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May 1st - June 8th 2012



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MAKES



Celebrate! It's our first birthday and we're in party mood. Join us in a glass of bubbly and an oh-so-chic macaron or two. Later on you're invited back to our place for an 'all the fun of the fair' inspired house party; shiny, sparkly and brimming with bright colours. First birthdays are always special and this one is certainly no exception. Party on...

♥making ♥thrifting ♥collecting ♥crafting

Mollie

LIVING & LOVING HANDMADE

MAKES CONTENTS

issue
number
fourteen



24
Felt macarons



NEW!

The latest news from
the world of handmade

06 LET'S GET HITCHED!

Your wedding: Mollie style

09 NEW!

The last word in craft happenings

14 OUT AND ABOUT

Homespun Style at Spitalfields, London

20 TRENDS

Your crowning glories this season

24 FELT MACARONS *Mollie MAKES*

Say "Oui," to Ouisi Gresty's yum treats

32 AMY BUTLER

The textile queen herself drops in for
a slice of birthday cake and a natter

38 LAYERED LEAF SKIRT *Mollie MAKES*

Vibe Ulrik Sondergaard's ruffly skirt

LIVING

Fill your life and home
with crafted goodness

43 LIVING

Our pick of the most coveted buys
for a happy, hand-crafted home

50 HOME TOUR

Have a sneak peak around top designer,
Petra Boase's mix 'n' match house

58 EMBROIDERY MOTIFS *Mollie MAKES*

Time for afternoon tea – Japanese style!
Stitch these sweet-tooth goodies

64 CELEBRATE DREAMS *Mollie MAKES*

Ashlyn Gibson styles our happy, sparkly,
dreamy house party. You're invited...

94 VISIT... L'OISIVE THÉ

Join us in Paris, where you'll find a café
that's also a yarn shop. Super chouette

98 TEMPLATES

All the shapes and templates you need
for this issue's crafty projects

let's get
hitched!

Packed with style
and inspiration
for your Big Day



A BIRTHDAY THANK YOU

A whole year has flown by since we launched *Mollie Makes*. A big thank you to the generous bloggers and makers who have shared their work and spaces with us and, of course, to you for reading and subscribing in your thousands. It's more than we could ever have hoped for. To celebrate, we have a special DIY Wedding magazine with this issue – *Let's Get Hitched* – the only guide for the sassy bride! Enjoy.

Jane

Jane Toft Editor



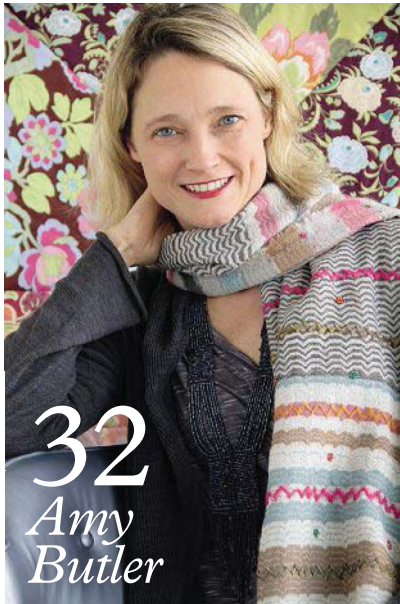
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The Makery when you subscribe!

56 Subscribe overseas

International subscribers can save \$62



32
Amy
Butler

LOVING

Treats and treasures
to fall in love with

75 LOVING

Beautiful things to covet, adore and make

76 MOLLIE DOLL *Mollie MAKES*

Celebrate our birthday, and make
your own sassy Mollie doll

83 PATCH LANTERNS *Mollie MAKES*

A super-easy make you can whip up for
your next bash. Grab your scraps and go!

84 CROCHET KNIT *Mollie MAKES*

Beautify your dresses with this lacy cowl

90 SCARF BAG *Mollie MAKES*

Turn a tourist-trap find into a stylish
purse bag in this simple 'how to'

106 MY SPACE

Megan Price of Mr.PS shows off her
effortlessly cool paint-splattered studio



64
We're having
a house
party!



38
Layered
leaf skirt



90
Vintage
scarf bag

Subscribe at molliemakes.com

With three real-life weddings to study for the littlest details in *Let's Get Hitched!* there's plenty of achievable looks you can adapt to fit your own theme



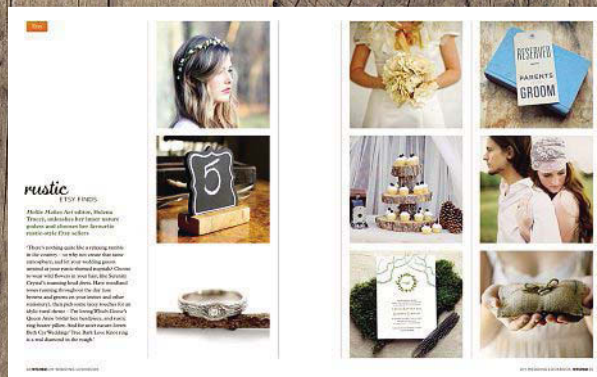


EXTRA! 52-PAGE 'SASSY BRIDE GUIDE' WITH THIS ISSUE OF MOLLIE MAKES

- *Three real-life weddings focusing on popular themes: funky retro, vintage, and rustic. Which one fits your look?*
- *The Mollie Makes team pick their favourite handmade wedding buys*
- *DIYs you can whip up in a jiffy to add that personal touch*
- *We've found the most beautiful bouquets – take your pick!*
- *6 pages of ideas for fashionable maids, groomsmen and invitations*



Take a peek at Editor Jane Toft's favourite Etsy buys on a retro theme. She's done the trawling so you don't have to!



