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Let's braai!

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hello

In May we celebrated Mother's Day, in June it's dad's turn.

And what better way to celebrate than with a cook-up in the braai room? After all, this room is the natural habitat of most fathers. And why not make this space as stylish as the rest of the house?

This is how things work at *Home*: all around the country we have stylists constantly on the lookout for homes that we can photograph. Sometimes it's an entire house, sometimes just a room that's been beautifully decorated. But somewhere someone is always on this mission – from Pretoria and Bloemfontein to Swellendam and Cape Town.

When we started discussing braai rooms, there were protests from up north. No, the team in Gauteng declared, people here don't use braai rooms, they simply braai outdoors. And then, of course, the usual jokes were made about how unpredictable (actually, they meant awful!) the Cape weather can be. Like the other day when I mentioned on the phone what a perfect day it was here in Cape Town, autumn at its glorious best, and I received this dry comment in reply: "Only Capetonians would announce a lovely day, because it happens so seldom..."

But I digress. Our stylists went looking and came back with proof that when our nation braais, we do it in style. Check out the Rautenbachs' gorgeous braai room with its corrugated iron ceiling in Johannesburg (see page 56). And although the Van der Merwes of Swellendam don't, strictly speaking, have a braai room, we couldn't resist showing you their cosy patio in their back garden. I've spent time socialising on that very patio (see page 50). Heavenly!

On a different note: winter is upon us, and who among us doesn't struggle with a shady spot in their garden? That dusty, barren area where nothing grows, where the sun's rays almost never reach. We asked readers on Facebook to take photos of their problem spots and share them with us – and there was a flood of responses! We selected three gardens and asked the experts to offer their solutions for the readers' dilemmas – check out our gardening pages. I hope that by next winter everyone's shade problems will be a thing of the past.

Stay warm, snuggle up on the sofa and enjoy the restfulness of the winter months.

wicus

Paint it!

Our first bonus magazine of the year is now on sale! Look out for *Home Paint It* – it's filled with loads of inspiration for those homeowners who love to wield a paintbrush. Techniques, lots of makeovers, advice on colour choices – it's all included. If you struggle to find a copy, please send an email to editor@homemag.co.za.



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(Photostats, faxes and posting cost R25)

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Published by Media24, Naspers Centre, 40 Heerengracht, Cape Town, 8001. Tel: 021 406 2121

CEO: Media24 Esmaré Weideman General Manager: Lifestyle Charlene Beukes CFO: Media24 Lifestyle Raj Lalbahadur Publisher Marina Smith • Finance Manager Jameelah Conway



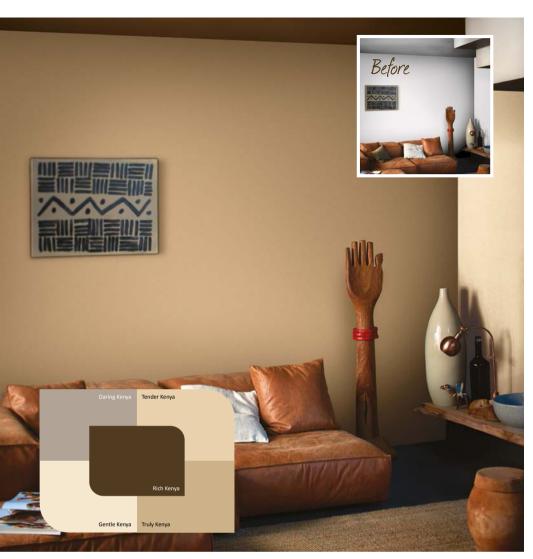








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Bring the warmth and majesty of Africa into your home...

Make your home a sanctuary of comfort and cosiness this winter with a soulful combination of earthy tones inspired by the great plains of Kenya.

magine the great plains of this majestic destination and you'll find yourself in a landscape that's at one with nature. This strength and harmony are captured in the authentic colour palette inspired by Mother Earth. Now thanks to Dulux, creating this look is easier than ever before. The Dulux Colours of the World™ range of easy-to-use colour perfect combinations (inspired by the world's most beautiful destinations) brings you Soulful Kenya™ - a palette that proves that colours don't have to be vivid and attention-seeking to be bold and exciting.

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Colours used on the walls in the main image are Truly Kenya™ and Gentle Kenya™.

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your space

Write to us at Home, Readers' Letters, PO Box 1802, Cape Town 8000; email editor@homemag.co.za, fax 021 408 3046, and join our Facebook group (facebook.com/homemag) or follow us on Twitter @TuisHomeMag.



WINNING LETTER

Timeless trend

Ethel Sleith of Johannesburg writes I love the idea of using wallpaper offcuts to decorate a room, as featured in your April issue.

Many, many years ago, my dad – a house painter – was given several books of wallpaper samples by a homeowner. He brought them home, took the books apart and wallpapered our entire living room. My mom was delighted, and visitors amused.

The house in Brixton is today a national monument – an original wood and iron building – and I have so many happy memories of living there. Sadly, I imagine the wallpaper my dad so lovingly applied has not survived. I only wish we'd been as camera-happy as we are today as I, unfortunately, have no pictures.

Dolled up!

Rosie Maree of Stellenbosch writes

I'd like to share my story with you; it all started with load-shedding...

I'm a receptionist and because of the power cuts, the phone was silent. Suddenly, I had a bright idea. I had a few copies of *Home* with me, so I made a doll's house for my four-year-old niece from boxes decorated with pictures from the magazines. She lives in a flat and she doesn't like playing outside because she doesn't get along with some of the other kids in the flats. It was really worth it when

I saw how her face lit up.



She still loves her doll's house. Thank you, *Home*. I get so much pleasure from your magazine.

Platteland is best!

Marie du Plooy of Bloemfontein writes

With the arrival of the internet, the world literally and figuratively shrunk as news and information spread in seconds over the entire globe. One of the consequences is the uncertainty about the future of books, papers, magazines and libraries.

Many readers are no longer content with printed newspapers and books, and the protracted Post Office strike last year has certainly helped. It's the very same strike that compelled me to think about how I want to read my *Home...*

Most people live in cities these days, but there's a yearning for the platteland. The platteland isn't a place. No, it's something of an experience of it-would-be-heaven-there. Perhaps what Albert Einstein said, "I fear the day that technology will surpass our human interaction. The world will have a generation of idiots", has something to do with the fact that I prefer a 'paper' *Home* magazine.

With a figurative rain dance of happiness, I want to take a paper *Home* out of the post box or off the shelf. The feeling of the paper, the awareness of the fragrance of the printer's ink, the experience of turning the page and reading quietly is still a longing...

Congratulations on a fabulous April 2015 issue with beautiful platteland features!

IN SHORT





The editor's letter in the April edition of *Home* invited readers to send in pictures of how we've incorporated a touch of black into our homes. I have a beautiful old farmhouse in which I recently painted two black statement walls – I was worried about how it would turn out, but took the plunge anyway. I was rather delighted with the results.

- Sharon Rossouw, Bloemfontein

After living in our Johannesburg home for 30 years, my husband and I have relocated to Westville in KZN where we bought a house that we've been renovating to suit our needs. Our inspiration comes from Home — and we never miss an issue! In Johannesburg, I had a lovely organic vegetable garden which was my hobby and delight. But now we have a huge troop of monkeys that raid the kitchen and bird feeder, and generally inhabit the canopy of trees in our garden, making it impossible to have an open veggie garden. Thanks for inspiring our work in progress! — Lorna Brophy, Westville

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The writer of the winning letter gets a Linen Drawer voucher worth R1 500!

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Compiled by Johané Neilson



diary

ON THE BOX

Design Doctors (starts 11 June on the Home Channel, 176 on DStv) stars dynamic duo Aoife Rhattigan and Garry Cohn who give us a sneak peek into the world of interior design, showing us just how designers come up with and then execute their concepts. Don't miss it!



Wild at heart

The ABSA Kirkwood Wildsfees from 26–28 June has something for everyone! The festival in this charming town in the Eastern Cape boasts top performers, educational puppet shows, a premier game auction and much more. Entrance is R120 for adults and R60 for kids older than seven (weekend passes also available). Call 042 230 0064 or visit wildsfees.co.za.

East Coast Radio House & Garden Show

June 26 - July 5: **Durban Exhibition Centre**

Prepare to be swept off your feet and into a world of dream homes and enviable gadgets at this year's East Coast Radio House & Garden Show. More than 350 exhibitors from KZN will be on show and other highlights include the Kids Zone, Homegrown Design Fair, Gardener LIVE section. DIY Zone and the Kitchen Zone. Tickets cost R85 for adults. R60 for seniors and under-16s enter free; for further details, go to housegardenshow.co.za.



June flashes

4-6: Don't miss The Wine Show at Durban's luxurious Suncoast Hotel and Casino: visit wineshow.co.za.

6: 13: 20: 27: The Tokai Forest Market presents the perfect excuse to go shopping every Saturday between 9:00 and 14:00. Expect everything from delicious baked treats to jewellery and handcrafted décor items; go to



tokaiforestmarket.co.za.

15: July issue of Home on sale.

15-19: Artspace Durban at 3 Millar Road is hosting a group exhibition with the theme 'Vinyl | Records | LPs'. Check out artspace-durban.com.

16: Youth Day





18-20: Enjoy all the best local and international whiskies presented under one roof at the Whisky Live Showroom at The Lookout in Granger Bay, Cape Town. Get tickets for R170 at whiskylivefestival.co.za or at

ticketpro.co.za.

21 Happy Father's Day!

Raise your glasses

The annual Calitzdorp Port & Wine Festival is being rejuvenated in 2015! Instead of just the usual weekend, this year's event offers a full month's experience of 'Winter in Calitzdorp'. Sample top red wines and the region's champion Cape Ports, then visit local cellars and enjoy tastings at each of them. Visit portwinefestival.co.za for updates.



Sustainability Week takes place

from 23–28 June at the **CSIR** International Convention highlights is The Green Home Brooklyn Mall. For details, visit sustainabilityweek.co.za



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what's new

Compiled by Beatrice Moore-Nöthnagel

Please send décor and lifestyle news to news@homemag.co.za.

Watch this space!

BUSINESS Lalla's Ceramics WHO Helouise Barry WHERE Pretoria

HER WORK Whenever we feature one of Helouise's ceramic masterpieces in *Home*, we're inundated with queries from readers who want to buy her products.

"I'd describe my work as a pot full of sun – it's playful and brings out the child in me," says Helouise. "What started out as a hobby many years ago when I took up pottery classes, soon turned into a business. Today, I derive so much satisfaction from being creative and being able to bring joy to people's homes.

"What I enjoy most about my work is that surprise you get when you open the kiln door to see what you've created – and, of course, the look on my clients' faces."

Find Helouise's pieces at Isabelina in the Western Cape and Jo'burg, or email her at **Iallaceramics@gmail.com** for a list of stockists.



Unleash your inner artist with StickArt's innovative interactive wallpaper (R450/m², stickart.co.za). Use felt tip pens, crayons or paint to colour in your wallpaper with its stunning black and white designs.

Biggie Be a new soli range con dining room matching coffee table weathered grey-wash suit any divisit bigg

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those serious about
interiors. Check out
lagrangeinteriors.co.za.





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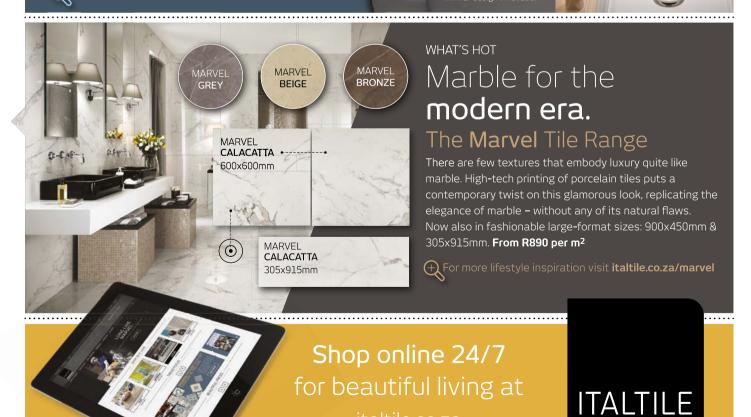
> MARVEL BEIGE 600x600mm 450x900mm

MARVEL **CALACATTA** 600x600mm 450x900mm GLOSS

305x915mm





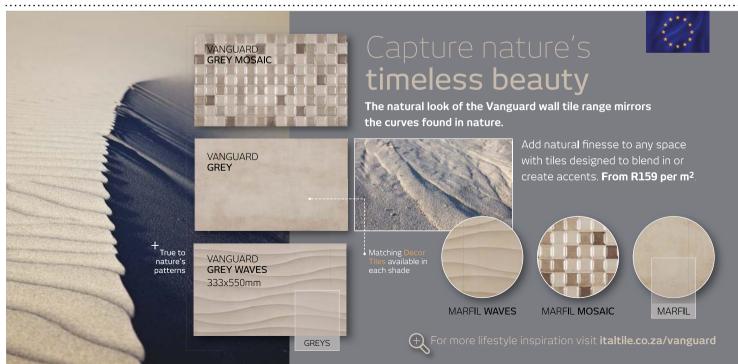


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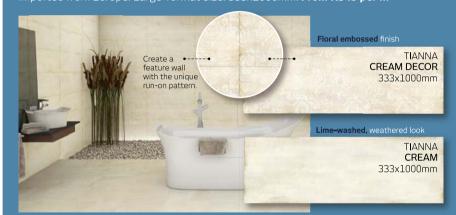
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ometimes in life, things happen all at once
– 2006 was that kind of year for Trevor and Diaan
Naude. Both resigned from their respective

Naude. Both resigned from their respective jobs to start their own business – the construction and installation of kitchen cabinets – and just when they'd converted their second bedroom into a home office, little Bernard (now eight years old) made an appearance.

"We were literally bursting at the seams in our previous home, but it took quite some time to find our new house, which we bought in September 2007," explains Diaan. It had all the extra space they needed, but it was the large, lush garden that sealed the deal. They moved in that December and two years later their youngest, John (now six), was born.

"Our garage housed our first factory!" recalls Diaan. These days, their factory is in Brackenfell and they've converted the garage into a home office. The couple

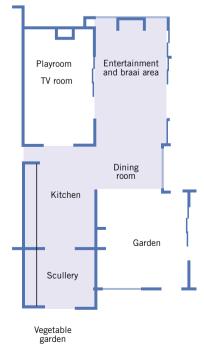
demolished quite a few walls in the house to combine all the living areas into one open-plan space and added on three rooms: a scullery next to the kitchen, a new en-suite bathroom for the main bedroom and the braai room where the stoep used to be.

They also built a brand new kitchen. And how did it go with two kitchen designers under one roof? "Trevor and I complement each other well. He's the practical one and I'm the aesthetic one. Nevertheless, we were simply unable to design our own kitchen!" laughs Diaan.

"A friend who's also a kitchen designer, Elizma Kohne, had to step in and help us make up our minds!"

Pretty practical

In the winter months, the family migrates like swallows to the warmest spot in their home – the braai room. That's when they move a table in front of the fire where they play board games, eat dinner and hang out.









"Trevor's other profession is braaiing," teases Diaan. "So we simply had to have a well-equipped braai, as it would be used more often than the stove in the kitchen."

Although it's an attractive room with earthy textures and a muted palette, Trevor planned it very practically. "The light in the braai was vital as was the granite countertop on the right which allows me to work hygienically with meat." Trevor's only regret is that the stacking doors open the wrong way for the Cape south-easter.

Trevor arranged the storage space so that everything is close at hand and does not detract from the open-plan aesthetic. "I store my braai equipment under the braai out of sight, so it always looks neat. The wood is stacked under the counter and bench where it's easy to access and also looks attractive," he says.

Trevor recently replaced the original chimney vane with a nifty Whirlybird turbine vent, which he loves. "It has made such a

big difference to the problem of smoke in our house."

Diaan adds: "We braai at least four times a week. Trevor always asks what I'm planning for dinner and then says that if the food can be cooked in the oven, it can surely be braaied just as easily. He literally puts anything on the coals. But for Father's Day, mother and sons will have to put together a special braaied chicken dish because that's his favourite." >>

A herb and vegetable garden is situated right outside the kitchen door with a bounty of basil, tomatoes and beans in raised planters.







