From walls to furniture, every surface has the potential to be transformed into a chalkboard. Using Rust-Oleum Chalkboard Brush Paint in Black, Blue, Pink or Red you can make sure your children have free reign when it comes to expressing themselves. Plus, you can wipe it all away and start again the next day.

Want to get involved too? A chalkboard space is perfect for family notice boards - you can even make it magnetic with Rust-Oleum Magnetic Chalkboard Paint, so it's twice the fun.

The possibilities really are endless – the above wooden cable reel was salvaged from a skip and upcycled into an interactive feature. We sanded and cleaned the surface before painting with Rust-Oleum Chalkboard Spray Paint in Black and doodling the street design with chalk pens. To add texture and further opportunity for creative play, we added fake grass on the top.









HANDMADE WEDDING

CREATING A PERSONALISED WEDDING IS EASIER THAN YOU THINK. WE'VE JOINED FORCES WITH UPCYCLING EXPERT CHERYL LUMLEY TO BRING YOU THREE EASY DIY PROJECTS DESIGNED TO ADD THAT EXTRA SPARKLE TO YOUR SPECIAL DAY.

BUNTING ON A BUDGET

Rustic weddings are always a popular choice and hessian (or burlap) bunting is a big feature of this style.

To create your own, you can buy hessian by the metre from craft stores or haberdasheries. Then, using a cardboard template cut out the bunting flags. Using a brush, stencil and a pot of Rust-Oleum Satin Finish Furniture Paint, stencil on initials to create your very own monogrammed bunting. To tie in the bunting with your existing theme, select complementary shapes such as hearts or stars.

You don't even need to sew this bunting, simply cut a small slot in the top corners of each flag and weave through ribbon or coloured jute string to match your colour scheme. It really couldn't be easier.



CREATIVE CENTREPIECES

Nothing says luxury better than a touch of gold, silver or copper. To inject the look into your wedding, try integrating accessories styled with a splash of metallic paint.

Upcycled bottles, jam jars or vases are great for table centrepieces as they add height and can be used to hold flowers, decorations or seating plans. Rather than going for identical shapes, different sizes can add a charmingly quirky style.

To create these centrepieces, we used Rust-Oleum Metallic Paint. We love the Gold and Copper shades which are ideal for creating an aged effect, while Bright Gold and Chrome bring the bling. You'll need a couple of coats of paint for each jar then, once dry, decorate with ribbons, buttons or even wool to tie in your colour scheme.





CHALKBOARD TABLE PLAN

While you may be organised on the day, your guests need a little direction – where to sit, what to drink, help in finding the loos... This is where old picture frames can become a wedding planner's dream. Scour charity shops for vintage frames and using textured paint, such as Rust-Oleum Furniture Paint in either Chalky Finish or Gloss, paint each of the frames in a shade to match your scheme. Next, remove the glass and paint the backing board with Rust-Oleum Chalkboard Paint in Black. By setting aside the glass you can re-use the frames afterwards as normal picture frames for all your wedding pictures!



GARDEN GLORY

GLOOMY GARDENS CAN MAKE VENTURING OUTDOORS AN UNINSPIRING PROSPECT. WE'RE ON A MISSION HELP THE NATION REGAIN THEIR GARDEN GLORY BY GOING BOLD WHEN IT COMES TO COLOUR.

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Bold colours needn't be restricted to flowers and you don't have to spend huge amounts of money to really make a difference. To give it a new lease of life, we used Rust-Oleum Universal Spray Paint in Sunset Orange to update the garden chair above. The folding table was also updated with Rust-Oleum Painter's Touch Spray Paint Berry Pink.

Give it a go and get creative with plant pots, tables and ornaments!

BATTERED BBQ?

It's not just garden accessories that can benefit from a touch of paint. When it comes to your BBQ or Chiminea there's no need to ditch it if it's looking a little worse for wear. Instead, cover up a little weather damage with Rust-Oleum Stove & BBQ paint. Heat resistant up to 650°C, the paint is available in black, silver and green. We used Rust-Oleum Stove & BBQ paint in Silver to clean up our Chiminea (right). If you want to give revamping your BBQ or Chiminea a try, simply mask off the propane tank (if it's a gas barbecue), wheels, shelves and other miscellaneous hardware using masking tape and apply Rust-Oleum Stove & BBQ paint to the entire outer surface.













TURN AN OLD PALLET INTO A SIDE BAR

Come rain or shine, a side bar will win you favours at your next garden party. We transformed this old, wooden pallet by sanding it down and giving it a good clean before using Rust-Oleum Painter's Touch in Dark Grey. We then painted a piece of MDF with Rust-Oleum Mode in Sunflower to create a high gloss finish for the bar top and fixed together. Drink anyone?