From place-settings to save-the-dates, we've crammed *Let's Get Hitched!* with our most-wanted designer-makers

Available to download separately via Apple Newsstand from 8 June 2012

FUNKY RETRO, VINTAGE & RUSTIC REAL-LIFE WEDDING INSPIRATION FROM **Mollie MAKES**

Etsy

Contributors



Ouissi Gresty

Mother, crafter and cat-lover, cover star Ouissi is a maker of life-size foodie felt sculptures. She hand-sews all her sweet treats with love (and a hint of hunger) – her first piece was the classic Jammy Dodger! Make Ouissi's tasty macarons on page 24.
britishcreamtea.co.uk



Amy Butler

A textile guru for ten years, who better for us to have a natter with on our birthday issue, than the wondrous Ms Butler? See how she gets her inspiration, and have a peak at her stunning home/studio. Find out more about Amy on page 32.
amybutlerdesign.com



Ashlyn Gibson

Ex Red or Dead creative bod, Ashlyn founded Olive Loves Alfie – an emporium of children's clothes, toys and homewares. So of course we're honoured to have this design goddess styling our dream house party this issue. Get ready to par-tay with Ashlyn on page 64.
olive lovesalfie.co.uk



Aimee Osbourne-Gille

Like knitting? Like tea? Fancy combining the two in one of the coolest cities in the world? Then head over to Aimee's Parisian café, L'Oisive Thé for a spot of chic sipping while you knit. Très bon! Find out about this American in Paris on page 94.
putyourflareon.blogspot.com



Laura Hunter

Laura lives in rural Alabama with her husband, cows, sheep... and children. She started crafting as a child, teaching herself to knit, crochet and sew. Responsible for the gorgeous Mollie doll this issue, Laura sells dolls, toys and bags at her Etsy shop. Make your own Mollie doll on page 76.
rovingovine.etsy.com



Megan Price

Led by her passion for print, Megan founded Mr.PS – a range of brightly coloured homeware and other bits. Her inspiration comes from vintage signage, eating and drinking, and the great British seaside. Take a peek at Megan's workspace, on page 106.
mr-ps.co.uk

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NEW!



LIVING AND LOVING THE LATEST IN THE WORLD OF CRAFTY STYLE



Nothing says 'party' like a pom-pom! Karen Hsu, above, and her East London-based team pile up many a recycled ruffle to make these **great balls of fun** from biodegradable tissue paper. Not that you'd ever throw these beauties away. pompomfactory.com



PHOTOGRAPH: BEINTA Å TORKILS HEYGGI



! Hurray! Blogger and author **Cecile Facile** (aka Cecile Franconie) is coming to the UK! She'll be teaching at Loop, London on May 26 and 27.
facilececile.com, loopknitting.com



! Be a **happy bean** with LA-based Ebelyn Hernandez's festival-friendly Latino, Dia de Los Muertos, Aztec and Mayan-inspired artwork. This little sampler evokes a 50s drive-in feel too – à la *Grease* – wouldn't you say?
LaSantaMuerte.etsy.com

IT'S OUR BIRTHDAY!

We are one! Time flies when you're having this much fun

! **Planning a shindig?** Make a beeline for Pearl and Earl to get your straws, decs and goodie bag needs sorted pronto.
pearlandearl.co.uk



! Have we given you a **macaron obsession yet?** You're welcome! Get your fill with édition Paumes latest book, *Lovely Tea Time in Paris*. Oh if you insist, just one more... paumes.com



! Make a wish... **Wow, would you look at that? It's come true!** There's cheery candle holders a-plenty at Sarah Neuburger's The Small Object shop. Find one who looks like the birthday boy or girl, and present them with a sweet keepsake into the bargain. thesmallobject.etsy.com



! Brand new and rather lovely is **The Shop at Number 57** – an online emporium of sewing kits, homewares, prints and vintage goodies. Brace yourself for some gorgeous photography and styling... and you may have to ration your credit card usage. Just sayin'. theshopatnumber57.com



PHOTOGRAPHS: FLO-JO BOUTIQUE



PHOTOGRAPH: ALI TILLOCK

Flo-jo Boutique on the lively Gloucester Road, Bristol is a new venture for Erika Peto and Delia Adey. Known for their knicker-making kits, it's a permanent space for the fancy-pants pair, with a haberdashery and sewing workshop that sits alongside a great mix of independent shops at number 36b.

Gather your best buds and hot-trot it over to Flo-Jo's to refresh your undie drawer. You'll even get a 'Fancy pants handmade by me' label to sew inside! flo-joboutique.co.uk



PHOTOGRAPH: KRISTEN VINCENT PHOTOGRAPHY

PRINTABLE PARTIES

Paiges of Style

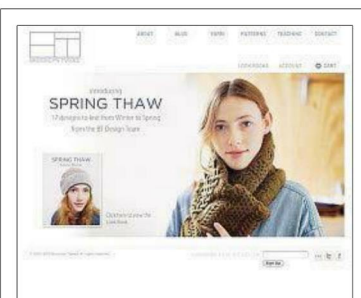
! Run out of time to do it all yourself? That's alright, it happens to the best of us. Let the crafting-perfectionist in you go and employ someone else to do the hard work. Paiges of Style creates gorgeous party favours, labels, invitations, cupcake wrappers, tags, flags and more. Simply purchase and print. paigesofstyle.etsy.com

ONE TO FOLLOW

@honestlywtf



You'd be hard-pressed to find a blogging duo as **style-savvy** as this pair: Erica Chan Coffman and Lauren Kolodny. The ladies behind honestlywtf.com tweet anything that warrants an irrepressibly gleeful swear word.



Brooklyn Tweed

! Indie yarn company Brooklyn Tweed have gone international! Loop got the scoop and are now the **European Flagship store** for Jared Flood's range of US yarns. Its Wyoming-grown wools are spun in an old mill in New Hampshire; the 'Brooklyn' part of the name comes from Jared's origins in textile-appreciation, writing a blog in New York. brooklyntweed.net, loopknitting.com