The décor

Modern yet earthy is how Diaan and Trevor describe their décor style. The black slate floor is classic yet practical with two young children in the house. It creates a neutral backdrop for splashes of bright colour.

The couple's love of wood can be seen throughout the house – from the old-world cupboard in their modern kitchen to the braai room where piles of wood form an eye-catching focal point and the main bedroom's bathroom where a vanity made from American oak is mounted on the wall.

"We're homebodies who love the texture and warmth of wood. It contrasts beautifully with cool colours, such as the blue wall tiles in the kitchen, and hard surfaces like the black slate floors," says Diaan.

But the Naudes say it's also about balance: "The quartz countertops would have seemed very cold without the wooden countertop on the kitchen island and the large freestanding wooden cupboard," explains Diaan.

And with all its cosy fires, this home is the epitome of warm and inviting. 🗊



STOCKISTS Albert Carpets 021 464 4320, kbacflooring.co.za; **ArtLab** 021 448 1421, artlab.co.za **Bascule Joinery** 021 910 0799, 083 501 0891, basculejoinery.co.za **Coricraft** 021 508 5200, coricraft.co.za **Midas Earthcote** 012 653 3354, 021 554 2814, midaspaints.co.za **Italtile** 011 510 9000, italtile.co.za **Koöperasie Stories** 076 303 9336 **Weylandts** 0860 103 400, weylandts.co.za **Woolworths** 0860 022 002, woolworths.co.za

readerhome



vanity (right) by Bascule Joinery;
lets

When they're not kicking a ball in the garden, Bernard (left) and John like to have fun in their playroom.

Diaan and her mother,
Ina van Blerk, painted the stripes on the wall; Diaan bought the mat years ago at Builders. All the bedrooms, like John's (far right), have shutters and blinds instead of curtains.

Shutters by Bascule Joinery























ABOVE LEFT The sunken floor in the dining room was filled in with rubble. LEFT Thabo compacted the floor of the new living area and braai room which was built on outside the dining room.

hat does a *boytjie* from the Free State do if you put him in a small house in the big city? He builds a braai of course – or three! Just ask Thabo Grobbelaar of Woodstock, Cape Town. Thabo (a nickname from his childhood; his real name is Jean-Coert) and his wife, Johanette, bought a 1940s house in 2003.

A year and a half ago, the Grobbelaars decided to build on a big living room and an indoor braai area sheltered from the cold Cape winter. As with previous projects, Thabo, an art director in the film industry, did the work himself with the help of a bakkie builder – and now the house is a spacious 200m².

A concrete floor was laid in the new lounge and double French doors were installed to link the space to the courtyard and outdoor braai. New custom-made stacking doors from Montana Folding Doors & Joinery in Pretoria open out to the new adjacent braai room (*previous page*). At a later stage, they want to extend the braai room by building a stoep leading out to the garden.

Now, after almost 12 years in the house, Thabo has no less than three braais – one for every season, or as the mood takes him. >>



The new open-plan lounge with its striking fireplace, bookshelves and Stucco Italiano finish has transformed the small house into a spacious, contemporary home. The other interior walls are painted with Titian Expressions from Dulux.

Artworks on mantelpiece and Artvraat rabbit cushion from Quirky Me

hope is the thing with feathers that perches in the soul, and sines the tuge videout the words, and severe so at all, and sweetest in the gale is hard; and or must be the storm that can shall, and sweetest in the gale is hard; and or must be the chilliest land and on the strangest sea; yet, never, in extremity, it asked a crumb of me. hope is the thing with feathers that perches in the soul, and sings the tune without the words, and never stops at all, and sweetest in the gale is heard; and sore must be the storm that could abash the little lard that kept so many warm. I have tit in the chilliest land and on the sure set sea; yet, never in extremity, it asked a crumb of me. hope is the many with feathers that perches in the soul, and sings the tune without the















ABOVE LEFT At the back of the property there was a small courtyard, but the Grobbelaars say it was actually used as a rubbish dump. Thabo got stuck in: he levelled the floor and built two braais in the space – a small covered one and an open one against another wall.



A whole new look

When they bought the house it was a bit on the small side but it had a number of things going for it, such as the fact that it's on a corner stand and isn't semi-detached like so many others in the neighbourhood. So there was lots of potential for adding on and also space on the 470m² property for a patch of lawn and a vegetable garden.

Johanette, an accountant, says they were able to buy the three-bedroom house for a

song because at that time the area was still a bit "rough"; today, property in Upper Woodstock is highly sought after.

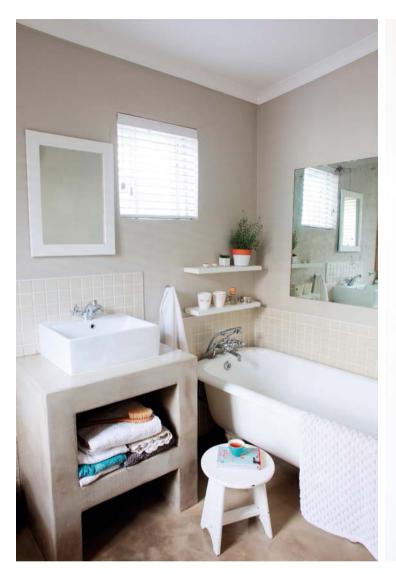
"The first thing that caught my eye was the stoep because it reminded me of my childhood," she says. It still has its original terrazzo floor tiles.

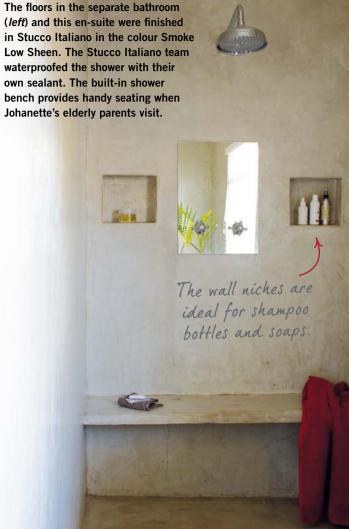
Like many people who renovate old houses, the Grobbelaars demolished a few interior walls to create an open-plan space and to let in more light. But they first had to get permission from the National Heritage Council because the house was 60 years old. "We never thought we'd live in a heritage home!" laughs Johanette.

"There was only one bathroom and it was dark. Luckily, the original wooden floors were in excellent condition; we haven't needed to do anything to them at all."

The sunken dining room floor was raised to the same level as the kitchen and hallway, and screeded with Stucco Italiano in the colour Smoke to create an earthy look; it now matches the wooden hallway floor. >>

I love all the changes - especially because everything is light and open. - (Johanette





Old and new with a retro touch

Most of the furniture in the house consists of oak heirlooms or Oregon pine from the couple's childhood days – some pieces still look the same, while others received a coat of paint or new handles.

"My style is a blend of old and new, while Thabo loves the retro look," says Johanette. 'New' furniture is usually bought second-hand and is often in a retro style to balance Johanette's vintage items. And for a modern touch, they sometimes buy a side table or décor items at stores such as Weylandts.

"We do everything to do with the house together. We shop around for bargains and never buy anything without first discussing it with each other. It's a hobby we both enjoy. My daughter Mia has already left home, so we have lots of time to browse," says Johanette. Which is why on a Saturday morning you'll most likely find them at the Old Biscuit Mill in Woodstock or browsing second-hand stores and markets, something for which this neighbourhood has reached near cult status. Among their other favourite stores are LIM and Klooftique in Kloof Street in the Cape Town CBD.

"We love earthy colours, but we like to use red as an accent – in small doses," adds Johanette.

"We'll still be here in 40 years' time. Although its value has increased significantly over the years, I don't think we'll be moving out of this house anytime soon."

Johanette and Thabo's décor tips

- Maintain a balance between different styles; for example, two retro chairs with a modern sofa and an heirloom coffee table work well in a living room.
- Don't buy all your furniture and décor at the same time – check out various places until you find the perfect item.
- Combine wood with a lick of paint a retro dresser will look very trendy with the backing board painted a nice colour.
- Make sure there's sufficient natural light at all times our braai room has a transparent roof that lets light into the living room.
- Don't build your braai too small. You can always make a smaller fire if there's just two of you, but there must be space for plenty of coals if you have lots of guests.

readerhome









hen Peet and Elria Steinberg moved to their farm between Hendrina and Carolina in Mpumalanga 30 years ago, their first home was a small

rondawel on the property. Five years later, they decided to build their own place and, true to the fashion of the early '80s, it was a clinker brick home with lots of arches. "They were the in-thing," laughs Elria.

"I was 26 years old when we started building," she recalls. "My father-in-law muttered: 'The children are building a cattle kraal'."

But by August 2013, Elria had had enough of the dark clinker brick and separate rooms and so began a transformation that today literally causes one to do a double-take.

Elria and Peet are doing the renovations in stages. "A house is like a living organism – it's never finished," she says. The couple first tackled the living areas and kitchen, and then the façade of the house. Finally, they turned their attention to building their dream stoep.

Outdoor living

The tiny area at the back of the house where Elria and Peet enjoyed a cup of coffee at five o' clock every afternoon was where they decided to build a spacious, sociable stoep.

It's now their favourite spot – the stoep is 16.5m long and 5.7m wide, and it's able to accommodate a 5m-long table. "I feel like someone who's 'arrived' when I walk out here in the morning or when I set a table for a meal with friends," says Elria.

To allow sunlight and warmth in, and keep the house light and sunny, Peet and Elria covered the stoep with transparent roof sheeting and installed a bluegum *latte* 'ceiling' to add texture. When it got too hot that first summer, Elria simply bought lengths of canvas and stapled them to the *latte*. Misters on the roof provide additional relief from the heat.

The floor was cement screeded and painted with Medal Paints' Brick Dressing; this gives it a glossy sheen that is easy to clean and it's hard-wearing. >>

ABOVE A grove of birch trees frames the house with its striking new stone façade. Elria and Peet love their entertainment area on the northerly side of the house (above centre) and Elria painted the tile effect on the little stoep outside the kitchen herself. "I couldn't find the tiles I wanted so I did this effect with some masking tape and paint." Stump stools (top left) were made from old bluegum trees felled on the farm: they're mounted on castors for ease of movement. The cane chair is from Mr Price Home.







Elria likes to combine old and new and even though many pieces of furniture are painted white, she didn't want to completely get rid of dark wood in the house. For example, there's the antique wardrobe that she bought at her first auction and a dresser that belonged to Peet's grandmother with the inscription "Samora Machel, Mozambique" on it.

it wasn't necessary

to sand all the

wood first).

An old SAPS (South African Police Service) table was sanded and is now being used as a coffee table. They've kept most of the furniture that already had pride of place in their home 30 years ago – although now it's quite unrecognisable in its new guise.

"In those days, there weren't any furniture stores, especially on the platteland. But the OK had furniture," Elria chuckles, pointing to two chairs. "I saved R200 a month at Old Mutual for this little set." As part of the renovation she sanded the dark wood down to its raw state and the chairs were upholstered in new fabric.



An industrial feel

The kitchen was a challenge. "We moved our kitchen to the lounge for four months and cooked on a Primus stove. It was awful!" recalls Elria. "Every time I opened a can of tuna, I had to walk outside to drain the can."

ABOVE The bulk of the furniture is nearly 30 years old, but has been given a whole new look over the years.

They removed the low, water-stained ceiling in the small, dark clinker brick kitchen with its kiaat cabinets in the hope that the roof beams would still be in good condition. Luckily, they were – a pleasant surprise and one of Elria's highlights of the building process. Some of the plumbing was visible and although Peet took time to get used to it, he now agrees that this contributes to the authentic French industrial style of the kitchen.

They also demolished some walls and the end result is a room with warmth and lots of light, two fireplaces and attention to detail at every turn.

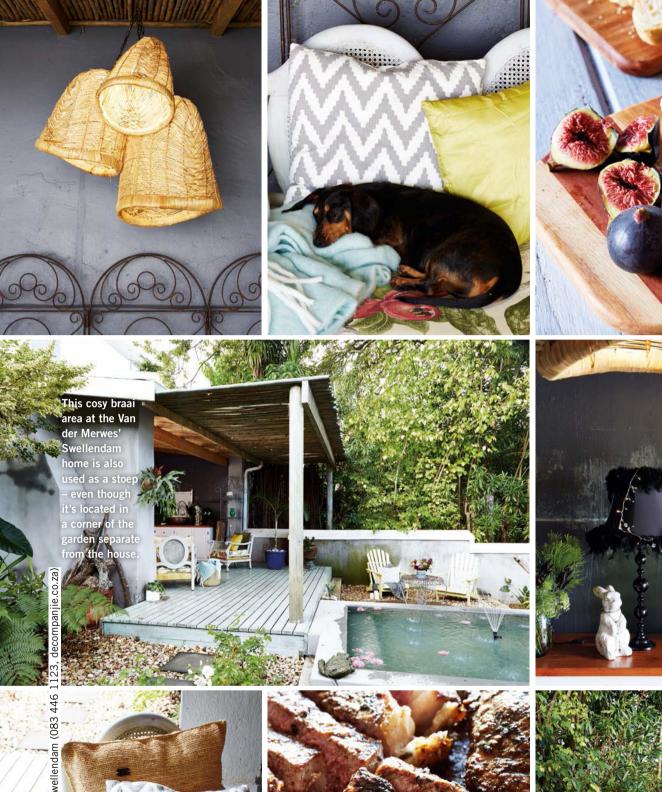
How does Peet feel about the restoration? "I actually feel very sorry for him because he got an A average for woodwork in matric and I think he dreamed of stinkwood and yellowwood furniture with perfect dovetail joins," teases Elria.

"I think he battles a bit with my taste, but he has a very good spatial understanding and I will always ask his opinion when I renovate. Ultimately, he loves the end result and appreciates the fact that I handle everything myself." $\widehat{\blacksquare}$



Comfortable seating, a table to gather around and clever storage space for wood are some of the elements used by our readers to create warm and inviting braai rooms...



















Why this room works

- It's a separate room, which allows the homeowners to close the door and forget about the dishes.
- Earthy textures such as a reed ceiling, cane furniture, a wooden table and wooden countertops add to the cosy ambience.
- The practical concrete floor can handle coal embers and marinade spills.
- Second-hand buys, such as the chest that serves as a coffee table, add interest; Annie had a piece of glass cut to cover and protect the surface. Family photos also lend a personal touch.
- A comfortable corner couch is perfect for relaxing.
- Drinks are close at hand in the under-counter refrigerators.
- There's enough storage space for wood under the braai and there's a built-in cupboard for crockery.
- A prep sink makes food preparation easier.
- Personal elements, such as the wire leerfish above the braai that one of Mike's fly-fishing friends had specially made by a wire artist, add character.

Concrete floor sealed with Glatex 8 epoxy; reed ceiling by African Reed; fireplace and chimney painted with Midas Earthcote Fresco in the colour Licorice; butterfly platter, bowl with metallic hearts, decorative pear (on side table), vases, wooden cutting board and stag scatter from Woolworths; the Tintin figurine was made by a street artist











Why this room works

- The combination of a fireplace and a braai ensures that there's ample warmth in the cold winter months.
- Thanks to the use of recycled building materials such as the corrugated iron ceiling that Sas bought at a scrapyard, the room has loads of character. The dining chairs are heirlooms that were upholstered with fabric remnants in different colours.
- Well-designed storage space includes a built-in wine rack and shelves for wood on either side of the fireplace.
- Sentimental elements, such as the thick wooden beams that Sas kept for years, add a personal touch. The beams and the yoke (*opposite*) came from a farm in Fauresmith.
- The braai room is ideally located right next to the kitchen and dining room; the TV is in the living room next door, so Sas can keep an eye on the rugby!
- Good task lighting provided by a wall sconce above the braai makes everything easier. ♠













In French style

Book extract



Chalk Paint guru Annie Sloan is a style expert too. In this exclusive extract from her book, *Annie Sloan's Room Recipes for Style and Colour,* she shares her French elegance secrets...

