

the guide



THE REPURPOSED LIBRARY-33 Craft Projects That Give Old Books New Life By Lisa Occhipinti (STC Craft)

Book hoarders rejoice: all those random children's books, encyclopedias, and unread paperbacks are about to find their purpose. In this adorable guidebook, artist Lisa Occhipinti presents 33 projects literally made out of literature. "As a child I adored books." Occhipinti proclaims in the introduction, "despite the fact that I hated to read." Attracted instead to the book as object-the look, the smell, the feelit was only natural that she launched her career reconstructing books into pieces of art. The instructions in The Repurposed Library are simple enough for DIY newbies, and the majority of the projects can be made using simple materials, such as X-Acto knives, thread, and glue, as well as a common bookbinding tool known as a bone folder. Projects range from elegant sculptural constructions made of deconstructed books to quirky ways to adom existing novels with "book tattoo" stampings; there are wreaths made of printed page rosettes, lampshades and chandeliers, decorative vases and wall hangings, and even a working music box constructed from an old book. While some of the simpler crafts (such as origami cranes) are not exactly groundbreaking, the use of printed pages and book covers does create a uniformly beautiful effect. Most of the projects will look best using vintage, hardcover tomes, but Occhipinti also gives e-books some love with instructions for making a rad Kindle cover from a "traditional" hardback. Furnished with cheery photographs and numerous hand-drawn diagrams, this endearing book will appeal to veteran crafters and literati alike. [ANTONIA BLAIR]