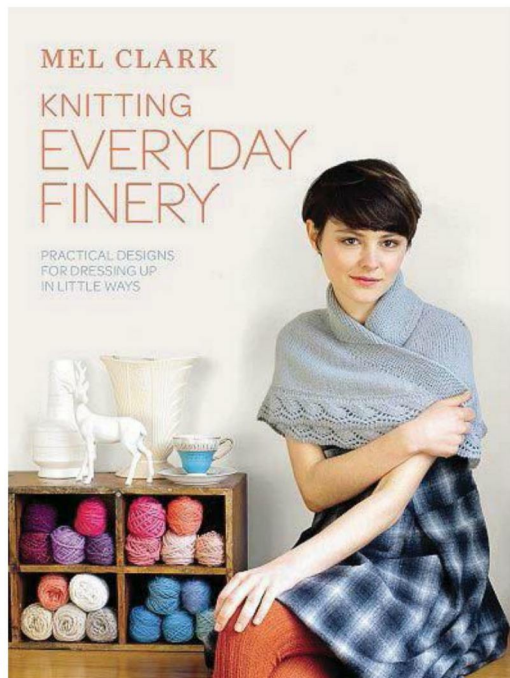


PHOTOGRAPHS: JARED FLOOD



PARTY WEAR

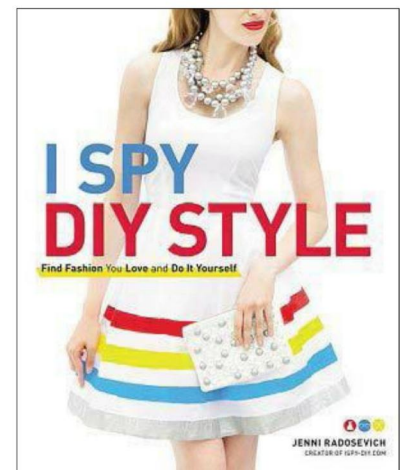
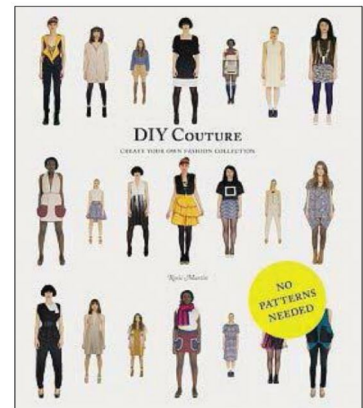
Don't get caught in the same high street dress as the next girl – these books will help you make an outfit to remember



! KNITTING EVERYDAY FINERY Aussie knitter Mel Clark knows how to design knitting projects that are not only wearable but glamorous too. Her origami scarf and opera hood are both projects for special occasions. LoveCrafts.co.uk

! DIY COUTURE We've long been fans of Rosie Martin – her DIY designs are super cool and so simple – no patterns required! We've got our eye on the Goddess dress for soirees. laurenceking.com

! I SPY DIY STYLE Thrifty fashionista Jenni Radosevich is the US' go-to girl for fashionable make-it-yourselfs. She teaches you how to conjure up new clobber with tips from style mavens such as Anna Sui. randomhouse.com



One to Watch: Lydia Leith

Looking for a witty alternative to cheap and nasty Jubilee tat? Introducing Miss Lydia...



Display your tennis elbow or, eugh – athlete's foot – pictorially for the Olympics this year! Lydia brings a sense of humour to 2012's big events.



! Shun those God-awful supermarket street party packs! Designer Lydia Leith has come to the rescue, hot on the heels of her Royal wedding sick bags, with a new Jubilee range (aptly titled 'Bling it up'), plus a Queen jelly mould (we recommend watching the video on her site). Her temporary Olympic tattoos are also rather brilliant. Too funny. lydialeith.com





Laura Hughes and Heather Hodgins of Roses & String



Give a little love...

We're just a little bit proud when we see your own *Mollie* magazine covers on Flickr, Twitter and the like, and this one warrants a special mention. Kate Francis held a crafty afternoon last year as part of Breast Cancer Care's Strawberry Tea campaign and not only did a great job modelling, but raised a good chunk of cash for charity.

If you'd like to take part this year, book a date between June 1 and August 31, bake a cake or two, add strawberries, put the kettle on and collect donations from friends and family for a good cause. Find out more at breastcancercare.org.uk/strawberry.



NEW WINDOWS PROJECT

Willesden Green residents used to avoid walking past a derelict factory but now things are looking up, says Clare Kelly

! Why did the crafter cross the road? To visit Willesdon Green's New Windows Project, that's why! Thanks to a grant from The Outer London Fund (an initiative from the Mayor of London), the formerly dowdy Queens Parade has been transformed offering 13 local businesses including the Art Lobby gallery (artlobby.org); Indikidual children's clothing (indikidual.tumblr.com); and Roses & String homewares boutique (rosesandstring.com) subsidised studio and retail space for three months.

Managed by The Architecture Foundation, this former textiles factory now has eight

vibrant units complete with Portas-perfect fixtures and fittings, vintage signage and a bright blue façade.

The launch event welcomed a cheery crowd who popped in for a slice of cake made by Monsoon Bakery (who are just a hop, skip and jump away) and a glass of fizz, while being entertained by an enthusiastic xylophone player.

Syreeta Johnson, founder of Indikidual (pictured, below left) is thrilled to be one of the lucky occupants of Queens Parade. She says: "The building was an eyesore and I used to cross the road to avoid it, but it now looks fantastic. We wanted to create a place for the community; where people could come and get into craft as a family. Since we opened, we've held workshops in bandana printing, made recycled cardboard models and we're even planning a painting event where children can dip the wheels of their scooters into paint and wheel across a giant sheet of fabric!"

Across the site, upcoming workshops will include card making, interior styling, mask creation and website design. It's a real hub of handmade goods and a place to meet like-minded creatives. With lots to keep both big and little visitors entertained, Syreeta and her new friends hope that New Windows will remain open beyond the three month period, and we heartily hope so too.

Find out more about the project and workshops at willesdenwindows.com or drop in to Indikidual on Saturdays from 10am-1pm.





Homespun Style

The Mollie Makes team popped to Spitalfields, London for stylist Selina Lake's book launch and craft market



Selina Lake is one crafty cookie. A lady with an eye for a party as well as a beautifully styled room, she threw a grand book launch for her third offering, *Homespun Style* on 13th April in a very sweetly done-up Hanbury Hall, London.

The Homespun Book Party & Homespun Market Event was supported by publishers Ryland Peters & Small and Folksy.com, so it was no surprise that the designer-makers present – all handpicked by Selina – were showcasing some of the best creative talent in Britain. Many of these crafty-clogs made items featured in the book, which visitors were able to buy on the day. We shared a glass of complimentary fizz and caught up with Mollie mates Abigail+Ryan (abigailryan.com), Clare Nicholson (clarenicolson.com),

Catherine Hammerton (catherinehammerton.com). With sellers harking as far afield as Belfast and a friendly European face spotted here and there – namely Mollie Makes 'Tea and a chat' ladies Jeanette Lunde (frydogdesign.blogspot.co.uk) and Eline Pellinkhof (elinepellinkhof.blogspot.co.uk) – it was quite an international affair.

The first 13 fans to buy a copy of *Homespun Style* also took a Mollie Makes goodie bag home with them. Why 13? Well, the event coincided with the on-sale date of our 13th issue, on Friday 13th. We should've called them (un)lucky bags...

It was a lovely slice of the British craft scene to have taken part in and we left proudly clutching our signed copies of *Homespun Style* as well as Rosablue vintage cotton reels (rosablue.com), an Acorn and Will bird brooch from All the Fun of the Fair (allthefunofthefair.bigcartel.com) and a Charlotte Love illustrated poster (charlottelovey.blogspot.co.uk) – all purchased by Art editor, Helena we might add! ☺ (selinalake.blogspot.co.uk)

01 Author and stylist Selina Lake. 02 A creative welcome – the event was styled to a tee, as you'd imagine! 03 Visitors browse the goodies at Hanbury Hall. 04 New friend Mel Rye of retro label, Mel Made This. 05 Charlotte Love's sweet illustrations. 06 Abigail and Ryan proudly display their wares. 07 Carnaby Street shop, All the Fun of the Fair had awesome British knits. 08 Zeena Shah of Heart Zeena.