Photographs Christopher Drake

hen it comes to elegance, the French have a knack for just oozing it, whether in fashion or furnishings. For us, there are two sides to French elegance. There is the gilded elegance and understated grandeur of the French, and then the earthy, rustic, rural French home. The words "simple" and "uncluttered" define this style. A light, delicate touch in everything is very much part of this sophisticated style too.

The chateau look often displays furniture and furnishings that are rococo in style – rococo refers to the natural curves found in shells. The turned look and the gorgeously curved cabriole leg are also part of the slightly frivolous and light-touch nature of the style.

French elegance is a design style that has been hugely influential on interior decorating for hundreds of years, and in recent times it has become even more popular because it seems to work so well. Personally, we find the light colours, the French décor, and the sense of minimalism very alluring – so much so, I now have a house in rural France, which tries to be elegant too!

Texture

The unadorned and crisp nature of the surfaces are accentuated by texture. Because the colours used in French elegance tend to be on the pale side, the texture comes out and shows through in room interiors and on decorative pieces. The finish is matt, with only a few hints of sheen. This style relies on fresh, natural materials, with not just wood, but metal, stone and terracotta, combined with matt paints and washes, rather than any arty or artificial, shiny finishes.

Fabrics, too, can be very tactile, especially old French striped mattress ticking material and linens, so having plenty of cushions in such materials certainly adds to the overall feel of a room. French ticking originated as a hands-on fabric to cover mattresses, pillows and daybeds. It is an extremely durable fabric. It was originally woven to withstand the ends of feathers piercing through and for general heavy use. It traditionally has a sturdy weave and straight-line pattern.

As with many houses in France, especially country houses, the walls are built of stone. A textured wall can look beautiful, and the cracks highlighted and made into a feature if they are painted over with diluted light colour such as Old White or Paris Grey. You can re-create the weathered, washed, and naturally faded-paint look using my paints and some very simple techniques.

If you decide to paint a rough stone wall, you'll find the first coat will be easily absorbed and dry quickly, so just go back and apply an extra coat of paint till you get the desired effect. For 1 litre of paint, mix 1 litre of water in a bucket and stir with a clean stick. Brush the surface with water first, as this will help to absorb the paint and draw it into the wall. Brush the paint in, dabbing with the bristles to get into all the crevices and cracks. Be prepared for quite a bit of paint dribbling.

If you want to retain the patina of textured wood but give it a whitewashed French feel, paint the surface with a brush, working in the direction of the wood. Before the area has had time to dry, wipe it with a circular motion using a clean, dry cloth, until you have the textured effect you are looking for. How much paint you need and how much rubbing will depend on the type of wood and whether it is new or old.



Some of my very old French pewter spoons, which have decorations and flourishes on the underside. Apparently, this came about when a French king once caught the prongs of the fork in his lace cuff sleeves while eating, so he declared that the prongs must always be face down. So all silverware faces down, with the decoration on the other side facing up!



French plates are great to source for decorating – I collect them all the time.









ABOVE The iron table and chair both have rococo curves, as does the oversized 19th-century French wingback armchair.

ABOVE RIGHT A pretty French chest of drawers, which is of no great age or worth, has been newly painted with curved edges and wiggles, so there are no straight edges anywhere. This look is so rococo – why have a straight line when you can have something more decorative?

OPPOSITE This room has a warm palette – the walls have been faux-finished in a soft grey hue. This texture and colour are complementary to the more earthy-coloured furniture and furnishings, including the chairs, the mirrors and the chandelier. In the foreground of the photo, around the table, you can see some fine French toile de Jouy.

Rococo curves

Rococo is a style based on shells and the way they curve. This pretty style developed in the 18th century, when it pricked the pomposity of the classical style with its playfulness. It lightened the form with symmetrical curves and became quite freeform, using rocks (rocailles) and shells (coquilles) as the decorative motifs, based on those found in the fountains and grottos of the gardens of Versailles. Rococo borrows from nature, so you will see leaves and flowers intertwined with rocks and shells in elaborate outlines. Mirrors, small tables, consoles and chandeliers lend themselves well to this style. Gilt bronze, gilded carving, lines of colour or inlay could also be used to draw lines together in curved sequences.

Cabriole legs very much distinguish the style. Cabriole is usually singled out for furniture – shaped legs in a double curve with the upper part swelling out, while the curve swings in toward the foot, which again flares out. Its use in French (and European) furniture started in the late 17th century, with effort being put into varying the familiar

turned and square legs. Some styles used scrolls and animal feet, but the better-known designers made the whole leg into an abstract, sinuous line. It can be very pleasing to the eye and helps define a French elegance interior.

Chandeliers are a great showcase for the frivolous nature of this style. It's complete fantasy – the upper-class romantic idea of the countryside. You can pick up simple versions, even ones to hold candles, in brocantes and junk shops, and give them a paint makeover or accentuate their textured or rococo appeal. The toile de Jouy pattern is similarly romantic. Toile is named after the 18th-century factory of Jouy-en-Josas, but you'll recognise it by those traditional patterns you see on fabrics depicting pastoral scenes of farmers working in the fields, couples picking apples in an orchard, and even the Montgolfier Brothers in their hot-air balloon. We love this centuries-old textile tradition so much that we have used it as the template for our new fragrance collection designs. >>





This picture is of my Normandy house. It shows the kitchen through to the sitting room, painted in Provençal colours, including Old White, Chateau Grey, and, naturally enough, Provence for the door.

The harmonious colours of this interior are led by the textural elements of the wooden wall and floorboards. The distressed wooden bench has been transformed into a comfortable sofa with the addition of a squab and cushions made from a collection of old grain sacks.

Colours

I have been hugely influenced by the natural palette of France and French styles, which tends to take in a range of extremely attractive, semi-pale colours. Many of my Annie Sloan Chalk Paints® are directly inspired by the French style as the litany of French names and place names attests: Napoleonic Blue, Provence, Burgundy, Arles and Antibes Green, to name a few. And then there are my wonderful neutrals - Chateau Grey and French Linen. Decorative French styles in the 18th century have particularly inspired my selection of several paint colours, including Aubusson Blue, Antoinette, Henrietta and Duck Egg Blue.

So, I have a natural affinity with French elegance, and my paints will be a perfect highlight and foil for room interiors and painted furniture in this style.

Colours are not just influenced by painted furniture and walls but also by the strong tradition of French textiles, especially the old mattress ticking, with its gorgeous, mainly blue and white stripes, and the beautiful old embroidered dish towels, pillowcases, and sheets. fi



Annie Sloan's Room Recipes for Style and Colour (R499, Cico Books) is available at bookstores countrywide. Otherwise, buy

it online at takealot.com and have it delivered to your door.



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HOW TO ENTER

• SMS the keyword GRANNY GOOSE followed by your name, email and postal address to 44284 (each SMS costs R1.50); see competition rules on page 128.

CLOSING DATE

30 June 2015









Tanya displays her teapots, plates and clocks on new wooden shelves, creating the farm-style look she's always wanted.



A farm kitchen under R20000

Johan and Tanya Vos had a choice: go on holiday or renovate their drab kitchen – they're glad they chose the latter!

By Jani Venter • Photographs Elza Roux • Styling assistant Annami Botha

renovation





It was a nightmare!" This is how Tanya and Johan of Tiegerpoort in Pretoria remember their uninspiring, cramped kitchen in their home in the Grootfontein Country Estate. But after plenty of hard work over a December holiday, the space that was once an eyesore has now become the heart of the home. The couple, needless to say, are all smiles.

"The kitchen was designed in a U-shape with white tiles on the countertops," recalls Tanya. "The island took up too much space and I wanted to be able to access the room from two sides. It also had pipes everywhere – next to the sink, the dishwasher... Everything was just a mess."

Because Johan is a farmer at heart and Tanya adores all things French, the couple wanted a French kitchen that would complement the country atmosphere of their surroundings.

"Many of the residents here on the estate keep sheep, goats, chickens and horses. They're not in a dedicated area, but they certainly lend the estate a farm-like vibe," says Tanya.

The project

Johan demolished the U-shaped island and built a new one in its place, which makes the kitchen seem much larger and creates a seamless flow into the other living areas.

The kitchen previously had a built-in oven and hob which the couple replaced with a

freestanding stove. Some of the walls had to be rebuilt because Johan wasn't happy with the proportions.

"My husband was very critical of his work – not for nothing is he the manager at an electrical engineering firm. Sometimes, things that I regarded as straight were off-centre for him," says Tanya. "We went through quite a few bags of cement during that time," laughs Johan.

The pair say the new cupboards remind them of a farm stall. The timber for the countertops, doors and shelves was bought at Mica and Builders. It was first treated with Powafix Teak Oil a few times and then sealed with Nova 20 Sanding Sealer. Only then could the painting begin.

"Because our house has an open-plan design, we wanted the rooms to look similar. So we decided to keep the paint colour in the kitchen the same as the rest of the house: Camel, a mixed tint from Stevensons Paints," explains Tanya.

Johan, who did most of the work himself, ended up with very sore hands. "But now I'm so proud," says Tanya with a smile. "I can't stop admiring the displays on the shelves and how wonderfully it all came together."

As is usual when the DIY bug bites, the kitchen is just the beginning of this couple's renovations. Next up are the pantry and scullery. "We want to transform them in the same style as the kitchen – as farm-like as possible," laughs Tanya. î

Lessons learnt

- Patience is your best friend.
- We did everything ourselves next time we'll get help.
- Don't underestimate detailed jobs. Sometimes it's the little things that take the longest.
- Renovations are never done; once you've started, you just can't stop!
- Prepare yourself for lots of dust
- in an open-plan home it tends to settle everywhere.

What would they do differently next time? "Nothing. We're so pleased with how it turned out," says Tanya.

Another exciting entry in the 2015
Fix it with Flair competition.
You can also enter — simply go to fixit.dailyfix.co.za.



STOCKISTS Builders 0860 284 533, builders.co.za Mica 011 479 3300, mica.co.za Mr Price Home 0800 212 535, mrphome.com Stevensons Paints 012 653 4222, stevensons.co.za



Last chance!

You only have until the end of this month to enter our Fix it with Flair competition; we're waiting for your entry!



Now in its 7th, year

You could win a share of R62 000 worth of prizes from **Pennypinchers** Timbercity!







TO ENTER

Visit fixit.dailyfix.co.za or submit your entry to competition@homemag.co.za with the word FIXIT in the subject line. If you have trouble entering, call Dale Niehaus on 021 408 1280 or email dniehaus@media24.co.za. Closing date for entries is 30 June 2015.

hen Elzaan and Arno de Wit of Welgemoed in the Western Cape bought their house, it had a dark-brown, cramped bathroom.

"We knew from the start that it needed to be opened up," recalls Elzaan. "In any case, we wanted to make the bathroom part of the main bedroom."

The couple decided to demolish all the walls between the rooms, with just one new wall to enclose the toilet. They removed the old tiles and the old bathtub, washbasin and toilet. The room then had just enough space to include a new shower – which they previously didn't have.

Everything was replaced. The handson couple spray-painted an old sideboard in a high-gloss white and it now serves as the vanity for two new basins; a trendy new freestanding bath was the finishing touch.

The entire project cost just R19 000. "We thoroughly enjoy our lighter, more airy bathroom!" say the De Wits.



IMPORTANT

- · Briefly explain what your project entailed and submit a budget breakdown.
- All projects entered should have been completed within the past three years and at least 60% of the work must have been done by the homeowner – this is a competition for people who don't mind getting their hands dirty!
- You can enter as many images as you like, but remember that they have to be high resolution (at least 2MB each).

Enter, your friends!

If you know someone who recently completed their own home improvements but are too modest to enter, now is your chance to win a prize! Send us their pics and story (be sure to get their permission) and stand a chance to win a R500 gift voucher from Pennypinchers Timbercity.

Note The above project is not automatically a finalist in the competition.

A SPLASH **OF SUNSHINE**

Plascon's Natural Balance colour theme with its earth-inspired tones was perfect for this contemporary braai room makeover, creating maximum impact with minimal effort.

Room for change

The braai area is a room where families eat, play and socialise - all activities that can easily make a space grubby. For peace of mind, choose a paint that's long-lasting and easy to clean. Here, the homeowners chose Plascon Double Velvet because it's durable, washable, stain-resistant and has a guarantee of up to 15 years. Thanks to Plascon's Inspired Colour tinting system - available in more than 1 000 shops in South Africa - it was easy to select the right colours.

Plascon Double Velvet Cement Wash provides the perfect backdrop, while Plascon Double Velvet Glorious Gold creates an instant focal point on the chimney breast.

Accent pieces in trending colours from Plascon's 2015 Colour Forecast complete the look: an informal dining table was sanded and given a base coat of Plascon Double Velvet Cement Wash, with Plascon Double Velvet Stone Cold on top; the same colour was applied to the plain wooden stool. Counter-height metal stools in Plascon Double Velvet Caribbean Current and splashes of colour on crockery, linen, plants and enamel containers create a layered lived-in look that's welcoming - come winter or summer!





The palette















QUICK PROJECT GUIDE Hard labour 6/10

Skill level 6/10
Time required ± 4 hours
Finished size 1 140mm (L) x
480mm (W) x 900mm (H)
Make it yourself for ± R540:
castors R300; wood glue, screws
and sandpaper R100; wax R140
(pallets, recycled handle and
hinges excluded)

Shopping list

- 6 to 8 recycled pallets
- use the 80 x 80mm centre struts and cut them into four lengths of 700mm (feet)
 use 20 x 100mm planks for the rest, cut to the following:
- > four 1 050mm, two 430mm and four 380mm lengths (upper and lower frame)
- > nine 430mm lengths (lower shelf)
- > five 425mm and one 510mm lengths (rear of cupboard)
- > five 380mm, five 350mm and one 510mm lengths (cupboard sides)
- > four 420mm and one 390mm lengths (cupboard door)
- > twenty-two 1 140mm lengths (top)
- a hundred 6mm x 40mm chipboard screws
- six 8mm x 50mm chipboard screws
- sixteen 8mm x 16mm chipboard screws
- two hinges (preferably recycled)
- handle (recycled or new)
- wood glue
- plate castors
- Annie Sloan Clear Wax and Annie Sloan Dark Wax (or varnish of your choice)
- 80-grit sandpaper

Tools

- cordless drill and 3mm drill bit
- pencil
- jigsaw
- long wood clamps
- tri-square
- tape measure
- angle grinder and flip disc

On a roll!

Braai like a master chef with this nifty patio trolley on castors – there's even space for a gas bottle!

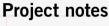
> By Deon de Goede Photographs Justin Patrick and Francois Oberholster Styling Marian van Wyk

Get started...

The top







- Look out for old pallets at markets, greengrocers or timber merchants.
- Ask friends and family if they have an old gate, door or cupboard and recycle the hinges. Your local scrapyard is also a treasure trove of interesting and useful finds.



- **1** Sand the 1 140mm planks thoroughly. Coat each plank liberally with wood glue and stack them against each other. Clamp and leave for three to four days for the glue to set completely. Using the angle grinder and flip disc, sand the top smooth.
- **Tip** To achieve a neat look, make sure that the edges of the planks are evenly lined up when you glue and clamp them.

The frame

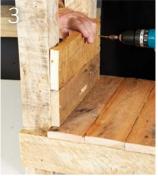






2 Place two 1 050mm planks between two 430mm planks and screw the legs in the corners, at right angles. Turn the frame over. Measure and mark 550mm down from the top of the legs and screw in the remaining two 1 050mm planks below this mark. Add two 380mm planks to the inside to finish the lower frame. Arrange the nine 430mm planks next to each other on the lower frame and attach them with the 6mm x 40mm screws. Position a 380mm plank horizontally between the two long sides of the upper frame, flush with the feet, and screw together.

The left side of the cupboard





3 Screw the five 350mm planks to the inside of the legs on the 'left' of the cupboard – make sure the ends of the plank are flush with the 'front' leg edge. Cut out a small section of the top plank for the gas pipe.

Tip Start at the bottom.

The cupboard door





5 Place the 390mm plank at a right angle across the middle of the four 420mm planks and screw down in a zig-zag pattern. Turn the door over and attach two hinges to the front. Now attach the door to the frame and fit a handle.