TREND WATCH

STRAIGHT OFF THE CATWALK, THIS YEAR COLOUR, PATTERN AND TROPHY ITEMS ARE KEY TRENDS AND HOMES AND INTERIORS ARE FOLLOWING SUIT. CHECK OUT OUR TOP THREE TRENDS TO WATCH OUT FOR...

STRIPES

Catwalks from Paris to Milan all showed an array of graphic prints in recent collections. Chevrons and stripes have continued to make an impact and are transitioning into our homes. Integrating these prints into your abode can be achieved by making simple, stripy additions to neutral pieces or by going bold and covering a large surface area with striking stripes.

We painted this trolley (left) with Rust-Oleum Chalky Finish Furniture Paint in Winter Grey and created the chevron design with Rust-Oleum Metallic Spray Paint in Bright Gold.

(If you're looking for a simple, on-trend addition to your interiors, this project could be the one for you as combining stripes with this year's metallic detailing trend will get you double points!)





STATEMENT MIRRORS

On the catwalk and in the home, metallics continue to be a big trend, with rose gold and copper still reining supreme. Nowhere is this seen with such style than in the rise of the statement mirror.

Whether shop-bought or bargained for at a car boot sale, statement mirrors come in all shapes and sizes and can be cheaply made to look a million dollars with a lick of paint.

Our vintage gilt mirror has been upcycled with Rust-Oleum Chalky Finish in Hessian to give it a Parisian look, while other trends have seen mirrors given a splash of bright neon or metallic paint to make them pop off a neutral wall.



PRETTY PASTELS

Runways have been awash with pastel tones which return season after season.

Pastel hues create a calming ambiance and are perfect for injecting light into smaller rooms. There is something refreshing about transforming a piece of dark and dated furniture into something pretty – it's the perfect upcycling project.

Combining pastel shades with on trend Chalky Finish Furniture Paint can bring any room up to date no matter what the style of furniture. A mixture of pastel shades look great together, so why not try reflecting Pantone's Colour of the Year 2016, which is a blend of two shades – Rose Quartz and Serenity? You can get the look by integrating Chalky Finish Furniture Paint in China Rose and Powder Blue into a single piece of furniture.

This dressing table was painted with Chalky Finish Furniture Paint in Coral. The softer palette means that one single colour doesn't feel too overwhelming so accessories can be painted in the same colour. We finished off the project by updating a chair with the same paint in Flint and protecting with Rust-Oleum Furniture Finishing Wax in Clear. If you have furniture which doesn't match, pastels are a great way to harmonise several pieces.











This telephone table was given a new purpose as a bedside table and brought up to date with a delicious addition of Chalky Finish Furniture Paint in Lilac Wine. We also painted the interior in Belgrave for an extra pop of colour.

LET US SPRAY

TURNING THE ORDINARY INTO SOMETHING EXTRAORDINARY CAN BE ACHIEVED SIMPLY BY USING SPRAY PAINT. TRIGGER FINGERS AT THE READY...



Wicker picnic basket sprayed with Rust-Oleum Mode in Celeste.



Buddha ornament sprayed with Rust-Oleum Textured, Pebble Finish.



Lamp pedestal and frame s prayed with Rust-Oleum Mode in Hot Pink.



Utensils sprayed with Rust-Oleum Painter's Touch in Berry Pink, Sun Yellow and Deep Blue.



Metal sign sprayed with Rust-Oleum Painter's Touch in French Lilac.



Teapot sprayed with Rust-Oleum Painter's Touch in Winter Grey.



Shoe rack sprayed with Rust-Oleum Painter's Touch in Satin White.



Waste basket sprayed with Rust-Oleum Metallic in Bright Copper.



Stool sprayed with Rust-Oleum Painter's Touch in Gloss Black.

QUESTION TIME

WHETHER IT'S SHARING INSPIRATION OR LENDING A HAND TO OUR COMMUNITY, THE TEAM AT RUST-OLEUM ARE GLUED TO SOCIAL MEDIA. HERE WE ANSWER SOME OF OUR MOST RECENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS.

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"I'M ABOUT TO REVAMP A PIECE OF WOOD FURNITURE WITH YOUR CHALKYFINISH FURNITURE PAINT, WILL I NEED TO SAND IT FIRST?"

Although Rust-Oleum Chalky Finish Furniture Paint is made for application direct to surfaces without the need to prime or sand, it always depends on the project itself. We would recommend lightly sanding most surfaces followed by a wipe down with a clean, damp cloth, then wait until dry before painting.