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geronimoballoons.com

CELEBRATE IN STYLE

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these fun and funky accessories.
Make your bash go with a bang...*

WorldMags.net



01



NEW! celebrations

02



03

01 We love a bit of **no-sew bunting** – these even have added cheer. *Wahoo! thesweetestoccasion.com; hankandhunt.com*

02 Give your party some pep with Potter and Butler's **super-cute cake toppers**. *potterandbutler.etsy.com*

03 Set your do alight with these candle holders by Vivi. *notonthehighstreet.com*

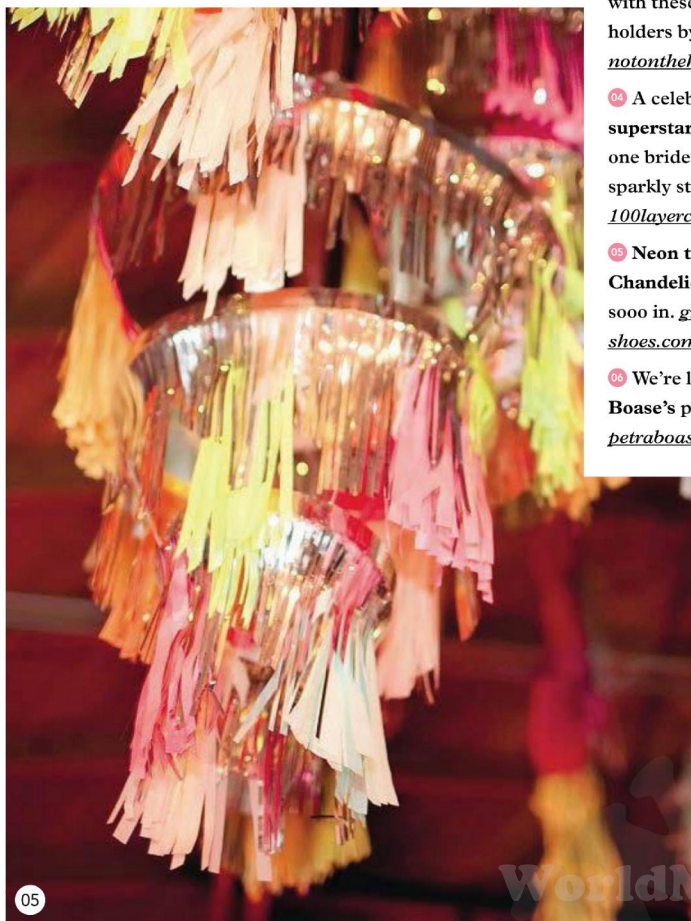
04 A celebration for **superstars**. See how one bride used these sparkly stirrers over at *100layercake.com*

05 **Neon tassel Chandeliers?** We're sooo in. *greenweddingshoes.com*

06 We're loving **Petra Boase's paper balloons**. *petraboase.com*



04



05



06

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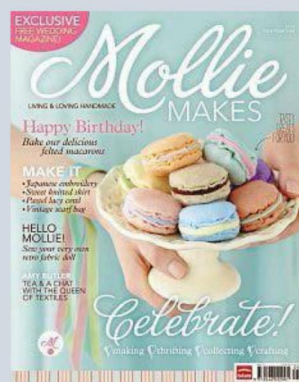
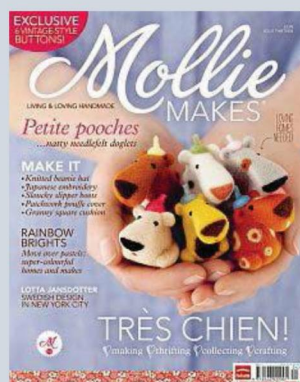
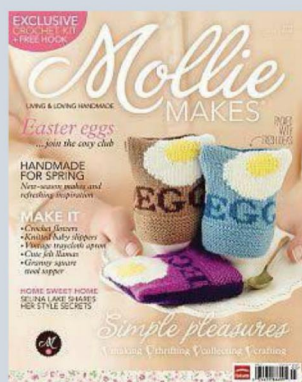
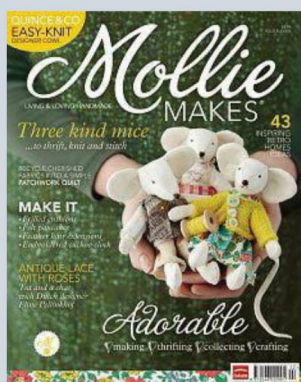


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*This month we're
obsessing about...*

CROWNS

Rule Britannia, and be
a true style queen, with
our take on Jubilee chic



PHOTOGRAPHS: MELLOWMAYO.COM



01

Do English Rose with an
edge – Mayo Wo mixes
wicker, a cloche and killer
knee-highs with her Natural
Colour's jewelled crown tee.
natural-colour.com,
lookbook.nulmayowo



02



03



Be a right royal romantic with this hand-embroidered Victorian-style locket by Stella Saves the Day.
stellasavestheday.etsy.com



04

02

For a modern twist, **bling-up this tiara** by stitching it with silver threads on black aida.
theshopatnumber57.com

03

Pendant queens, Tatty Devine, are our go-to for **quirky accessories** – surely they're a British Institution for us fashionistas by now!
tattydevine.com

04

Little girls want to be either a fairy or a princess – let her be both with this super-cute crown called **The Harlow, Queen of Hearts** from Love Crush Bowtique. Warning: if you're heading over there, set squeal-factor to 'broody'.
lovecrushbowtique.etsy.com »



05

Win the crown for thriftiness, and make your own lacy coronet. It's super-easy and really effective. You can knock this up in a jiffy – perfect for those last-minute Jubilee bank holiday parties. **Kate from See Kate Sew** shows us how.

LACE CORONET

- 01 Assemble your bits! You need lace, elastic, ribbon and glue – although you can use a needle and thread instead if you like.
- 02 Cut your lace to 50cms (19.7").
- 03 Put a dab of glue on the lace.
- 04 Stick on a 7½cm (3") piece of elastic – or stitch if you're sewing.
- 05 Wrap, then glue, some ribbon where the elastic and lace meet.
- 06 Repeat steps 03 to 05 on the other end of the lace.

And you're done! Embellish with ric rac, beads, or any other bits and bobs you have in your, er... bits and bobs collection!