Tip Leave a 3mm gap at the top and bottom of the door to prevent it from catching when you open it – use a piece of cardboard for this purpose.

To finish





The rear and right side of the cupboard





4 Place one 510mm plank at a right angle over the ends of the five 425mm planks and screw it in a zig-zag pattern – this forms the 'rear' side. Repeat with the 380mm planks for the 'right' side, but screw the 510mm plank 30mm in from the ends of the planks. Screw the side panel at right angles to the rear panel. Place this corner strut in position on the trolley; screw the back to the rear edge of the left side, turn the cupboard on its back and screw the 'right' side (from the front) to the upper frame and (from the lower end) to the lower shelf.

Attach the top and castors





 $\bf 6$ Place the cupboard upside down on the top assembly and position it so that the top has an equidistant lip all round. Attach with the 8mm x 50mm screws. Attach a castor to the bottom of each leg.

7 Seal the wood with the wax or varnish of your choice – we used Annie Sloan Dark Wax for the cupboard and Clear Wax for the top.

Tip Use a light and dark sealant to create contrast. ♠

With the gas
bottle in the
cupboard, you
can simply cook
up some pap
while you tend
the braai.



Rowhouse Showdown

A New Life for Classic Homes

Renovation expert Carter Oosterhouse leads three design teams as they battle it out. The challenge? Breathing new life into classic old homes in desperate need of repair. Each team will completely overhaul a home in a bid to up the value of the property, and in turn help to uplift the surrounding area.

Tue 8pm • Wed 8am• Thu 12pm • Fri 4pm • Sat 9am & 6pm • Sun 2pm & 9pm

Sponsored by





Metallic.

Add a touch of bling to an old bathroom cupboard with metal paint and paintable wallpaper.

By Shelly Bergh
Photographs
Francois Oberholster

dispenser R199, artisan vase R260, hyacinths R120 for 3 stems, microfibre bathmat R250, all Woolworths; deco wire basket R159, facecloths (in basket) R39 each, metal basket (under basin) R399, jewellery box R229, luxur bath salts and foam R99 each, all @home;





Shelly Bergh

QUICK PROJECT GUIDE

Hard labour 3/10 Skill level 3/10

Time needed ± 3 hours, excluding drying time

Do it yourself for ± R460 Oxirite in Platinum R220/litre, Annie Sloan Dark Wax R140, wallpaper adhesive R69,

thinners R32



We used leftover
wallpaper for
our project - it's
always a good idea to
hold onto offcuts you
can use later!

Location: Foresters Arms 021 689 5949, forries.co.za

Shopping list

- old chest of drawers or cupboard
- Oxirite Metal Paint in the colour Platinum
- Annie Sloan Dark Wax
- paintable textured wallpaper (available at Builders)
- wallpaper adhesive
- thinners

Tools

- paintbrush
- small roller and tray
- mixing bowl
- mixing stick
- clean cloth

Get started



1 Mix the wallpaper adhesive according to the instructions on the packet and set aside for 15 minutes.



2 Remove the handles and lock fittings from the drawers and doors and soak them in thinners to remove any previous paint smudges, if necessary.



3 Measure the size of the wallpaper to fit into the insets of the cupboard doors and the front of the drawers and cut to size.



4 Stir the adhesive again after 15 minutes and apply to the back of the wallpaper with a clean paintbrush.



5 Apply the wallpaper onto the cupboard insets and the drawer fronts. (If you have no leftover wallpaper, try wallcoverings.co.za or look at Builders.)



6 Dampen the clean cloth and rub over the wallpaper to make sure it adheres everywhere and to remove any excess adhesive. Let it dry overnight.

7 Paint the cupboard with two coats of Oxirite using a brush and sponge roller, allowing it to dry between coats. We left the drawers unpainted.



9 Attach the handles of the drawers and door.

thicker in places, don't be

a weathered look.

concerned as this will create



On sale now!

Are your hands itching to paint? Then get our first bonus magazine of the year, Home Paint It - it's filled with loads of inspiration. Techniques, lots of makeovers, advice on colour choices - it's all included. If you struggle to find a copy, please send an email to editor@homemag.co.za.

STOCKISTS

@home 0860 66 66 74, home.co.za Annie Sloan anniesloansa.co.za Builders 0860 284 533, builders.co.za Mr Price Home 0800 21 25 35, mrphome.com Wallcoverings Inc 021 465 6547, wallcoverings.co.za Woolworths 0860 022 002, woolworths.co.za



Ask the experts

Keen on painting your dining room table, making your own wooden art blocks or changing the colour of your cement floor? You ask – and we'll find the answer.

Compiled by Beatrice Moore-Nöthnagel



Block art Elanza de Waal of Malmesbury writes

I love Sue de Witt's wooden art blocks on page 28 of your March 2015 issue. How does she make them?



Sue de Witt, the homeowner, replies It's not difficult at all, just follow these steps:

1 Cut some

plywood blocks to size; mine are 12 x 12cm.

- **2** Sand the blocks smooth, especially the edges.
- **3** Now glue the background paper on with cold glue; you can use music sheets, pages from an old book or even paper doilies. I've also glued metal, ceramics and wooden items onto the blocks.
- **4** Seal the paper with Mod Podge.





Every effort is made to answer all questions, but unfortunately we cannot answer every question personally. Home reserves the right to edit questions for publication.



Budget revamp

Kari Grace Wilson of Randburg writes

I have a small simplex and want to replace the kitchen countertops and sink to refresh the look, plus slightly extend one section to function as a dining table with barstools. I can't afford a complete revamp, so I have to retain existing cabinets and doors and just update the handles. I'm considering installing Formica Lifeseal countertops for affordability. How feasible is this project and could a competent handyman tackle it, as kitchen contractors only seem interested in total renovations?



Germarie Bruwer, creative director at homeology.co.za, replies Installing new worktops and handles is the most cost-effective way to give your kitchen a facelift – and Formica is certainly a great brand to use. But what makes these tops exceptional is that they come with a moisture barrier which will prolong the life of your new worktops.

While high-pressure laminates are fairly easy to work with, it is best to employ someone who has experience in installing worktops - especially if your walls are not square as they will then need to trim them to fit.

Your local Formica supplier should be able to recommend someone to install the tops for you. If, however, your handyman has done it before and you can get a good recommendation for his work, go ahead and use his services.

In my kitchen (above), we used Formica countertops in a Butcher Block Pear finish with a 35mm Postform profile. >>

Weekend inspiration

Make this chopping board in just two hours (excluding drying time) using offcut timber and Alcolin Ultra Wood Glue.





Get offcut or random-sized timber (we used cherry wood) cut into 30 x 30mm lengths; then use waterproof and low VOC Alcolin Ultra Wood Glue to adhere these before clamping and leaving it to dry overnight. Trim the sides then sand to a smooth finish before oiling your chopping board with olive oil.







Dining table do-over

Cheryl Theunissen writes I love the idea of painting my dining table – whether with normal paint or chalk paint. How chipresistant is chalk paint and would it need constant touching up?



Annie Sloan of Annie Sloan Paint replies Using my chalk paint followed by wax will certainly protect it from chipping. It's so easy to use – first make sure that the legs and base are clean by wiping them down with warm

soapy water. Then apply the chalk paint and allow it to dry before applying the wax. It's that simple; there's no need to sand or prime. Go to anniesloansa.co.za.

Former Home DIY guru Ashley Stemmett offers a second opinion

First, sand the table with 180-grit followed by 220-grit sandpaper then wipe down with a damp cloth and allow to dry. Prime with Plascon Multi Surface Primer or Dulux Supergrip and follow with two coats of Plascon Velvaglo, Plascon Double Velvet or Dulux Pearlglo. Allow adequate drying time between coats and, for better results, lightly sand the surfaces with fine sandpaper (220-grit) between coats.





For a white floor...

Wally Griffiths of Durban writes We had our lounge floor 'treated' with Cemcrete about 10 years ago. Unfortunately, our builder was not experienced in this regard and the end result wasn't great, but we've lived with it ever since. The floor is a 'cement' colour and we sealed it with the recommended sealant. We've now decided that we'd like to change the colour of the floor to white and would really appreciate your advice on how to go about it.



Joanne Sykes of Cemcrete replies Cemcrete has developed a fantastic floor product especially for renovations when a change of colour is needed. CreteCote is a 1.5mm skim-on (internal only) floor coating designed to be applied over new fully cured or old screeds. As long as the screed is in good condition (any cracks and gouges need to be repaired beforehand) and the sealant or polish has been fully removed (Cemcrete also offers a sealant stripper), CreteCote can be applied with a trowel in two or three thin coats, according to the

product-specific data sheet or instructions. Once fully cured, a sealant must be applied in either a matt or gloss finish. And *voila* – a new floor in a different colour!

Cemcrete's floor products can also be maintained with our CreteCare range of either Polish or Mop & Shine. For details, visit **cemcrete.co.za**.

Quick questions

Q: Where can I get a wallpaper collage like the one in Thelna and Marius Esterhuizen's home on page 29 of your June 2014 issue? – Sue May, Durban A: Call Yvonne Muller of Vivid Moments Photography & Accessories (083 305 7570) in the Midvaal area; she'll also courier products to you.



Q: What's the name of the wall colour on page 49 in your February 2015 issue? It's listed as Smudge Pot from Plascon, but it looks different to the wall colour on page 51. – Petro Wilders, Louis Trichardt A: It's the same colour throughout, which just shows you what an important role lighting plays when it comes to colour. Smudge Pot is a lovely warm blue.



Q: The floor rug and throw on page 51 of your February 2015 issue is perfect for my son's room, which I'm busy redecorating. Where can I find those items in Port Elizabeth? – Nicolette Simon, Port Elizabeth

A: The throw was bought at Woolworths (0860 022 002, woolworths.co.za) about three years ago, but do try them again now for new designs. You can find similar rugs and throws at Mr Price Home (0800 212 535, mrphome.com).

Q: What colours were used on the chest of drawers on page 66 of your January 2015 issue?

- Griet Robberts, Swakopmund



A: Lisa Spaarwater says she used Annie Sloan paint in the colours Aubusson Blue and Old White. The top drawer was painted in Aubusson Blue and the bottom drawer in Old White. For the drawers inbetween, a bit of Old White was added to the Aubusson Blue to get the different shades of blue. fi

xylazel

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www.oxiritemetalpaint.co.za www.paradise-road.co.za



Décor dilemma

Interior architects Renée de Waal and Janel Nell help a reader to optimise her bedroom space and

create a look she loves.

Photographs: supplied



The challenge

Kerry Marx of Durbanville writes I believe first impressions count, so it's distressing to me that the first thing you see when you enter my bedroom is a wall of white melamine cupboards. I'd like to create a focal feature with a small dressing table in the corner but it's complicated because the only power point for the TV is in that space. Any advice?

The Solution Renée and Janel of interiorcreators.com reply Let's be honest, TV sets are ugly and can easily ruin the ambience of a bedroom. If you mount it on a bracket, you'll have to raise it high enough to fit a mirror and dressing table below and the corner would become cluttered – you're also likely to strain your neck while watching your favourite shows. Here's what we suggest:



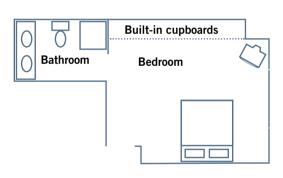
You could **box the TV in** by building a 'fake' wall with drywalling and creating a recessed nook that can house the TV in the corner. You can then fit the TV on a bracket concealed by the recess and enclose it with a door of sorts – perhaps one with a mirror on it. However, this may be impractical as you'll have to open the door every time you want to watch TV!

Alternatively, find an armoire that fits neatly in the corner and is big enough to house the TV. It'd be best if you get one with a mirror on the door, but you still won't have anywhere to sit and do your hair and make-up.

1 Our suggestion would be to customise your existing built-in cupboards (see sketch) and get a carpenter to create a TV shelf on an extractable drawer mechanism. You can replace the hinges so the doors open as wide as possible for better viewing. If you opt for this solution, you'll have to reroute your cables; if you'd like to relocate the power point to inside the cupboard, this will require chasing which can be a bit messy, but is well worth it.

Create an impression

- 2 Position a textured armchair that complements your bed set against the empty wall between the bedroom and bathroom doors and complete the picture with wall art that suits your scheme and a pretty scatter cushion.
- **3** Paint the curtained wall in a dramatic Worn Leather textured paint to draw attention away from the bland melamine cupboards; we recommend Olivant Vel from Midas Paints.
- **4** To win back cupboard space used by the TV, put a storage ottoman that matches your bedside tables at the foot of your bed.
- 5 With the TV now positioned in the cupboard, you can use the corner space for a dressing table; you can combine a console table with an elegant mirror. Since you have a power point here, mount a beautiful wall light above the mirror.
- **6** Create additional storage space and hide electrics such as your hair dryer in an attractive basket underneath the table.
- **7** Add a stool so you can sit comfortably in front of the mirror and decorate your table



Create a welcoming entrance to your room and anchor the space with a rug.

with useful items such as a beautiful tissue box or a jewellery box.

8 To tie the look together, hang an elegant chandelier from the centre light point and add a splash of colour with an artwork above your headboard.

1.





Use bronze aluminium curtain rods with Fleur De Lis finials to create this chic simple look.

CREATE THE LOOK

WITH DECORLAND

If you're looking for an easy way to update your dining room this season, a stylish window dressing will get you there in an instant. White is beautiful, but can be a tricky colour to work with, so if you're opting for a monochrome aesthetic don't be afraid to play with different textures to create visual balance and interest. White creates the illusion of space - suddenly this dining room looks bigger and brighter!

To keep the look fresh and interesting, team eyelet curtains with a bronze aluminium rod and finials, this creates a striking backdrop to this clean and serene dining area. The neutral custom-made aluminium Venetian blind from Decorland keeps the look uncluttered, creating a space that's designed to support fabulous fuss-free entertaining.





CUSTOM-MADE ALUMINIUM VENETIAN BLIND (25mm Taupe)

R259

Other colours and sizes available in-store.

BRONZE ALUMINIUM CURTAIN ROD 1.5m

R129

(25mm rod available in 1.5m, 2m, 2.5m, and 3m). Joiners also available. Finials sold separately. MESH BALL FINIAL (Brushed Bronze)

89.99

Other styles available in-store





R160 (Items sold separately)

Other styles available in-store

CURTAIN RODS ALSO AVAILABLE IN METALLIC BROWN, BRUSHED SILVER, BLACK, BRASS, BRUSHED BRONZE AND ONYX.



Don't Forget

to bring your measurements in-store when ordering.

All accessories sold separately. Prices valid while stocks last or until 30/06/2015. www.decorland.co.za • Info@decorland.co.za • RSA tollfree 0800 002 635

CURTAIN ROD TIPS

Use curtain rod rings for gather-top curtains or hang eyelet and tab-top curtains directly onto the rod. To find the right installation height for the rod, add 1 or 2cm to the curtain length so that it subtly skims the floor when hung. When spacing the support brackets for the curtain rods, keep in mind - curtains cannot run past the brackets.





All Decorland products are exclusively available at

Stash it or trash it?

Not sure whether holding on to that sentimental item will make cents or not? Send us a photo and we'll do the homework.

Compiled by Beatrice Moore-Nöthnagel



Shona Robie of Stephan Welz and Co's Ceramic

Department replies This is an example of 20th century Italian maiolica (tin-glazed pottery), which dates back to the Renaissance and frequently depicts historical or legendary scenes. This vase features a typical Italian or Tuscan landscape or 'paesaggio'.

One has to remember that unlike painting on canvas, the artist working in *maiolica* must skilfully understand the intricacies of colouration as the pigments used for decorating ceramics all have a similar greyish tone when

applied. The true colours will only be revealed after the wares have been fired.

The number 1600 painted on the base is a factory reference, as is the shape of the vase itself. **AGE** 20th century

VALUE Less than R500



Karen Killian of Port Elizabeth writes
This coffee set belonged to my granny
Pop; is it valuable?

