

vintage beauty

Search flea markets for one-of-a-kind pieces that add personality to your kitchen. Start with our shopping list.



\$15

40 chair legs Search for pieces such as this chair base in the “as is” section of a flea market. For a clever towel holder, cut the base apart to space the rungs away from a cabinet; then paint and install. Attach the piece by drilling through the cabinet from the inside and into the legs.

..... A \$24 tablecloth
..... provided fabric
..... for a valance
..... and a sink skirt.
.....

41 rustic wood Add character to a new kitchen with a display shelf atop the window. This ledge is made from a length of wood, two corbels, and decorative turnings glued and nailed to the shelf edge. Secure the shelf to the wall using anchor bolts. Stretch a tension rod between the corbels to hang a valance made from a tablecloth.

\$85

The edge of a tablecloth sets the kitchen's color scheme of blue, yellow, green, and a bit of red.



◀..... Antique fixtures require tedious wiring, but these new pendants also reflect vintage style.

▶..... Camouflage a refrigerator with faux tin tiles from a home center. You can use ordinary scissors to cut them to fit.

\$6

42 drawer pulls Add a flea-market touch to new stools with vintage drawer pulls screwed into the back slats.

Be creative: A weathered window can frame artwork, serve as a tray, or become a light catcher.



\$55

43 decorative window Create an oversize tray using a window and legs made from a spindle cut into quarters. For extra strength, screw a small piece of 1/4-inch plywood to the underside of each corner where the legs attach. Seal the peeling paint with polyurethane, and top the window with glass cut to size.

Tip: Seal chipping paint with several coats of clear polyurethane.

\$16

44 wooden box & beakers

Keep salt and pepper handy for the cook but out of sight for diners in a carved box. Add 2 inches of rice to the box; then nestle filled glass votive holders into the rice.





\$21

45 light fixture To make a funky fruit bowl, turn a glass light fixture upside down, attach the bowl to a wooden base with epoxy, and pile on the produce.

46 rustic tools Keep recipes handy with a holder made from a potato masher or meat tenderizer. Attach a clothespin or metal clip to the handle with epoxy. An old wooden mallet also steps in for kitchen duty by holding a roll of paper towels (see page 47).

47 wooden corbels Whether they're needed for support or are purely decorative, wooden corbels work hard under an island or bar. Expect to pay more for a matched set. If you plan to use the corbels to support the weight of a counter, make sure the wood is still sound.



\$4



\$100