Visit Kate's blog at seekatesew.blogspot.co.uk

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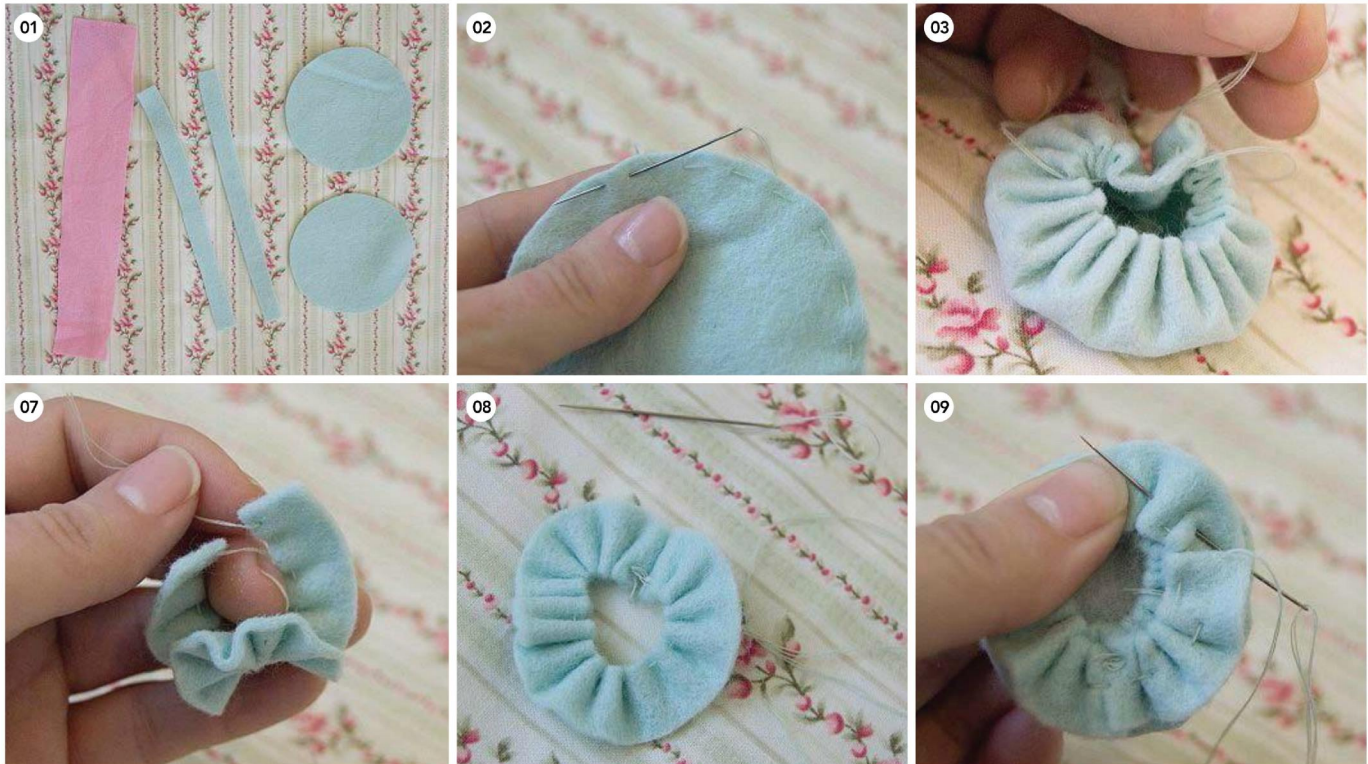
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Parisian Delights

A pretty plate of (almost) good enough to
eat macarons. Don't mind if we do...

COVER
STAR





HOW TO MAKE... FELT MACARONS

MATERIALS

- 1 piece of felt the colour of your intended macaron
- 1 piece of felt the colour of your filling (or velvet, ribbon or other scrap)
- Stuffing material
- Pins
- Embroidery thread in the colours of your felt
- 1 needle

Mmm. Melt-in-the-mouth delicious. Who can resist the French fancy of a macaron or two? Ouissi Gresty shares her recipe for ribbon scraps and felt to create a plate of pretty sweets. Treat an empty vintage cakestand to a Parisian makeover – it'll make

a supremely elegant centrepiece. Just make sure your guests know these specimens aren't edible...

- 01 Cut out your macaron pieces using the templates starting on page 98.
- 02 Take one of the circles and sew around the edge with a running

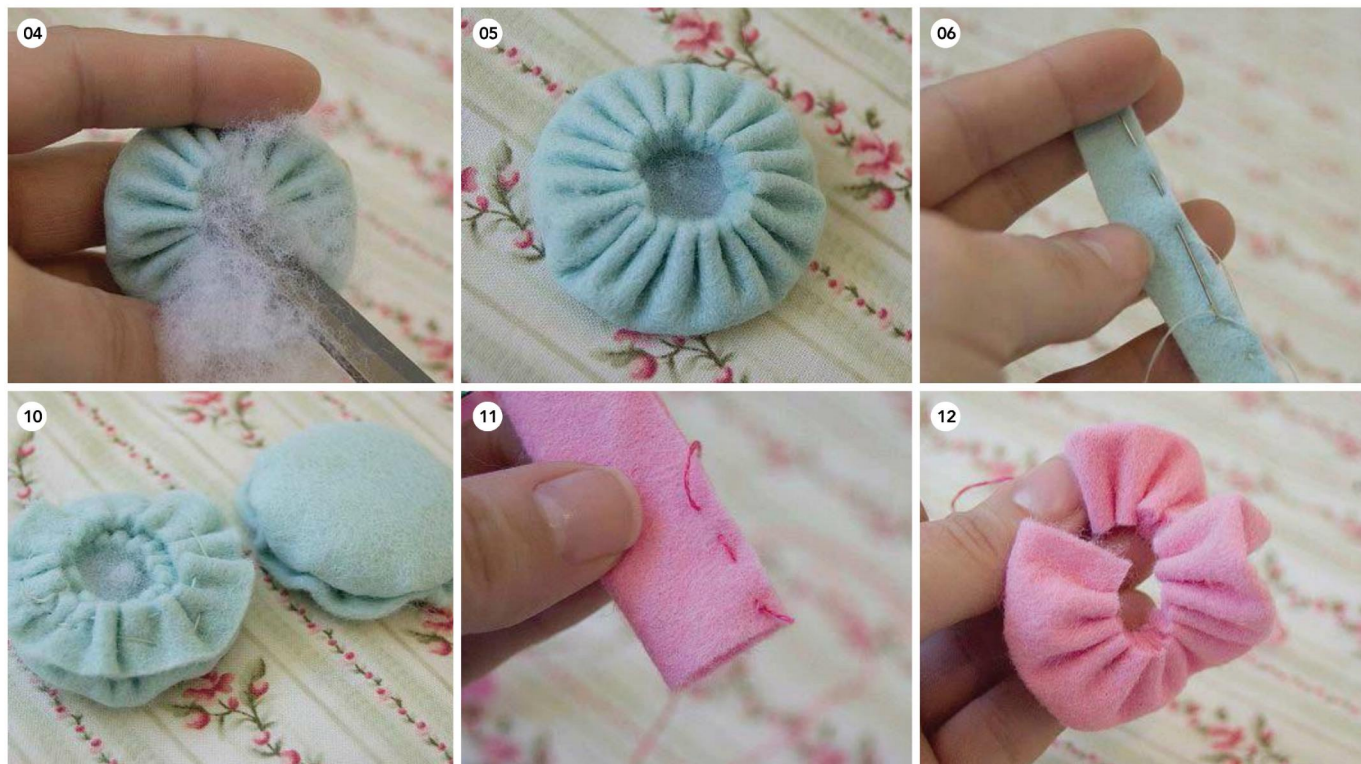
stitch, taking care to leave the two ends of thread free.