Shona Robie replies Based on the backstamp, this coffee service was produced by J H Weatherby & Sons (Ltd), a small family-run business that opened in Tunstall in 1891 and moved to the larger Falcon Pottery at Hanley a year later. This stamp was used by the factory from 1936 until they closed their doors in 2000.

Unfortunately, this set is incomplete. The minimum number of cups and saucers a coffee service should have is six; having only five cups and saucers reduces the value of the service substantially.

AGE 20th century VALUE R500-R600



Chair affair

Roedolla Smit of Graafwater writes Can you tell me what these chairs are worth?

Jo-Marie Rabe, furniture historian and co-owner of Piér Rabe Antiques, replies The chairs, which look like oak, were probably produced in the Belgian city of Mechelen – furniture from this area is identified by its distinctive detailed carving including leaves, flowers and animal motifs.

The city has been well-known for its furniture since the 16th century, but it was only in the 19th century when a railway line connected it with the rest of Europe that the industry boomed. Most of the furniture from this period is readily available today; many pieces have been imported to South Africa in the past few years and it's also obtainable in Flemish-speaking parts of Europe.

Because the furniture is quite common, prices are not high.

AGE 20th century

VALUE R4 000–R4 500 for both **f**



CONTACTS Stephan Welz & Co swelco.co.za Piér Rabe Antiques pierrabe.co.za

BEAUTIFUL

COLOUR ME Whether you're a trend-watcher or simply love doing makeovers at home. Shave love doing makeovers at home, Shave Paint & Décor has all the wallcoverings you need - from paint to wallpaper.



f you're passionate about décor and home makeover projects, you'll know that a lick of paint remains the most affordable way to give your interior a fresh look that's also right on trend.

At Shave Paint & Décor our unique collection consists of 48 easy-to-use colours for the interior or exterior. These have been grouped into six decorating themes: Afro Chic, New Traditions, City Living, Timeless Classics, French Quarter and Colonial Club; the palettes - Cool, Shadow, Heat and Naturals – will simplify things even further.

Hand-painted colour chips and tester pots for the entire collection are available in all our stores, providing you with the opportunity to play around and experiment at home. Apart from an in-store decorating service at selected branches, our website is also jam-packed with advice and inspirational décor photos.

Trends to watch

The décor world's new neutral is grey, whether on focal walls or entire exteriors.

Grey has graduated from being the complementary colour to taking centre stage with Shave varieties including Dry Cement TC-7, Mr Grey TC-8 and softer greys such as Lattice TC-2.

At Shave Paint & Décor we've also seen an ongoing love affair with blue, with choices ranging from bold stormy sea-washed tones to classic duck eggs.

And with more and more people choosing to go ecofriendly, green remains a firm favourite - whether in tropical shades or cool and quirky limes.

Visit your nearest Shave Paint & Décor branches in: Sandton, Boksburg, Pinetown, Hillcrest, Amanzimtoti, Bluff, Umhlanga, Ballito and Durban. For more information, contact the Shave head office on 031 702 6315 or go to shavepaints.co.za.

• Nature-inspired greens and blues create a tranquil ambience.

Meet the Shave Paint & Décor team at the ECR House and Garden Show in the Durban **Exhibition Centre** from 26 June to 6 July!

- Duck egg is a great way to bridge the gap between neutrals and colour.
- As the new neutral, grey contrasts beautifully with brights or white.

FREE paint tester pot with this voucher!

Voucher expiry date: 1 December 2015



Animalantics

Mastering the art of creature comfort.

Compiled by Beatrice Moore-Nöthnagel (and her Beagle, Frodo)

Email your queries to Beatrice at pets@homemag.co.za

Cute...
but cold
Yorkies Sacha and
Lulu-belle work
their winter
woolies. – Melinda
Cusse, Port
Elizabeth



Sleeping beauty

Freddie moves for no man!

– Vida Cronje, Knysna

Hands up!

Lucy surrenders to the winter chill.

– Claudia Muller, Cape Town





Cat on a hot tin roof

Twinkle knows all the best spots in the garden. – Adele van Niekerk, Paarl







Pedigree pile-up

Dachshunds Morgan, Oliby and Finn know how to keep cosy. - Katherine Wicks, Port Elizabeth



Sunny side of the street

Tiger, Pootjies and Ling catch some rays. - Anja le Grange, Bethal

Let's go shopping!

Montego Pet Nutrition's barkingmad.co.za

is a networking website that helps both shelters and the public to responsibly re-home animals countrywide.



In the hood Show the other dogs

in the park who's boss with this funky hooded tee (R149, spree.co.za/ tuishome) from a Dog's Life. Drawstrings

Frodo's favourite!

on nice and tight!

keep the hood

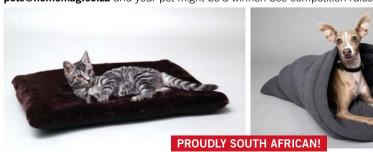


Feed me!

New from Pylones is this quirky plastic cat bowl (R200, pylones.com) - it's durable and easy to keep clean.

Enter your pic and WIN!

Each pet owner whose pic is featured here wins a medium or large Nookie Bag for dogs or a medium Snuggle Rug for cats. Available from leading vet and pet shops, the Nookie Bag is for small dogs that love to burrow or keep cosy, while cats will love the Snuggle Rug with its double-layer filling – and it's machine washable! Send your pics and full contact details to pets@homemag.co.za and your pet might be a winner! See competition rules on page 128.





How to beat separation anxiety

Dalene Jansen van Rensburg of Secunda writes Our miniature Maltese, Zoev (18 months), has suffered from severe separation anxiety since the day we got her at eight weeks.

When she's with us, she always needs to be touched and if we leave her with someone she knows for just a few hours, she falls ill and starts to vomit or develop diarrhoea. She also won't eat or drink. If she realises we're about to leave, she starts to shiver uncontrollably: she doesn't like other dogs either.

We'd love her to be happy and playful - what can we do?

-> Dr Elize van Vollenhoven, a member of the South African Veterinary Association, replies Separation anxiety is a term used to describe the anxiety a dog displays when its owner is not present, including vomiting, diarrhoea, barking uncontrollably, refusing to eat or drink or even destroying furniture and possessions.

In severe cases, a vet will prescribe medicine to control it. The pet will also be taught to function separately from its owner, being left in the house for just a few minutes and then for longer periods. Good behaviour is rewarded with anything from a tasty tidbit to a favourite toy or extra attention. Pheromone therapy can also alleviate less serious symptoms: the animal inhales the pheromone chemical which induces a sense of calm.

I advise you to contact your local vet or a vet specialising in animal behaviour to discuss techniques or medicine appropriate for controlling your dog's anxiety.

CONTACT sava.co.za

Advice



Just ask JJ

Horticulturist JJ van Rensburg of Garden World offers advice on deterring hungry dassies and a foul-smelling flower.



Garden feast

Tinkie Snyders of Ladysmith, KZN writes Something has been eating my Echeverias. What could it be and how can I prevent the new plants from also being devoured?

JJ replies

Rodents are quite fond of these plants; there are usually clear signs of gnawing plus their droppings nearby. I was about to suggest a rat poison but then Tinkie let me know that they had caught the pests red-handed - dassies! These small animals also love eating plants. I have heard of homeowners deterring them with chilli powder or Tabasco - try these and let us know if it helps.



What's that smell?

Doreen van Biljon writes Is this plant a carrion flower and can I use it inside my house to kill flies?

JJ replies Indeed, it is a carrion flower (*Stapelia*) and it needs sun to thrive. It's your choice where you decide to keep it, of course, but remember: it attracts flies because its flowers smell like rotting meat! I wouldn't want that foul smell in my house or kitchen!

Not a problem for this pool

Cherie writes We have a large flamboyant tree (Delonix regia) in the middle of our garden, which we estimate is at least 30 years old. We had a pool built about four years ago and the contractor said it wasn't necessary to remove the tree because it is on the level above our pool. Now we've noticed that the roots have pushed up the paving next to a nearby building and we're worried that they will eventually grow towards the pool.

Would you recommend felling the tree? If so, what kind of shade tree would you suggest we replace it with?

→ JJ replies I would do everything to keep the tree; it's perfect for that spot. Yes, its roots will grow towards the pool because roots thrive in soft, freshly dug over soil, but a tree's root system usually only extends as far as the tree's canopy plus about another 20%. I don't think your pool will ever be in danger. 🗈



CONTACT Garden World 011 957 2046, jj@gardenworld.co.za

Fair	7	Set aside Accident	•	Swindle	•	Type of fish	7	Limbs	•	Premieres Unusual	Flower that pre- fers partial shade				
•		V		Water- borne disease	•			Y		V	•			-	
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MAN COVEREN VAN COVEREN VAN COVEREN

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The reader who sends in the first correctly completed crossword drawn wins 24 bottles of these delicious winter wines, as well as six Van Loveren napkins. See our competition rules on page 128.

Send the completed crossword and your details to: H	lome Cross	word #78, PO Box	c 1802, Cape Tov	vn 8000 to r	each us by 30) June 2015	j.
Name	Address						
Postal code Tel. (h)	Т	Tel. (w)		Email			





3 Shady area#1

What and where?

Problem A large oak tree and other smaller trees that cast deep shade over the front garden.

Location Stellenbosch

Size 70m²

Homeowners Daan and Almari Dercksen

Pietman says



Pietman Diener

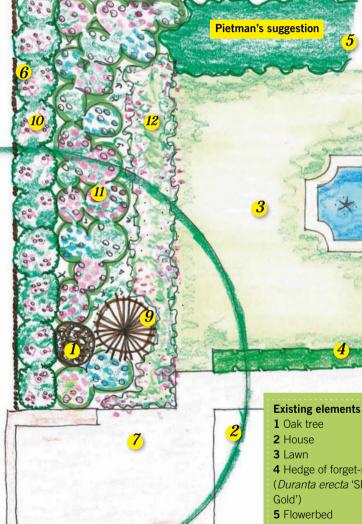
- · For starters, cut back the oak tree; get a professional tree surgeon to do it.
- The second step is to remove the trees that self-sowed. There is already too much shade in this area, which means too little sunlight

is getting through to the plants below. The roots of the other trees are also using up water and nutrients in the soil.

- Remove the pavers, benches and table under the oak tree and transform this part of the garden into a new flowerbed - see the plant list (below) and the illustration (right).
- Level the flowerbed and prepare the soil well with compost, bonemeal and fertiliser such as Bounce Back. Work the compost about 20cm deep into the soil. Sprinkle a few handfuls of Bounce Back and bonemeal and work this into the top 5cm of soil.
- Move the aviary so that it can be seen from the house and becomes a focal point.
- Keep the colour scheme simple, creating a tranquil atmosphere. A formal water feature in the front garden will also add to a sense of serenity.

Plant list

- Camellia japonica for an evergreen hedge.
- Hydrangea macrophylla.
- Japanese anemone (Anemone hybrids) in-between the hydrangeas to ensure a longer flowering season.
- A wide strip of *Helleborus* in front, right up to the lawn edge. >>



This section of garden that I can see from my living room should be full of pastel-coloured flowers. - Almari

- 4 Hedge of forget-me-not tree (Duranta erecta 'Sheena's
- 6 Pole fence

- 7 Entertainment area, moved from under the tree
- 8 Water feature will add character to the garden
- 9 Aviary (new location)
- 10 Camellia hedge
- 11 Hydrangeas and Japanese anemones
- 12 Helleborus

gardendilemma

3 Shady area# 2

What and where?

Problem A bare, sandy spot under a tree which dries out very quickly.

Location Bellville

Size 20m²

Homeowner Riana van Zyl

Pietman says

- First things first: work lots of compost, fertiliser and bonemeal into the soil. This will improve the nutrients and water-holding capacity of the soil.
- Don't change the shape of the lawn, simply plant LM/Berea grass (*Dactyloctenium australe*) which will grow in shade.
- Hardy indigenous plants will work very well here as they require less water and maintenance.
- Plant groundcovers; fairy crassulas grow well in the shade.

Plant list

- *Clivia miniata* requires less water as it has fleshy roots.
- *Plectranthus* species do well in shade and grow easily.
- The evergreen foliage of leather-leaf fern (*Rumohra adiantiformis*) looks attractive all year round.
- The shallow roots of fairy crassula (*Crassula multicava*) can cope well under trees where there are many roots.
- In the sunny parts of the garden, plant Plumbago auriculata as a hedge and Plectranthus neochilus as a groundcover to complement the indigenous shady border.



Existing elements

- 1 Driveway
- 2 Lawn with cobble edging
- **3** House
- 4 Shade trees
- 5 Palm trees
- 6 Strelitzia reginae

New

- 7 Plumbago auriculata hedge
- 8 Plectranthus neochilus
- 9 Plectranthus ecklonii
- 10 Clivia miniata
- 11 Rhumora adiantiformis
- 12 Crassula multicava



Tips for gardening in shady areas

Landscapers Pietman Diener of Rustenberg Estate in Stellenbosch and Michael Mc Enery of Monad Landscaping offer advice on how to cope with shady spots:

- First try and prune the trees or shrubs that are causing the problem shade – especially the lower branches. You should anyway regularly thin out tree branches to allow more light to reach the beds.
- The quality of the soil is important, and rain also plays a role. When it rains, drops collect on the leaves at the tree's crown and fall with more force to the ground. This causes the soil to become compacted, which in turn prevents water from being absorbed. The end result is a muddy patch. Add a 5cm layer of bark chips right up to a tree's trunk, or plant groundcovers.
- Don't allow too many fallen leaves to collect around smaller plants under deciduous trees this will smother them and block out much-needed light, and will also hamper drainage.
- Space shrubs a bit further apart than for a sunny area so that the whole plant can be exposed to the limited light under the tree.
- Don't pave too close to trees.

The pavers will lift as the tree grows and they will also keep water away from the roots. Rather plant a groundcover or put down a mulch of bark chips.

 Making a garden in dry shade (this is shade under the eaves of a building or under trees with such a dense canopy that the soil never gets wet when it rains) is always difficult. Choose plants such as

6 Shady area#3

What and where?

Problem A sandy area under trees where nothing grows. **Location** Krugersdorp

Size 160m²

Homeowners Ulyate and Vanessa Curle

Tracey says

- The tree in the middle of the area has a very interesting shape and can be a beautiful focal point. To create a seating area under the tree, build a low wooden deck that extends almost to the trunk of the tree.
- Place garden lights on either side of the tree, or even one or two in the tree; fairy lights or Consol solar jars will also look lovely.
- Paint the boundary walls black or a very dark green to make them less visible.
- Hide your son Nathan's play area away from the adult entertainment area, but still within sight.
- Consider the flowering time of plants so that you will have blooms from spring to autumn. The plants on the plant list predominantly bear white flowers.
- Agapanthus and arums are very cost-effective; get some plants from family and friends.
- Use bark chips to cover the soil until the plants grow more lushly – it looks great and is a good mulch.
- Install an irrigation system, but make sure it sprays from the deck outwards so that as little water as possible will soak the deck – this will preserve the wood for longer.



Tracey's suggestion

4

4

Plant list
Arums

Arums

- White azaleas
- Australian tree fern
- Wonderlawn (*Dichondra repens*) is the ideal groundcover (and it copes well with children running on it).
- *Mackaya bella* (see 'Plant of the Month' on page 96) to soften the walls.
- *Plectranthus* 'Mona Lavender' for a touch of purple at the end of summer.
- Tall-growing white agapanthus.

We love the trees in our garden and often sit under them. We also needed a play area for our three-year-old son, Nathan. - Vanessa

Clivia miniata, Aspidistra elatior, Ruscus hypoglossum, Crassula multicava or Hedera helix that can survive with less water.

- Plants grow more slowly in the shade than in the sun so think carefully about where to put plants and don't disturb or move them unnecessarily.
- Plants such as Aspidistra elatior, Rumohra adiantiformis and

Philodendron selloum with very dark-green leaves do best in the deepest shade. The lighter the foliage, the better the plant will do in dappled shade at the bed's edge.

- Plants with grey and purple foliage don't do well in shade, with the exception of bloodleaf (*Iresine herbstii*).
- If you want a dark area to appear lighter, plant variegated

Chlorophytum comosum

'Variegatum', Ophiopogon japonicus 'Alba' or Lamium maculatum 'White Nancy'. It takes a while for them to get going, but it's worth the wait.