If you suspect the surface may be contaminated with varnish or other treatments, use wire wool and white spirit to clean it before lightly sanding and wiping down. This will ensure the paint doesn't react to any previous surface contaminants (commonly found on vintage pieces).

"IS PAINT SAFE TO USE ON A LAMPSHADE IF IT SAYS FLAMMABLE ON THE TIN?"

Although the can says flammable, the product is only flammable in its liquid form so once the paint is dry this would no longer be a danger.

"I WANT TO REVAMP MY CHILDREN'S TOYS BUT I'M NOT SURE WHAT PAINT TO USE?"

You're in luck! All of our paints are certified Toy Safe meeting strict EU safety standards, so you have a huge selection of paints and colours to choose from. We would recommend giving Painter's Touch or Universal Spray Paint a go.

"HOW DO I AVOID PAINT RUNS WHEN SPRAY PAINTING?"

It sounds like you are applying too much paint at once, causing it to drip. The key to spray painting is adding little by little. Apply thin, even coats and allow to dry between each layer to get a drip free, even finish. Nobody is perfect, so if you do get a little drip here and there, simply sand it off with a fine sandpaper and apply a few more coats of spray paint to cover it.

"CAN I SPRAY PAINT A HANDBAG?"

Yes! We recommend using our Flexible Fabric Paint. It comes in Black, Silver or Gold and can transform the appearance of leather, vinyl and most fabrics. Your bag will be looking as good as new in no time.

"DO YOU HAVE A SPRAY PAINT THAT WOULD BE SUITABLE FOR SPRUCING UP THE APPEARANCE OF A FRIDGE?"

Spray painting is the best way to improve the appearance of an old appliance that has been chipped, marked or discoloured over time. It can also be used to match odd appliances, rather than incurring the expense of a new one. Rust-Oleum Appliance Enamel comes in White and Stainless Steel and will give a smooth, professional finish to your old fridge.

For more painting advice and how-to guides visit www.makeityours.co.uk.







COMPETITION WINNERS

FOR THE LAST FIVE YEARS, RUST-OLEUM HAS RUN A MONTHLY COMPETITION INVITING YOU TO SUBMIT YOUR PROJECT FOR A CHANCE TO WIN £250. HERE ARE SOME FAVOURITES.

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ANNIE TAYLOR

We love this extremely funky update on a set of drawers, rescued from the skip and given a new lease of life. Using a selection of Painter's Touch brush and spray paints, Annie first sketched out a retro 1930s inspired design, then built up the colours one by one. Annie is so pleased with the results that she now can't wait to embark upon another Rust-Oleum project.

NICOLA PICKARD

Nicola ingeniously created a chalkboard wine rack using MDF and cut down drainpipe. A brilliant solution to filling in a space between her IKEA cabinets and the wall, Nicola used Rust-Oleum Chalkboard Paint in Black and Rust-Oleum Direct to Plastic Spray Paint for the drainpipes. This is a great way of organising bottles and creates a real feature in the room.









MELISSA LIBERTON-TURNER

Melissa very stylishly transformed a chest of drawers using Rust-Oleum Chalky Finish Furniture Paint in Anthracite as a base and Rust-Oleum Chalky Finish Furniture Paint in Winter Grey as a topcoat. She has then distressed the topcoat to reveal the darker colour below, and decorated the sides of the drawers with Winter Grey stripes.

ROBBYN-JANE WILMOT

Robbyn-Jane renovated her caravan by transforming the drab and dated interior with lots of elbow grease and a splash Rust-Oleum Chalky Finish Furniture Paint. Using the contrasting shades of Belgrave, Sage Green, Clotted Cream and Winter Grey she painted the cupboards and trims, creating a totally personal space.

NATALIE HUTCHINSON

Natalie transformed a set of beaten up 1950s school lockers with a pop of colour. Painted in Rust-Oleum Painter's Touch in Sun Yellow the lockers look unrecognisable to their former, rusty selves and would make a great bold statement in any home.



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Every month until the end of **December 2017** we're offering our customers an opportunity to win £250. To be in with a chance of winning all you need to do is send us "before" & "after" photographs of any project painted with **Rust-Oleum** products. Where possible, include the can of paint in the photograph. Each month our panel of judges will select the most original and creative projects. The winning project will win £250 and ten runners up will each receive a bumper pack of **Rust-Oleum paints.**

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See website for competition rules and full terms and conditions. Entrants must be 18 or over. Competition runs until the 31st December 2017. Submitted projects must involve the use of Rust-Oleum paints. One cash prize of £250 is offered per month. 10 runners up prizes of Rust-Oleum paints up to the value of 6 cans of spray paint - no cash alternative. Promoter: Tor Coatings Ltd., DH3 2RE, UK.





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