03 Pull both the strands of thread tight until the edge of the circle gathers up.

04 Tie the threads together with a knot to secure. Stuff the macaron with a small amount of stuffing.



Care for a rose and lavender? Perhaps a more traditional vanilla praline? Whip up all your fave combinations. We reckon the dude on the right could pass for bubblegum flavour.



05 You're aiming to make the disk you have just sewn slightly plump around the edges while still leaving it flat.

06 Take one of the frill pieces and sew up one of the long edges with a running stitch, again leaving both ends of the thread free.

07 Pull the two ends of the thread until you've formed a loose frill.

08 Tie the two ends of the thread with a knot, then flatten the frill into a circle.

09 Hold the frill against your stuffed disk to check it's roughly the same size. If it's too big or small gently

rearrange it until it is the right size. Sew the frill to the underside of the disk with a running stitch.

10 Repeat steps 2 to 9 with the other circle and frill pieces so you have both halves of your macaron.

11 Take your filling piece, fold in half lengthways and hold it in place »



Different textures evoke a variety of sweet flavours, from a velvety buttercream to a substantial chocolate ganache.



HOW TO MAKE... FELT MACARONS

with pins. Secure the end of your thread with a knot, then sew along the long side with a running stitch.

12 13 Gather the piece by pulling on the loose end of thread until you've formed a round, flat shape.

14 Measure the size of the filling disk against one of your macaron

halves and adjust until you're happy with the shape.

15 Sew the two loose thread ends to the body of the icing disk.

16 Layer the two macaron halves with your filling disk.

17 18 Sew the three layers together by running your needle in a zigzag

stitch through all the layers, catching the underneath edge of each macaron disk as you go.

Your macaron should now be complete! Try different fabrics to give different textured effects, or maybe even add some seed beads on top for a sprinkling of sugar.

Yummy raspberry rose,
peppermint cream and
toasted hazelnut
concoctions. **Eeny, meeny,
miny, mo...**



IDEAS FOR... FILLING FELT MACARONS



Wide velvet ribbon (more than 2cm wide)

- 01 Cut your velvet ribbon to the length of the filling piece on the pattern.
- 02 Fold the ribbon in half lengthways and pin.
- 03 Sew the ribbon as in the basic recipe until you have a flat disk the size of your macaron.

Thin velvet ribbon (more than 8mm wide)

- 01 Cut a piece of felt in the same colour as your ribbon, as per the pattern, then cut your ribbon to match.
- 02 Pin the ribbon down the centre of the felt.
- 03 Sew the felt as in the basic recipe to make the flat disk for your macaron.



Organza ribbon

- 01 Cut a piece of felt as per the pattern in a colour that brings out the colour of your ribbon. Either use a contrasting felt, a basic colour (as shown here) or a felt that's the same shade as your ribbon will also work... just try out different combinations.
- 02 Cut a piece of your ribbon to the same length as the filling piece.
- 03 Pin your ribbon down the centre of the felt and sew down both edges. Here, we've layered two pieces of ribbon over the felt to make the colour more intense, again try and experiment to see whether one, two or more pieces gives you the effect you want.
- 04 Sew the felt as in the basic recipe until you have your flat disk.

Create an array of mouth-watering macarons for a patisserie selection with far fewer calories.



Ouissi Gresty Cake and felt-obsessed Ouissi runs her own felt sculpture business, British Cream Tea. Her first book, *Felt Biscuits*, was published last year and she writes daily about life, food and home on her blog. You can buy Ouissi's life-size sculptures of British food, her new homeware range, signed copies of her book and kits to make your own pieces at britishcreamtea.co.uk. Read her blog at britishcreamtea.blogspot.com.

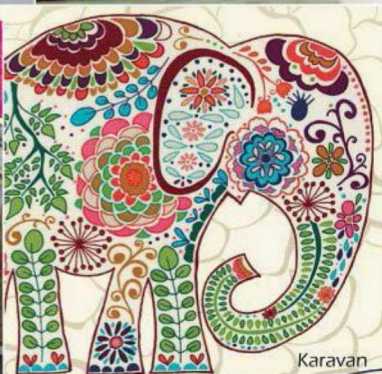
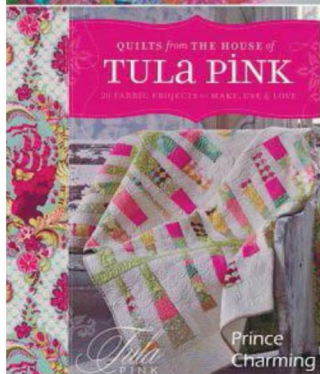
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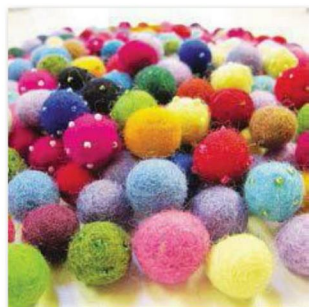


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Ooh

I COULD DO THAT...

Party pieces

Eagle-eyed readers will have noticed that we're loving a candle popped into all manner of things for this, our party issue – and here's another. It's a brilliant idea for party nibbles. Just pop a candle into a meringue, and either serve as a wasteline-friendly mini-bite, or use to top a mound of cream and straws (we know which we're planning at our birthday bash). Delicious!



tea and
a chat with...