- If you plant grass, LM/Berea grass (Dactyloctenium australe) grows well in shade. Don't cut it too short.
- Use air plants such as orchids and bromeliads (*Tillandsia* species are popular) that can be grown in trees.

Attach them to the southerly side of the tree where moss grows naturally or in the fork of the tree.

Remember: they won't attach to trees with smooth trunks.

Existing element

1 Existing shade tree

2 Australian tree fern (*Cyathea cooperi*)
3 Wooden deck

4 Mackaya bella hedge

7 Plectranthus 'Mona

8 Arum (Zantedeschia)

5 Azalea

Lavender'

6 Agapanthus

CONTACTS

Pietman Diener 072 376 5632 Michael Mc Enery 076 940 3690, michael.monad@gmail.com Tracey Levell levell@mweb.co.za

ustration: Out of the Blue Graphic Design



Mackaya bella

You can't go wrong with a *Mackaya bella* in your shade garden. This indigenous evergreen shrub has glossy, dark-green leaves and bears white to mauve bell-shaped flowers with delicate purple lines along the inner tube of the bloom from early spring to early summer. Although the plant is at its best then, it will continue to flower throughout the year – provided it gets lots of attention.

The shrub occurs naturally only in Southern Africa where it grows in evergreen forests and along streams in the Eastern Cape, KwaZulu-Natal and Mpumalanga. It does best in temperate to subtropical climates and won't grow well in the drier parts of the country.

In frost-prone areas, plant it in a sheltered spot and prune back hard after frost damage to encourage new growth.

Plant *Mackaya bella* in well-drained soil with plenty of compost. Keep it well-watered in summer, especially in winter rainfall areas, but give it less water in winter.

This fast-growing shrub should be trimmed regularly to create a more bushy appearance. Prune back by about one-third after flowering in summer. If its foliage turns yellow, it's probably getting too much sun.



ABOVE This beautiful plant will also do well in a pot on a shady stoep. Or use it as a hedge plant to cover a boundary wall or to screen a shade garden. BELOW Good companion plants are (1) azaleas, (2) clivias and (3) fuchsias.







SOURCES The South African What Flower is That? by Kristo Pienaar, Gardening with Keith Kirsten by Keith Kirsten, Reader's Digest A South African Garden for All Seasons with chief contributor Jennifer Godbold-Simpson, Waterwise Gardening in Southern Africa and Namibia by Ernst van Jaarsveld, plantzafrica.com, sa-venues.com











obert and Sabine Kooijman's boma is the hub of their shady garden. It's where the family likes to get together to make a *potijie* or braai for friends and where the children sit and do their homework. Because if you – like them – come from Europe with its bitterly cold winters, you'd also want to be outdoors as much as possible.

"We love our boma and garden," says Sabine. "We moved from the Netherlands to Johannesburg in 2006 and we'll never leave here. In the Netherlands you live indoors 90 percent of the time, while here you are outdoors 90 percent of the time. This is why we designed our garden so that we can spend as much time in it as possible."

The Kooijmans' garden – a shady paradise – has always had a tropical feel. Green was the predominant colour, but there weren't enough plants and the soil was visible in places. In addition, the variety of plants was limited to well-known shade plants such as clivia and *Liriope*. Although the garden had an entertainment area under the trees, it didn't meet the family's needs.

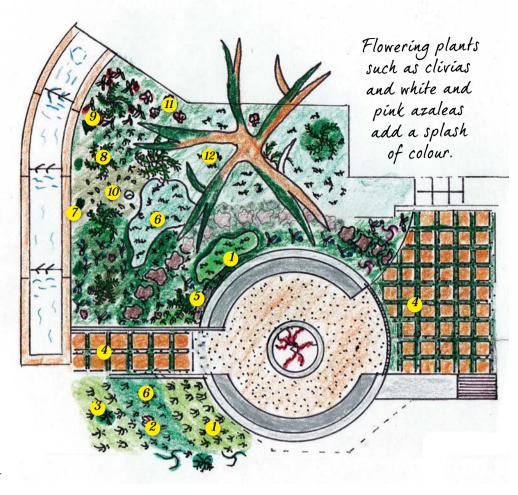
Expert advice

Although Sabine likes to work in the garden and cares for and prunes the plants herself, she needed help with the initial layout and choice of plants.

"We asked Neville Orsmond of Create a Landscape to come and give us a hand. From the start, he understood exactly what we had in mind. I wanted to keep the existing plants, although we moved some of them to other areas," she says.

"Neville supplemented what we had with a wider variety and added more plants to the borders. His choices were perfect. I'm in love with each and every plant in my garden, but the beautiful tree ferns are my favourites!

"Our garden embraces us every day. There's a huge oak tree that shades the boma and I feel hugged when I sit there. I'm so grateful for this wonderful refuge; it brings our family and friends together every weekend. What more can I ask for?" says Sabine.



Neville's design ideas

- The boma was built first. A concrete sealant was used to seal the clay finish and to give an old favourite a classy new look.
- This shady garden retained its tropical feel but with a much bigger variety of plants. The existing clivias and *Liriope* were kept but now grow in combination with other plants such as *Plectranthus madagascariensis* and *Acorus gramineus* 'Golden Edge'. The clivias were grouped together to create a more dramatic effect when in flower.
- Low-growing plants include mondo grass (Ophiopogon japonicus 'Kyoto'), smaller azaleas and Asparagus densiflorus 'Sprengeri'. For medium height, plants such as Philodendron 'Xanadu', sacred bamboo (Nandina domestica) and Dicksonia antarctica were used. To add height and dramatic appeal, tall-growing plants such as sago palm (Cycas revoluta) and Australian tree fern (Cyathea australis) were planted.
- Colour was added with foliage plants such as Acorus gramineus 'Golden Edge' and Plectranthus madagascariensis. The golden-yellow foliage of Acorus provides beautiful contrast in the shade, while the variegated leaves of Plectranthus help to brighten the dark shadows. >>

Plant list

- 1 Acorus gramineus 'Golden Edge'
- 2 Nandina domestica 'Pygmaea'
- 3 Cycas revoluta
- 4 Ophiopogon japonicus 'Kyoto'
- 5 Nandina domestica
- 6 Ophiopogon japonicus
- 7 Philodendron 'Xanadu'
- 8 Cyathea australis
- 9 Clivia miniata
- 10 Plectranthus madagascariensis
- 11 Azalea
- 12 Asparagus densiflorus 'Sprengeri'

An entertainment area can be utilised throughout the year. On warm summer days, it stays cool under the trees and in winter the fire pit provides all the heat one needs. - Neville



Foliage contrast

The contrast between the smaller variegated foliage of Plectranthus madagascariensis (a) and the large, textured green leaves of Philodendron 'Xanadu' (b) is eye-catching. Similarly, the former works well with Acorus gramineus 'Golden Edge' (C). A variety of plants that complement each other well will add impact to a border.















Sword fern (Nephrolepis exaltata) is a popular shade plant, but beware: it will take over your garden. It's classified as an invasive plant throughout South Africa, especially in KwaZulu-Natal, Mpumalanga, Limpopo and the Eastern and Western Cape where it has Category 1 status. Go to invasives.org.za.

I grew up in Germany and inherited my love of beautiful gardens from my father. He really had green fingers because all his plants were extremely happy! - Sabine

Neville's tips for a Highveld shade garden

- · Frost on the Highveld is a reality, but with good planning you can protect the more sensitive species. Dicksonia antarctica and Cycas species handle frost well; plant them with groundcovers such as Plectranthus madagascariensis they will protect the latter from frost. Trees in a shady garden also provide frost protection.
- · Choose plants with smaller leaves; those with big leaves tend to be hard hit by frost.
- Tree roots are always a problem in a shade garden. Use good soil and bank it up against the trunk (about 30cm high); this raised area will allow the roots of smaller plants to thrive without having to compete with a tree's roots. Bear in mind that some trees are more susceptible to soil level changes than others - ask your nursery if the trees in your garden will cope. Asparagus densiflorus 'Sprengeri' was planted like this around the oak tree and is thriving.
- Flowering plants that work well in shade gardens include camellias, hydrangeas and begonias.
- I don't believe in wrapping frost covers around plants; when the wind blows they can easily break the plant. Rather add a mulch of bark chips to retain as much moisture as possible in the soil.
- Choose plant species that quickly recover in spring. Acorus gramineus 'Golden Edge' can be trimmed back and will soon re-sprout. Plectranthus
- species might look dead after winter but soon recover in spring.
- · Group plants with similar water needs together; you'll be able to set your irrigation system accordingly and save water.
- Water just before sunrise for about three minutes to wash away any frost on the leaves - this prevents the frost from scorching the leaves. 1

CONTACT Neville Orsmond 084 294 0025, createalandscape.co.za

Seed packs for winter

Don't let winter put you off! Plant these flower seeds for colour in your Home garden.

ood news! We've added to our popular Home combo-packs of seed. It's never too late to start sowing...

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Advice for sowing

combinations

for winter

- Choose an area that gets about six hours of sunlight a day; the seedlings won't thrive in too much shade and won't flower well.
 - Prepare the soil correctly: carefully remove

all stones and weeds and then dig over the soil well. Work plenty of compost about 20cm deep into the soil. Add a few handfuls of organic fertiliser such as Bounce Back and work it into the top 5cm of soil.

 Water the seedbed well; use a fine-spray nozzle so the seed doesn't get washed away. Within a week or two, you'll see the first signs of life in your flowerbed.

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Garden diary

Add annuals for winter colour, introduce plants that vary in form, and celebrate Father's Day!

Compiled by Tessa Jean-Jacques • Photographs: Francois Oberholster and supplied • Send garden info to gardens@homemag.co.za.

Tip of the month

Celebrate World Environment Day on 5 June by creating an ecofriendly oasis that attracts birds, bees and other garden creatures.



Tasks for Ju

By Kay Montgomery

In summer rainfall regions...

- Dry winters create high-risk areas for fires. Clear gutters and remove any branches that overhang buildings. Also rake up fallen leaves, shed bark, old palm sheaths and dried fern fronds, and cut back dead or dying tree branches.
- Don't use flammable material such as pine needles for mulch near buildings; rather use gravel, which allows water to permeate into the ground.
- Water winter- and early spring-flowering bulbs, annuals and camellias, azaleas, rhododendrons and magnolias once a week to prevent bud drop.
- Give plants from the winter rainfall region a thorough watering once a week.
- Water pot plants once a week, making sure water penetrates to the root area. Give dormant pot plants an occasional watering and don't let them dry out completely.

In winter rainfall regions...

- Clear gutters and drains of leaves and debris.
- Strong winds can damage shallow-rooted trees and shrubs, so make sure that these are securely staked. A stocking cut into strips is useful for tying plants to stakes.
- dead or diseased wood. Where a plant is encroaching on its neighbour, cut it back or remove it.

· Check trees and shrubs and remove any

3 Annuals for your garden

Annuals can be used in many ways to brighten your winter and spring garden. Plant multi-coloured pansies in a wide ribbon along a path to create a tapestry of colour; warm up a border with clusters of apricot and orange snapdragons, Iceland poppies and nemesias; prevent sandy soil from blowing away by planting a patchwork of indigenous gazanias as a groundcover.

In filtered shade, English daisies (Bellis perennis) with dainty pom-pom flowers of white or pink make a pretty edging along a path. In light shade, give foxgloves a frill of mauve fairy primulas planted around them. White-flowered primulas show up well in a twilight garden.

In cold, frosty gardens, fill pots and hanging baskets with frost-tolerant alyssum, dianthus, ornamental kale, nemesia and pansy. Lobelia, mimulus, nicotiana and schizanthus can take light frost.



Colour and form

For brilliant winter colour and striking form in a sunny, well-drained area, waterwise aloes are the answer. The lemon, yellow, pink, orange and red flowers provide pollen and nectar for bees and birds in the lean months. Compact aloes, such as 'Goldibells', 'Hedgehog' or 'Porcupine', are ideal for small gardens and pots.

The white, pink and red flowers of Camellia japonica also put on a splendid show. Grow them in dappled shade, water regularly, and spread a thick mulch of bark chips around the root area.

General gardening tips

- Clean and sharpen secateurs, loppers and saws in preparation for next month's pruning. Invest in a pair of heavy-duty gloves to protect against thorns.
- Remove leaves and debris from ornamental ponds and water features. Scrub birdbaths to remove algae and ensure that they're always filled with fresh water.
- Aphids can be active even in winter. Check under leaves of annuals and spray with a suitable insecticide.
- From the time of the winter solstice, sap in plants begins to rise. This is a good time to move trees and shrubs that are in the wrong place. Water deeply to settle the soil around the roots.
- Plant deciduous fruit and ornamental trees and shrubs, choosing those that best suit your area.
- Use this quieter time in the garden to weed lawns and borders and repair any loose paving, steps and pergolas.



Herb of the month

Calendula officinalis

Calendulas help heal skin infections and irritations, and act as a detoxing tonic.



How to grow Frost-hardy calendula grows in full sun and does well if the soil is enriched with compost before

planting. Pinch out the tops to stop the plants from becoming straggly and remove dead flowers to encourage more blooms. Feed once a month with a liquid fertiliser specifically for flowers. Tip Grow calendula with other edible flowers such as dianthus, pansies, violas (Viola wittrockiana or Viola tricolor) and English daisy (Bellis perennis). They also look lovely in mixed containers with 'Red Giant' mustard, tatsoi, Swiss chard and lettuce. Use the petals to garnish salads, sandwiches and desserts. Ideal for use as an antiseptic wash for minor wounds, bites, stings and swellings; as a tea for its anti-viral properties that help clear infections and detox and balance the digestive system, liver and gall bladder.

Calendula tea Use only the petals. Infuse two teaspoons in 750ml just-boiled water for 10 minutes. Strain and drink up to five cups a day.

 $\textbf{CONTACT} \ \ healthyliving-herbs.co.za$

June 21

It's Father's Day – 5 gift ideas

• For keen golfers, put in a putting green on a

level part of the garden.

- Consider a selection of herbs if he enjoys cooking.
- A hammock it could easily be

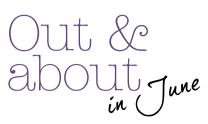
strung between two poles or sturdy trees.

- A bird feeder and book to identify birds that visit the garden.
- **SPLURGE!** A garden shed would be the ultimate man cave... >>



Order now!

Our latest selection of seed packets is perfect for sowing in winter. Get yours now and sow a beautiful *Home* garden. See page 103 for details.



COURSES AND TALKS

10; 24: CAPE TOWN

Talks at Kirstenbosch

10: Kirstenbosch horticulturist Monique McQuillan discusses botanical horticulture – collecting and cultivating wildflowers.

24: Designer David Davidson offers a heads-up on this year's Chelsea Flower Show. Venue: Sanlam Hall, Gate 2, Kirstenbosch. Time: 10:30. Cost: Entrance to Kirstenbosch Botanical Garden (R50 for adults) applies, but the talk is free. Contact Cathy Abbott on 021 465 6440.

13; 20; 27: RAND PARK RIDGE

Irrigation

Lifestyle College offers an irrigation course over three Saturdays at Lifestyle Garden Centre from 09:00–16:00 for R2 500. Call 011 792 5054.

Ludwig's Rose Farm in Pretoria will be celebrating a Father's Day lunch on June 21 with sherry on arrival and a tractor-train ride through the roses. For info, contact Ludwig's Roses on 012 544 0144, email info@ ludwigsroses.co.za or visit ludwigsroses.co.za.



Did you know?

The rose is the international flower for Father's Day. Ludwig's pick is 'Arctic Ice' – a vigorous shrub rose that will grow into an eye-catching specimen rose. The blooms have a cool colour and strong fruity fragrance, and the rose is virtually maintenance-free.



Ludwig's rose corner

Visit Iudwigsroses.co.za and send queries to gardens@homemag.co.za.

Rose guru Ludwig Taschner's inbox always fills up with garden queries – and his answers could help you, too!

