

real living

MAY 2011

home | ideas | shopping | food

welcome TO THE MAKEOVER ISSUE

The motto this month is if you can't renovate then REFRESH, REVAMP, REUSE! I am passionate about hands-on decorating (and renovating if you're up for it) and believe every home can be a cool place to live without budget compromising style. And this month, the team at **real living** have dreamt up some super-easy makeover ideas – from using a quick lick of paint to transform any wall in your home (flip to page 52), through to adding a fab statement pendant to bring a dining room bang up to date (see page 100). The ideas are all clever interpretations of current fashion trends, with the practical at the heart of each. So look out for the makeover stamp, shown above, peppered throughout the issue and get inspired!

Now, if a can of paint is still too much for you, then simply resort to my sneaky trick – sometimes just adding a new cushion to the sofa, or maybe two, three... (see pics right; yep, I know we got a little carried away with the cushions!) gives your friends the impression you've redecorated the entire space... shhhh.

If you do happen to have a few dollars stashed away for the renovation you've been dreaming about, then you're going to love reading *Your get-real guide to renovating – 10 lessons learnt*. Two ex-**real living** team members, Belinda Carter and Belinda Graham, have both gone down the reno path and have given us the first sneak peek inside their homes. Belinda Carter has transformed her "dingy" apartment into a fabulous contemporary beach pad complete with beautiful finishes, strong detailing and a gentle palette. Belinda Graham has been renovating her home since she left **real living** and that was, umm... four years ago! Finally, we can reveal her charming cottage packed with unique and creative ideas, perfect for a young family. Both Belindas kept a tight reign on their budgets; they share how they kept it real starting on page 117. So go on, create your own signature space this month and have a little fun with it!



Photo s

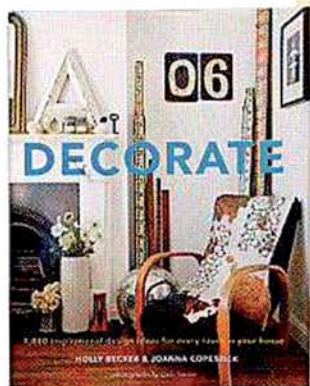


Table toppers

La Petite Epicerie **extra virgin olive oil** (250ml), \$29, and Galateo & Friends ceramic **bowl**, \$88, Manon Bis.

Pages of inspiration

Book: *Decorate* by Holly Becker & Joanna Copestick (Murdoch Books, \$59.95).



30
DAYS
OF HOME,
FOOD & WINE
APRIL 2011

ALLIED WINNING - PREMIUM QUALITY
Nestlé
Plaisiowe

SHERIDAN

HYL

Deborah

dbibby@acpmagazines.com.au

reallivingmag.com.au

30daysofhomefoodandwine.com.au



stay in touch & don't forget to come along to