AMY BUTLER

Fabric's first lady joined us to celebrate 12 months of Mollie Makes with a good dose of humour, nostalgia and insider tips

Words: LARA WATSON Photographs: DAVID BUTLER

Amy Butler is one of sewing's brightest stars, so we were über excited to interview her for our birthday issue! Having ten anniversaries under her belt with the Amy Butler textile brand, she knows a thing or two about milestones herself. Her first ever collection, Gypsy Caravan was re-released this year to celebrate a decade in print, and there's so much more to come. The Art of the Midwest Studio she shares with husband (musician, photographer and newbie fabric designer) David in Granville, Ohio, is its own creative hub,

turning out new designs, patterns and crafty spin-offs in abundance. Lately, Amy's been working on designs for a handbag and luggage line, as well as a new fabric range and her second rug collection, out this autumn. There's also an intriguing 'top secret' project, to be announced in July that we can't wait to hear more about. But it's not all work and no play. We asked Amy how on earth she manages her time, and got some great tips for juggling family life and finding time to relax! Read on to get to know her artistic soul a little better.



Describe your style in five words.

Modern, fresh, creative and warm.

Which books and magazines are currently on your bedside table?

I have books and magazines everywhere! The magazines tend to hover in my lounge, studio and bathroom. My go-tos include *Living Etc*, *Elle Decoration UK*, *Selvedge*, *Mollie Makes* and *Yoga Journal*. My books are varied and nomadic. Titles on my night stand now are Dr. Wayne Dyer's *Real Magic* and *Wishes Fulfilled* as well as Bruce Lipton's *Biology of Belief*.

Name your top three creative blogs.

Only three? That's tough because there are so many amazing creative blogs! OK, By Fryd (frydogdesign.blogspot.co.uk), Decor8 (decor8blog.com) and An Apple a Day (emersonmerrick.blogspot.co.uk). And – can I please have two more? – Design Sponge (designsponge.com) and Apartment Therapy (apartmenttherapy.com).

Describe a typical working day at your Art of the Midwest Studio.

My days are rarely ever the same, which I LOVE! I have my priorities in mind, but I let the planets align how they may and go with the flow. There are key bits that I make sure are part of my mix that keep me shiny and grounded. I meditate every

‘Whether it’s biz stuff or design stuff, I try to make all my work creative’



morning for 30 minutes and then go to the gym. Come home, shower, nab a bit of breakfast and a cup of coffee, and head down to my studio here in our house. Then it’s on! My day is usually a mix of business managing and design. I appreciate all the elements of my work and make sure that whether it’s biz stuff or design stuff, I make it all creative. It’s a goal of mine to enjoy the entire process and be present with all the pieces that each opportunity brings. Of course there’s always a cat in the mix – on my lap, on my desk or on my keyboard.

And how is it working with your husband every day?

Our spending time together all day does bring about the obvious challenges but we’ve always had a constant love and respect for each other and have learned how to focus on our own specific areas of expertise in the business. Dave is an incredible designer, photographer, illustrator and musician, and I’m very fortunate to work with him. We know each other so well that much of what we do together is spontaneous and intuitive. We »

01 Whatever Amy does, there’s always a cat around – “They’re the furry angels that make sure we never take anything too seriously,” she says.
02 As you’d expect, Amy is constantly thinking about colours and textures

for her new lines. She takes a lot of inspiration from nature.
03 Lucky Amy has her studio as part of her house – no morning commute for her!



01 Amy keeps what she calls her “beloved ephemera” around her at all times.

02 More piles of sumptuous fabric.

03 Amy has recently been inspired by Indonesia, England and India, demonstrated in this gorgeous bone china collection.



work hard at taking care of each other and honouring our quality of life. Not agreeing with each other is what we like to call “the spice of life,” – we are two artists after all! Every disagreement, challenge or difficulty is really an opportunity. It’s all in your outlook and perspective.

How does your creative process work?

I love storytelling and I often take an inspiration – either real or imagined – and flush out how I might see a print story coming about to illustrate that feeling. I keep snippets of colour, sketches and my beloved collections of ephemera around me at all times. I have working bulletin boards that I build to flesh out my colour palettes and print ideas. It’s a fluid process that’s very hands on for me. The piles and messy surfaces with my creative ‘stuff’ are a testament to this, um... obsession. My continual processing and playing with ideas all comes together at the perfect time to build each new collection.

Where do you search for inspiration?

It continues to change and evolve. I’m thinking about colour and pattern all the time, and I often turn to the natural world. Dave and I have lots of natural ‘found’ collections that are of the moment and have special meaning to me. I’m

‘My studio is a living, breathing entity; full of life and lots of colour!’



always taking photos of flowers on travels; keeping a keen eye for beautiful colour combinations. My garden at home is an endless source for ideas and a place where I can decompress and ‘activate’ the creative side of my brain.

Something that’s synonymous with your designs is vivid colour. Where do you think that comes from?

Colour is my world and I find loads of inspiration from the things I surround myself with. I collect ethnic textiles and

artefacts, and have bowls filled with antique trims, buttons and beads in all sorts of colours and textures. My pin boards are covered with drawings and paintings, family art pieces and photos. My studio is a living, breathing entity; full of life and always lots of colour!

Over the last few years I’ve been inspired by travels to Indonesia, England and India. It’s been interesting for me to see how these experiential inspirations have translated through colour and print. My designs look like an international travel »

01 The dark wooden textures and colours in Amy’s living space have clearly been inspired by her travels to the East...

02 ...while this stunning top is a homage to the florals of spring flowers in England.

03 Always sourcing new ideas in every area of her life means that Amy never runs out of inspiration.



01

01 A stunning quilt featuring fabric from **Gypsy Caravan**, Amy's very first collection, which has recently been re-released.

02 Cabbage roses and Ranunculus have had a huge impact on Amy.

03 Don't miss Amy's second rug collection, coming out this Autumn. Can't wait!



03



02

log filled with luscious florals and ancient ethnic graphics.

A trip to a farmer's market, a walk in the woods or a day at an auction can inspire me for weeks. I notice colour everywhere.

Community is important to you. Can you tell us a bit more about the ways you incorporate it into your business?

I have always felt strongly about supporting my community and giving back. I think it comes from a place of gratitude and thankfulness for all that we have in our lives. We have a great quality of life and it's our responsibility to pay that joy forward. It feels really good to give of yourself and the peace and happiness that comes back to you is priceless. The health of our business is only as good as the health of our community. Dave and I also feel strongly about keeping things as local as possible, both to support jobs in our area, but also environmentally, it's a good thing to do.

