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read *all* about it

THINK OUTSIDE THE SHELF WITH THESE DISPLAYS OF BOOKISH BEAUTY.

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BOOKSHELVES COME IN ALL SHAPES and sizes. Here, old boxes trimmed in paint and embellished with pattern paper function as wall cubbies—blurring the lines between art and storage.

IF THE HUNTER-GATHERER IN YOU HAS LEFT YOU WITH MORE BOOKS THAN YOU KNOW WHAT TO DO WITH, HERE'S YOUR SOLUTION:

Turn your tomes into a working part of your décor, rather than just something to work around. In her new book *Novel Living: Collecting, Decorating and Crafting with Books*, author Lisa Ochipinti explores ways to use books as muses for clever and interesting décor elements rather

than staid objects to be shelved away. Step-by-step instructions for a host of clever book-themed crafts ensure that readers can easily turn her ideas into DIY conversation pieces.

From repurposing pages to making your own unique bookcases that are more "wow" than wallflower, the book is just bursting with inspirational ideas. "There's no denying the role books have as aesthetic objects, even when their covers are closed, they visually engage us," Lisa writes.

The artist-turned author has worked with books as a medium for her art for years, but this book, a love letter to the printed page, explores ways to collect, preserve and use books as materials for living with what you love. Turn the page for our favorite ideas.

BELOVED BOOK COVERS saved from dilapidated books become a mobile when strung together and hung from the ceiling. The eye-catching piece also functions as a room divider.



A BOOKSHELF AS A ROOM SEPARATOR brings your collection up-front and center. Create visual interest by arranging your books a variety of ways and balancing and breaking up space with blank spots and decorative objects.



Novel Living: Collecting, Decorating and Crafting with Books by Lisa Occhipinti, published by Stewart, Taberi & Chang, © 2014; stzbooks.com.



LISA'S TUTORIAL for her sling books adds a fun and quirky way for you to highlight all of your favorite hardbacks.

Arrange Books Like You Paint Pictures.

Don't be square when you organize your bookshelves. Put your books in color order for a dramatic display, or place them cover-forward so that each stands alone as a work of art. When you are placing your books, step back and look at the shelf as a whole—create breaks with objects or art or set some books on their sides, some stacked and some in size order. You want your bookshelves to look like curated displays, not clutter bombs.

Turn the Page.

Salvage falling-apart books by looking at their pages as fodder for various crafts and décor projects. From a book-cover bunting garland to a patchwork headboard made of colorful book covers and spines, the options are just as endless as the colors and patterns you find in print.

Use Books Everywhere.

The simplest lesson, and perhaps the easiest, is to use your books in every room. From platforms for display to elevations for candles, lamps or art, use your books as everyday materials. Create a vignette of your favorite passions to adorn your nightstand, or place a stack in the center of the dining table for an eclectic centerpiece.

Go Off the Shelf.

From ladders-turned-bookcases to crates hung on the wall for modular book cubbies, Occhipinti reminds readers to always get creative with their materials. Figure out ways to include books that incorporate your style, rather than fight against it.



THE WRITING'S ON THE WALL with this clever way to capture a person's portrait. Use a page from your loved one's favorite book to make them into a classic silhouette.

HARDLY YOUR BORING BOOKSHELF,
this ladder is a charming and budget-
friendly storage solution.