Q: Which roses can I use for a border?

border. In a narrow bed, I advise using compact, bushy roses that flower profusely from top to bottom, like 'Tawny Profusion' (pale yellow), 'Jealous Joey', 'Summer Snow', 'Sweet Chariot' (purple) or 'Forever Yellow'. You can plant taller roses behind them for a full, rosy effect.

Should the taller roses develop bare stems at their base, the border roses will hide them. Where there is more space, you can opt for more spreading roses that can still be clipped and kept neat, such as 'My Granny', 'Deloitte & Touche', Sunsation roses such as 'Fiery Sunsation' or any of the Flower Carpet roses.

A good groundcover rose not only flowers at the end of the stems but in the centre as well. Those that become bare in the centre are more likely to suffer from sun damage and red spider.

Q: We had a lot of rain this past summer and my roses became quite waterlogged. How can I fix this?

Fortunately, June is the best month to dig out the roses and install a drain, or even better to raise the level of the bed. However, this does not mean shovelling extra soil and compost into the bed, and half burying the plants in the process,

but rather taking out the roses and replanting them.

Bring in lots of organics (such as peanut shells), more topsoil and compost and raise the level of the bed by at least 30cm. Then replant the roses. While the roses are out of the ground, keep them in a cool place with the roots covered with moist sacks or in a trench that can be filled with water.

Once the roses have been re-planted, their roots will be well above the level where the water accumulates.



Rose tasks for June

- Transplant roses if necessary; prepare the new positions before removing the roses from their existing position.
- Reduce watering to once a week in the absence of rain.
- In the Lowveld or warmer parts of KwaZulu-Natal where roses can be expected to grow and flower through winter, spray every two weeks with Chronos or Rose Protector and Ludwig's Insect Spray and fertilise once a month with Vigorosa.
- There's no need to fertilise in other areas, but continue spraying roses with Chronos or Rose Protector every two weeks to prevent black spot, especially in winter rainfall areas.
- Keep roses looking neat by removing spent blooms.
- Refrain from winter pruning before mid-July.

gardendiary

Garden goodies

Compiled by Marian van Wyk • Photographs: Francois Oberholster

Love your lawn Efekto Banweed MCPA selective broadleaf weedkiller for lawns R60, picknpay.co.za

Let it rain Adlus rain gauge R45, builders.co.za





Show you care Ecofriendly ProNature outdoor furniture care kit (including exterior wood sealer, plant soap, a cloth, brush and scourer) R285, gnrsa.co.za



Handy!

garden gloves R165, ingoodcompany.co.za





120

100

80 -60 -

Box clever Ready-to-install and UV-

stabilised JoJo owl box for rodent control from R690.

builders.co.za



Oil you need Trimtech 2-stroke engine oil for garden power tools R50.

builders.co.za





It created 44 000 jobs.

And that's after you threw it away.

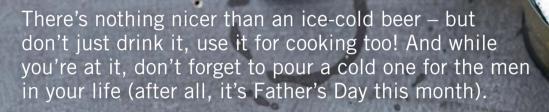
Plastic bottles are made from PET. It's 100% recyclable and too valuable to trash.

During 2014, collectors gathered almost 64 000 tonnes of post-consumer PET. That was then recycled into loads of new products from fibre used for apparel, home textiles, automotive and industrial end use and, most importantly, into new PET bottles and packaging.

So, to say PET plastic doesn't belong in a bin is an understatement. Recycling it is not only better for the environment. It's also better for the country.



Cheers! Salute! {Skål!} PROST! L'chaim!



Marinated pork shoulder

The secret to this delicious pork is in the marinade; the flavours were inspired by the Cuban food featured in the movie *Chef* with Jon Favreau. Chef Roy Choi, a food truck legend, developed the recipes especially for the film and my mouth watered for a Cuban sandwich filled with tasty pork from start to finish!

Serves 8

Preparation time: 30 minutes, plus marinating time Cooking time: about 3 hours Oven temperature: 170°C

- about 2kg pork shoulder, skin scored with a sharp knife
- 1 whole garlic bulb, sliced
- about 330ml beer
- 3 large orange sweet potatoes (scrubbed), cut into wedges
- · 8 small red onions, peeled

MARINADE

- 60ml olive oil
- a large handful of both coriander and mint, finely chopped
- juice and zest of 1 lime and 1 orange
- 330ml beer
- 8 garlic cloves, finely chopped
- 4 sprigs thyme

- 5ml each ground cumin, coriander and paprika
- 5ml sea salt flakes
- 8 peppercorns

1 Mix all the ingredients for the marinade and place the meat and marinade in a plastic or glass bowl with a tight-fitting lid; or use a large Ziploc bag and rub the marinade into the meat. Refrigerate overnight. If you remember, turn the meat occasionally.

2 Pat the meat dry (discard the marinade). Heat a heavy-based pan and fry the meat until golden brown on all sides. Preheat the oven. Place the meat on a rack in an ovenproof dish. Add the garlic and beer, cover with foil and roast in the oven for 2 hours. Add the sweet potato and onion to the pan juices, baste the meat and roast uncovered until the vegetables are tender – this takes about an hour. Rest the meat for 20 minutes before carving. Note A cut of meat with the bone in is difficult to carve into neat slices; make things easier for yourself by buying a boneless pork shoulder and reduce the cooking time accordingly.

Tip

For a delicious sauce, add 250ml cream and a heaped tablespoon of Dijon mustard to the pan juices and heat through.

By Johané Neilson
Photographs
Francois Oberholster









SOAP

Cowboy cuisine

I usually cook this chilli beef-and-bean casserole in a *potjie* over the coals when we entertain lots of friends. It can be doubled easily and reminds me of scenes from a Wild West movie with cowboys sitting around a smoky fire!

Makes about 8 servings
Preparation time: 30 minutes
Cooking time: 2½ hours

- 2kg beef stewing meat (brisket, ribs or shin)
- 15ml ground coriander
- 5ml smoked paprika
- 2 onions, chopped
- 2 red peppers, chopped
- 3 cloves garlic, chopped
- 1 knob ginger, peeled and chopped
- 3 chillies (or to taste), chopped
- 60ml sherry
- 3 sprigs rosemary, chopped
- 2 sprigs thyme
- 1 bay leaf
- · 3 dried chillies, finely chopped
- 1 tin chopped tomatoes
- 250-500ml beer (we used Jack Black lager)
- 2 tins kidney beans, rinsed and drained

1 Cut the meat into equal-sized pieces. Heat the *potjie* until piping hot and brown the meat in batches. I first rendered the fat so that extra oil would not be necessary. (If your fire is taking too long to make coals and you're worried that you'll run short on time, you can take a shortcut by browning the meat in a pan on the stove — if load-shedding allows!) Season the meat with coriander, paprika, salt and pepper.

2 Remove the meat and fry the onions, peppers, garlic, ginger and chillies for 5 minutes. Add the sherry and cook rapidly for a few seconds. Add the herbs, tomatoes and beer and heat through. Return the meat to the pot, cover and simmer slowly for 2 hours.

3 Stir in the beans, heat through and check your seasoning. Serve with white rice and a large salad. A spoonful of sour cream is an optional extra — add some for richness.

Creamy fish soup

This luxurious combination of smoky pork, fresh fish and cream is heavenly – and it's so easy to prepare.

Serves 4

Preparation time: 15 minutes
Cooking time: 35 minutes

- 200ml lager
- 5ml finely chopped fennel leaves
- 1 bay leaf
- 3 black peppercorns
- 500g black mussels, scrubbed and beards removed
- 15ml olive oil
- 2 smoked pork steaks, cubed
- 2 large onions, finely chopped
- 1 whole clove of garlic (optional)
- 15ml flour
- 750ml hot milk
- 2 large potatoes, peeled and cubed
- 200g firm white fish, cubed
- 12 cooked prawns, peeled (optional)
- 200ml cream
- a small bunch of chives, finely chopped

1 Heat the beer, fennel, bay leaf and peppercorns in a saucepan with a tight-fitting lid and bring to the boil. Add the mussels, cover and steam for about 2–3 minutes or until the mussels open. Pour through a colander and reserve the beer separately from the mussels. Discard any mussels that don't open.

2 Heat the oil in a heavy-based pot and fry the pork until golden brown and cooked. Remove and fry the onion and garlic slowly in the same pot until glossy (at least 5 minutes).

3 Discard the garlic, stir in the flour and fry; whisk in the milk as you would with a white sauce. Add the potatoes and simmer slowly until the potato is soft (about 15 minutes).

4 Add the reserved beer and fish, and simmer for 3 minutes or until the fish is just cooked. Remove half the mussels from their shells (leave the others in their shells to add interest to the dish; you can discard all of them if you prefer), and stir into the soup along with the prawns and pork. Stir in a dash or all of the cream and heat through, but don't boil. Season to taste with salt and pepper, and sprinkle with chives. Serve immediately with fresh bread.





Beer doesn't need to be ice cold for cooking, except in beer batter; cold beer will increase the cooking time unnecessarily in other recipes.

NO SOAP

Guinness chocolate cake with butterscotch

This extraordinary cake is a decadent combination of dark beer, peanuts, chocolate and caramel.

Makes 1 cake Preparation time: 20 minutes Cooking time: about 1 hour Oven temperature: 180°C

- 500ml cake flour
- 7.5ml baking powder
- 125ml cocoa
- 375ml light brown sugar
- 125ml unsweetened smooth peanut butter
- 2 eggs, beaten
- 200ml buttermilk
- 250ml Guinness (stout)

CARAMEL SAUCE

- 80g butter
- 200ml brown sugar
- 50ml Guinness (the rest of the bottle not used for the cake)
- 250ml cream

1 Preheat the oven. Spray a bundt cake pan thoroughly with non-stick spray. Sift the flour, baking powder and cocoa. Beat the sugar, peanut butter and eggs together until light and fluffy. Gradually add the buttermilk, Guinness and flour mixture until just combined. Spoon the batter into the prepared cake pan and bake for about 50 minutes or until a skewer comes out clean. Cool on a wire rack. 2 Prepare the sauce Heat the butter, sugar and beer together in a small saucepan and stir until the sugar has dissolved. Bring to the boil and cook rapidly for about 5 minutes or until the caramel takes on a deep, rich colour. Stir continuously - the caramel tends to burn. Slowly add the cream (it may splash) and stir until smooth. Serve with the cake. fi

Dinner's on the table

Four meals guaranteed to warm the family up on those chilly winter evenings.

By Johané Neilson • Photographs Francois Oberholster



Cajun fish in tomato sauce

Under R100 • Serves 4 • Preparation time: 5 minutes Cooking time: 25 minutes

- 900g hake fillets
- flour
- Cajun spices
- oil for shallow-frying
- 2 onions, thinly sliced
- 1 tin chopped tomatoes
- 100g unsalted peanuts, chopped
- · a handful of chopped parsley
- 1 Roll the fish in flour and season with the spices. Shallow-fry in a little oil in a heavy-based pan until brown on all sides. Remove the fish and set aside.
- 2 In the same pan, fry the onions in a little more oil until fragrant. Add the tomatoes and simmer for about 10 minutes. Spoon the fish into the sauce, sprinkle with the nuts and herbs, check your seasoning and serve as soon as the fish is heated through. Rice or oven-baked potato wedges make a delicious accompaniment.



Asian chicken with rice

Under R95 • Serves 4 • Preparation time: 10 minutes Cooking time: 25 minutes

- 4 chicken breasts
- 30ml brown sugar
- 2ml cavenne pepper
- · iuice and zest of 1 lime
- 2 x 15ml olive oil
- · 25ml toasted sesame seeds 250ml broccoli florets
- 125ml snap peas, sliced lengthways at an angle
- 500ml cooked rice
- · 3 eggs, beaten
 - spring onions, basil and soy sauce, to serve

1 Cut the chicken into strips and mix with the sugar, pepper, lime and 15ml oil. Heat a pan until nice and hot and fry the chicken until golden brown. Sprinkle with sesame seeds and remove from the pan.

2 Heat the remaining oil and fry the vegetables until just tender. Mix the rice with the vegetables. Move the mixture to one side of the pan and quickly stir-fry the eggs. Mix everything together. Spoon into bowls, top with the chicken and sprinkle with the spring onions and basil. Season to taste with soy sauce.





Corn waffles

Under R75 • Makes about 8 waffles
Preparation time: 15 minutes, plus 20 minutes resting time
Cooking time: 5 minutes per waffle

- 300g self-raising flour
- 15ml sugar
- a pinch each of salt, cayenne pepper and ground coriander
- 4 eggs, beaten
- 250ml yoghurt

- 250ml oil
- 1 tin whole kernel corn, drained
- 250g streaky bacon, fried until crispy
- honey

1 Sift the self-raising flour, sugar and spices together. Mix the eggs, yoghurt and oil, and add to the flour mixture with the corn. If you have time, rest the mixture for 20 minutes while you fry the bacon.

2 Make the waffles in an electric waffle pan and serve drizzled with the bacon and honey, or with sliced tomato and avocado.

Enchiladas

Under R110 • Enough for 6 tortillas

Preparation time: 10 minutes • Cooking time: 25 minutes Oven temperature: grill

- Oven temperature. gim
- 5ml olive oil450g mince
- 1 tin mild chakalaka
- 6 flour tortillas
- 250ml sour cream
- 250ml mozzarella cheese, grated
- · fresh coriander

1 Heat a pan until hot and brown the mince in the oil, breaking up the meat continuously with a spatula. Add the chakalaka and heat until warmed through. Season to taste with salt.

2 Divide the filling between the tortillas, roll them up and place in an ovenproof dish. Spoon over the sour cream (gently heat the cream to make it runny or dilute with a little boiling water if you prefer), sprinkle with the cheese and place under a hot grill until the cheese bubbles. Sprinkle with fresh coriander. **1**



Let's twist again. Pretzels are the perfect spack that're

Pretzels are the perfect snack – they're also a delicious light meal served with cheese, ham and your favourite spreads.

By Sonja Jordt
Photographs Francois Oberholster

Pretzels

These soft rolls with their distinctive knot originated in Europe during the Middle Ages. They're usually seasoned with salt, but you can also lightly sprinkle them with poppy seeds, sesame seeds or pumpkin seeds before baking.

Pretzels are first cooked in an alkaline solution of water and bicarbonate of soda before they're baked; this adds flavour and gives them an attractive brown colour.

Makes about 8 pretzels Preparation time: 30 minutes, plus 1 hour resting time Oven temperature: 200°C Baking time: 15–20 minutes

- 325ml lukewarm water
- 15ml sugar
- 10ml salt
- 1 packet (10g) instant yeast
- 4 cups flour
- 60g butter, cubed

FOR COOKING

- 10 cups water
- 160ml bicarbonate of soda

GLAZE

- 1 egg yolk beaten with 15ml water
- coarse salt





1 Combine the water, sugar and salt in a mixing bowl. Sprinkle the yeast on top and leave it to stand for about 5 minutes or until it foams on top. Put it in your mixer with the flour and butter and mix on low speed with the dough hook until the dough comes together. Increase the speed to medium



- **4** Divide the dough into 8 equal pieces. Roll each piece of dough into a long, thin sausage of 50–55cm.
- **5** Make a U-shape with each piece of dough; cross the ends over each other once.
- **6** Fold the ends back over, press them down lightly on the



and knead for 5 minutes until elastic – the dough will come away from the sides of the bowl. If kneading by hand, do so for about 10–15 minutes.

2 Remove the dough from the mixing bowl and grease the bowl lightly with oil.

Place the dough back in the bowl and cover with cling film.



curved piece and seal the ends with cold water. Leave to stand for a maximum of 10 minutes while you preheat the oven.

7 Immerse the pretzels one by one for about 1 minute in the

one for about 1 minute in the pan of boiling water and bicarb; take them out with a slotted spoon and place them



Leave for about 1 hour in a warm place to rise until it doubles in volume.

3 Line two baking trays with greased baking paper. Heat the 10 cups of water and bicarbonate of soda together in a saucepan. Turn the dough out onto a floured surface and knead lightly.



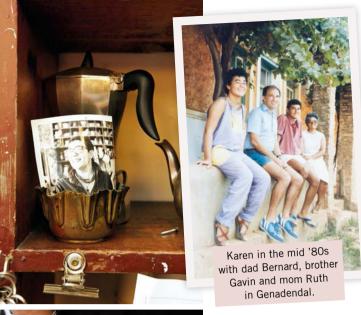
Time to bake

on the greased

baking trays.

8 Brush the pretzels with the egg yolk and water mixture and sprinkle with coarse salt. Bake for 15–20 minutes or until golden brown. Allow to cool. 🔝

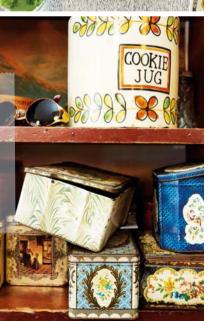




ginger

Our heritage food contributor, Karen Dudley of Woodstock's The Kitchen, evokes rich and fragrant memories of her father's childhood in Genadendal.





or *Kinderfees* in early August, the children of the small town of Genadendal in the Overberg would gather fynbos from the surrounding mountains to adorn the Moravian Church with flowers. In the stark whitewashed church, its congregation divided into men and women with a partition, the fragrance of the flowers filled the space with joyous celebration, the famous brass bands brash with shining song.

After the service, the children would all get a treat: wiele (spiced ginger biscuits) and tea. The powdered fine ginger, ever present in the soetkoekies and Christmas biscuits we always hoped to get from my dad's stepmom (Ma Dudley), is almost the same colour as the dust I remember so well from my visits to Genadendal as a child. This dust would cling to everything (there were no tarred roads till much later), just as the fragrance of the biscuits lingered for a while when the tin was opened.

My thoughts of Genadendal are always tinged with pathos. A town with a strong Moravian history, a place of education, rich farming history and unique architecture, it has pride of place in my father's heart. His childhood memories are rich and fragrant: setting jellies in the cool water channel below the house, a garden with fruit and *paglande* (freehold land) with ginormous vegetables – even I, as a very young child, remember the wonder of my grandfather's dark Victorian study filled with books and strange bottles of formaldehyde-preserved specimens.

My grandfather, Herbert, was the principal of the school and the shopkeeper. Life in the Dudley household was a mix of Latin declensions and herding cows. It was a working childhood and full of hardship. In the background, the town of Genadendal was battling the ravages of a country in the throes of

apartheid. A farming people, unable to trade locally, sought work in the cities, leaving the old people and children behind with poverty and alcoholism, many of the houses falling into disrepair and the *paglande* going to seed.

My father, Bernard, would ride his bicycle from Genadendal to Cape Town. He would, finally, leave the cows, study in town, fix my mom's scooter, woo her on long drives in his (very sleek, music-playing!) white Valiant, and introduce her to *mosbolletjies*, real ginger beer and his Genadendal. He would show us all how to twist open an apple with his bare hands, make a catapult, shoot pellets through a little reed pipe and all kinds of other things you only learn from growing up in the country.

I like to think that as he cycled on his old bike into Cape Town, he took with him his tenacity, his fierce work ethic, large amounts of curiosity and ingenuity as well as the dusty fragrance of ginger from the house on Berg Street.

These days, ginger – fresh and fine – permeates my own flavour story. I thought I was terribly grown up when I actually enjoyed the flavour of Stoney ginger beer for the first time. And then I discovered my father's treasured glazed ginger chocolates: serious, meaty and spicy! And what was that flavour I was detecting in the crisp cool watermelon *konfyt*? Ah! Ginger! My mother's '70s-style Hong Kong chicken, forever a milestone on my flavour journey, was also fragrant with fresh ginger.

Another of my favourite things? Good gingerbread. And the syrup of preserved ginger drizzled over vanilla ice cream. I use ginger in my aromatic lamb, in comfort noodles and in many of my favourite salads. And, of course, in these spiced pork chops with beetroot, ginger and mango relish...

email@karendudley.co.za

Spiced pork chops with beetroot, ginger and mango relish

Serves 6

• 6 pork loin chops

MARINADE

- 30ml sunflower oil
- 1 red chilli, deseeded and finely chopped
- · 2 cloves garlic, crushed
- 2cm knob fresh ginger, peeled and finely grated

RELISH

- 3 medium beetroots
- 2cm knob fresh ginger, peeled and finely grated
- 10ml extra virgin olive oil or sesame oil
- 15ml Indonesian soy sauce
- juice and grated zest of 1 orange
- \bullet juice and grated zest of $\frac{1}{2}$ lime (25ml lime juice)
- · 3ml fennel seeds
- · salt and freshly ground black pepper
- 1 fat ripe mango

Styling Johané Neilson • Photographs Francois Obe

- 2-3 spring onions, finely sliced
- a big handful of fresh mint, shredded

1 Mix all the ingredients for the marinade together in a shallow, non-reactive (plastic or glass) bowl just big enough for your chops. Coat the chops with the marinade, cover and leave to marinate in the fridge for two or more hours. Turn the chops in the marinade every so often so they get well-acquainted with the ginger.

2 Cook the beetroot in a deepish pan with plenty of water on a gentle boil for about 30–35 minutes; they must be tender but not too soft. Drain them and when they're cool enough to handle, slip off their skins and cut them into 1cm blocks.

3 Whisk the ginger, oil, Indonesian soy sauce, juice and zest, fennel seeds and seasoning together and pour over the beetroot. Peel and cut the mango into 1cm chunks and stir it gently into the beetroot salad along with the spring onions and shredded mint – or, alternatively, use the latter two to garnish the entire dish.

4 Heat the frying pan until it's really hot. Remove the chops from the marinade, making sure to scrape the marinade off the chops and back into the bowl. Season the chops with salt and white pepper. Cook them over a high temperature for about 3 minutes or until you get a good colour, then turn them and do the same on the other side. Now reduce the heat to low and continue frying until they're cooked through; this takes at least 8 minutes and there should be no pink juices when you pierce them. Serve the pork chops with the beetroot, ginger and mango relish.





Food & drinks

This month it's all about culinary adventures and fabulous drinks perfect for Father's Day.

By Johané Neilson • Photographs: supplied

This one's for dad!

Celebrity chef Justin Bonello's latest book, *Road Tripping* (R290; Struik Lifestyle), takes us on another culinary adventure across the length and breadth of Southern Africa. It's produced in collaboration with Helena Lombard and features 75 recipes to inspire braailoving wanderlusters and local fare enthusiasts. Available in June, it's the ideal Father's Day gift for a foodie dad.



Hot stuff

The forged-steel accessories in our main food story on page 108 are the handiwork of master craftsman and blacksmith Conrac Hicks. The one-of-a-kind, razor-sharp carbon steel knives, skillets and roasting pans are available from The Tool Room at

The Bijou in Observatory, Cape Town. Search for thetoolroomshowroom on Facebook or email info@blacksmith.co.za



On a roll

Pylones Splash Paper Towel Holder R469.95, happygifts.co.za





Bring on the bacon!

Both a deli and eatery specialising in all things bacon, Bacon on Bree at 217 Bree Street in Cape Town is the new venture by artisanal producer Richard Bosman and his wife Justine Seymour. A double-storey bacon bar serves up to eight kinds of bacon, including Oak Smoked Honey Bacon, Real Bacon, Pancetta and Guanciale – and the menu features favourites such as the perfect French toast BLT, a bacon butty and the signature bacon and Brie sandwich. For details, visit bacononbree.com.

A taste sensation

Sweet, spicy, mild or hot – the new Peppadew Atchar range (from R22.99, currently only at Checkers and Spar in Gauteng) is big on flavour.

Keep on truckin'

We're so proud of Adele
Maartens, chef and owner of
Cape Town-based food truck The
Good Life – the only SA food truck
to be included in the new recipe
book Food Truckin' – Recipes
from the World's Best Food
Trucks. It features anecdotes and
recipes from 50 of the world's
best; visit graffitobooks.com or
look on Facebook/TheGoodLifeCT
to see what Adele is up to.





Dear diary...

Fine Brandy Fusion (4–5 June at the Sandton Convention Centre) is the premier showcase for SA's world-class brandies. You can rub shoulders with celebrities, learn from the brandy masters, and taste their chart-topping creations. Entry is R195 (no under-18s) and includes a crystal brandy snifter and a booklet with 15 brandy taster coupons, three cocktail and two coffee coupons.



Go to
brandy fusion.co.za,
computicket.com or buy
tickets at the door.



We can't get enough of the soft cheese roulade with garlic and herbs (R24.95 for 100g at Woolworths) that recently won Fairview Cheesery in Paarl the 4th annual Woolworths Cheesemaker's Challenge title.

Triple the tipple

KEEP REFRIGERATED

ROULADE

Cookies&Crazy,
Marshmallow Pop! and
CUPPnCHINO are fun
new creamy liqueurs
from Van Loveren
(from R100 at selected
retailers). Serve on
crushed ice, mix into a
cocktail or create a
grown-up milkshake
– the rich biscuit-andchocolate flavour of
Cookies&Crazy makes
for a divine tipsy
cheesecake...







The Midas touch

Flanked by the Helderberg and Stellenbosch Mountains between Stellenbosch and the False Bay coast, you'll find what is known as the Golden Triangle – an exceptional area of farmland ideal for wine-making. Try Stellenzicht's crisp tropical Golden Triangle Sauvignon Blanc 2014 (it's a steal at only R60 at the cellar, or find it at wine shops countrywide); you can drink it now or let it mature for up to four years.

Fortified flavour

Haute Cabrière's Pierre Jourdan Ratafia (R80 at the cellar or in wine shops countrywide) is a delicious, sweet fortified wine full of rich honey flavours and made from 100% Chardonnay grapes. Pour as the perfect aperitif to whet your appetite or serve as a digestif to end dinner on a high note. For more info, call 021 876 8500 or visit cabriere.co.za.





For a good cause

Look out for Chipembere Blend coffee at Masterton's Coffee and Tea Roastery at 114 Russell Road in Port Elizabeth; R5 from every 250g packet sold is donated to the Chipembere Rhino Foundation. Visit chipembere.org. fi



OLOSE IT!

Sign up for LADIES THAT LCHF

Our 6-week LCHF programme specifically designed for women!

FOR ONLY R600

If that sounds like you, we've got

you covered! Our 6-week online programme is designed specifically for women like you. We know women often struggle to lose weight, so we've carefully engineered a course that will work. And don't worry – your husband and kids can do it with you too.

- We tell you exactly how to bant in order to maximise your weight loss AND turn your health around.
- Every single LTL recipe has been specially designed to help women shed the kilos.
- For six weeks, you don't need to think about what to eat: we tell you exactly what to do – and how to do it.
- You become part of a great

community of women who are experiencing exactly what you are, and who have fabulous hacks and tips to share!

PLUS!

- It's all online, so you can do it wherever you are as long as you have internet access
- There are actually eight weeks in total: you pay for six, and you get an extra two weeks of support completely free!
- There are no set dates you can sign up for any Monday that's most convenient for you.
- All this for just R600! Yes, that's right: R600. That's all it costs.

EACH WEEK YOU GET:

- A WEEKLY LETTER explaining your week ahead – with great advice and tips to get you set
- AN INSPIRING WEIGHT-LOSS STORY: read about other Ladies That LCHF and share in their success
- A WEEKLY SHOPPING LIST
- A MEAL PREVIEW of the week & RECIPES for every meal
- A GREAT READ
- A FRIDAY WEIGH-IN
- ACCESS TO OUR ONLINE FORUM

What are you waiting for? Sign up to change your life and health forever at www.loseit.co.za.



WHAT EXACTLY IS LADIES THAT LCHF (LTL) ?

We're so glad you asked – because it's designed especially for you if you're:

- wondering why you aren't losing weight – even though every man you know seems to lose as soon as he so much as says 'LCHF'
- not sure exactly what and how much – you can eat
- struggling to plan meals and come up with recipes for your LCHF lifestyle



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SHOP WINDOW



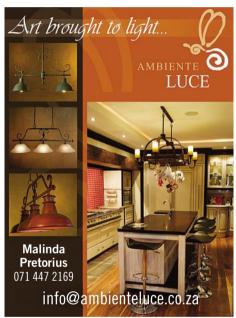




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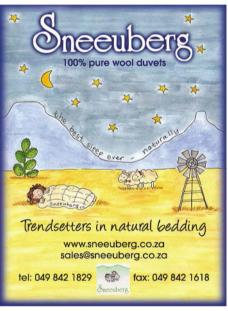
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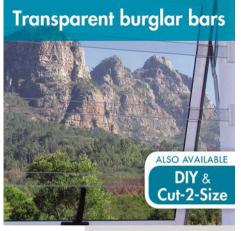








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Solution to Crossword 76

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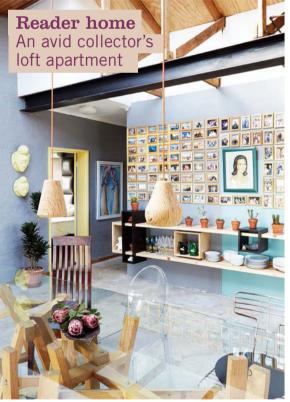
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NOTE Because of variations occurring in the printing process, paint colours shown in the magazine may not be 100% accurate.

In July
... we're in touch with texture







DIY Decorate your frames with paint and gold

Gardens Gorgeous winter blooms



Next month in On sale 15 June 2015 eople who know me know that I have a thing about gifts. I like to give gifts and I like to receive them, provided it's the right gift. I have an intense dislike of expensive store-bought items that are given to me without soul or thought. Sorry, but they just don't stir any emotion in the dark chambers of my heart.

What makes me even more annoyed and upset is the craziness that accompanies the commercial days on our crowded calendar. Obviously one wants a gift for one's birthday, that's okay. But why should an adult also get a gift on Christmas Day? And on Valentine's Day, at Easter, on Worker's Day, Women's Day and every other day that begins with a capital letter? These days, I see there's yet another opportunity for shops to cram their shelves with gifts galore: Halloween. To my horror, I watched as these macabre items flew off the shelves, complete with broomsticks and black cloaks. I know I'm a closet witch; I love lighting a fire and drinking wine with friends, sharing a laugh and stirring a *potijie* – but is it really necessary to spend a few thousand rands on gifts for this occasion?

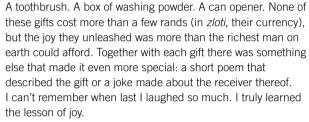
The reason why I have a problem with soulless gifts is simple: I have experienced the overwhelming joy of a small and simple gift straight from the heart.

Shortly after the fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989, I visited Poland, the Czech Republic and Hungary. The residents of the

Eastern bloc were still reeling from

the impact of a communist existence, poverty and

misery. I spent Christmas
Day 1991 with a Polish
family and learned the
true joy of a precious
gift. On that Christmas
Eve of 1991, everyone
received a gift, even me,
the stranger in their midst.
What did these people give
and receive, and with
great joy? A pencil. An
apple. A hand-knitted
woollen cap. Gloves.



What do I regard as a precious gift? What do I want to receive on my birthday, and what do I want to give to someone who's close to my heart? For starters, there are all the lovely things I've already received. For one birthday, a friend washed my car. She did it so well that for months afterwards there was no need to vacuum it. This didn't cost her a cent – only a few hours of her valuable time.

A darling young girl who's getting married in about a year or so will be getting a gift that I would also love to receive: a well-seasoned cast iron pot. Anyone who's ever cooked with an old-fashioned black pot – the queen of the kitchen (and witches!) – will know that it is quite a mission to get the pot properly 'seasoned'. For a week long, you boil onions and veggie peels in it, only to throw them away afterwards. You boil it until the black sediment eventually cooks off, and then for a year you make the dog's porridge in it until it's clean and smooth, ready for that masterful shank stew that you'll cook and serve right there at the dinner table.

Give me gifts of value. Give me a freshly baked bread, a bottle of jam made from the apricots in your orchard, give me a posy of flowers from your garden, a seedling that you've grown yourself, a second-hand book. Give me one sheet of beautiful wrapping paper, write me a two- or four-line verse, tell me a story. You won't just shed light on the dark corners of my heart, I'll shed buckets of tears because you've made me so very happy.





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