You've recently re-released your first collection, Gypsy Caravan. Is there anything you'd change about it now?

I would keep everything about Gypsy the same because I created it originally from the same place in my heart. It's been crazy fun to work with it all over again! I just had a beautiful photo shoot for the collection

‘The health of our business is only as good as the health of our community’



and I loved creating ‘my’ new experience with Gypsy and now sharing that feeling through my ideas and photography with other sewists. I love reintroducing the line to a whole new generation too, many folks haven’t realized it was my first collection from 10 years ago. That feels great to me. I’m having a ball!

What’s the best piece of creative advice you have ever been given?

Be yourself, follow your heart and always do what you love. 🌟

FIND OUT MORE ONLINE

Amy Butler

Amy’s got a great attitude to social media and her pages and feeds are really interactive. Get involved with her contests (the recent ‘Show me your stash’ was great fun to follow on Facebook) at facebook.com/amybutlerdesign and [@AmyButlerDesign1](https://twitter.com/AmyButlerDesign1). If Flickr’s your thing, there are groups aplenty, too. amybutlerdesign.com

01 Pick one colour, and weave it through each room. We love the sea tones on Amy’s sofas – with it picked out again, in the artwork at the back of the room.

02 An Amy Butler handbag and luggage collection? Sign us up!

03 Even a trip to an auction house can lend inspiration to Amy’s work.

Layered, textured ruffles in a solid colour mean this versatile skirt can be dressed up for summer parties or down for comfy playing – she'll reach for it again and again!



LEAFY LAYERS

Vibe Ulrik Sondergaard's funky scalloped skirt is the perfect knit for the stylish little lady in your life...





HOW TO MAKE... A LAYERED LEAF SKIRT

MATERIALS

- 3(4:4) x 50g balls of Louisa Harding Albero in Rice 02 or Rowan Belle Organic Aran in Moonflower 208
- Pair each of 4mm (UK 8/US 6) and 3mm (UK 11/US 2-3) knitting needles
- Spare 4mm knitting needle
- Tapestry needle
- 2.5cm elastic to fit waist

ABBREVIATIONS

ssk slip, slip, knit slipped stitches together

sk2po slip 1 stitch, knit 2 stitches together, pass slipped stitch over

TENSION

18 sts and 20 rows to 10cm over stocking stitch using 4mm needles

SIZING

Age: 3-4 years
To fit hip: 61cm/24"

Age: 5-6 years
To fit hip: 64cm/25"

Age: 7-8 years
To fit hip: 69cm/27"

Mini hipsters will love Vibe Ulrik Sondergaard's leafy summer skirt.

If you prefer ruffles instead of layers, then just knit the layers longer and ruffle them up when it comes to joining them.

Leaf layer

(Note that number of sts alternates)

****Using 4mm needles, cast on 8 sts.**

Row 1: Knit.

Row 2: Purl.

Row 3: (RS): K5, yo, k1, yo, k2.

Row 4: P6, inc, k3.

Row 5: K4, p1, k2, yo, k1, yo, k3.

Row 6: P8, inc, k4.

Row 7: K4, p2, k3, yo, k1, yo, k4.

Row 8: P10, inc, k5.

Row 9: K4, p3, k4, yo, k1, yo, k5.

Row 10: P12, inc, k6. 20 sts

Row 11: K4, p4, ssk, k7, k2tog, k1.

Row 12: P10, inc, k7.

Row 13: K4, p5, ssk, k5, k2tog, k1.

Row 14: P8, inc, k2, p1, k5.

Row 15: K4, p1, k1, p4, ssk, k3, k2tog, k1.

Row 16: P6, inc, k3, p1, k5.

Row 17: K4, p1, k1, p5, ssk, k1, k2tog, k1.

Row 18: P4, inc, k4, p1, k5.

Row 19: K4, p1, k1, p6, sk2po, k1.

Row 20: P2tog, using st on needle from p2tog cast off 5 sts, p4 including st used to cast off, k4.

Rep rows 3–20 until you have 8(9:9) leaves in total.

Cast off.**

Rep from ** to ** 3 times more.

Joining layers

Using 4mm needles, and with RS of bottom layer facing, pick up 110(124:124) sts evenly along the garter st edge.

Next row: P to end, dec 8 sts

evenly on age 5–6 size only.

110(116:124) sts

Starting with a k row, work 12 rows st st. Leave sts on needle.

***Using 4mm needles and then with RS of second layer facing, pick up 110(124:124) sts evenly along the edge.

Next row: P to end, dec 8 sts evenly on age 5–6 size only. 110(116:124) sts

RS facing, hold second layer in front of bottom layer, with RS of bottom layer against WS of second layer, aligning needles. Using spare 4mm needle, knit 1 st from each layer together across the row.*** Starting with a p row, work 13 rows st st.

Work from *** to *** to join third layer to second layer.

Starting with a p row, work 13 rows st st.

Work from *** to *** to join top layer to third layer.

Change to 3mm needles.

Next row: P to end, dec 16 sts evenly. 94(100:108) sts

Next row: [K1, p1] to end of row. Rep last row 21 times more. Cast off.

To make up

Weave in any loose ends.

Press the pieces following the directions on the ball band.

Sew up the side seam without sewing the leaves together.

Now sew the ends of the elastic together – remember to check that it fits comfortably around the child's waist first.

Fold the waist rib in half and slip the circle of elastic into the fold. Slip stitch the cast off edge to the inside.

VIBE ULRIK SONDERGAARD



Danish knitwear designer, Vibe, studied fashion design at the Brooks Institute, California. She now lives in London, and works for Zinc Design – creating hand-knitted swatches that are then sold to some of the biggest fashion houses in the world. This is her first book, full of comfortable yet stylish, contemporary designs. Focussing on texture and shape, they also work well with active children. They're not too childish either, so little madams will feel feminine and fashionable as they play.



Labour of Love

Labour of Love by Vibe Ulrik Sondergaard is published by Collins & Brown at £16.99, hardback. It's available from all good bookshops or you can call 0844 576 8122 and quote 'CH1640' to buy a copy at a *Mollie Makes* readers' price of £12 including free UK p&p. Visit www.lovecrafts.co.uk

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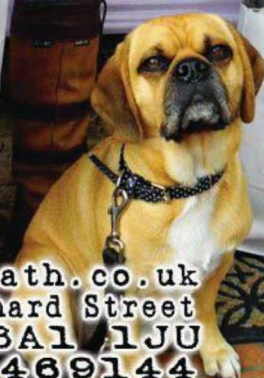
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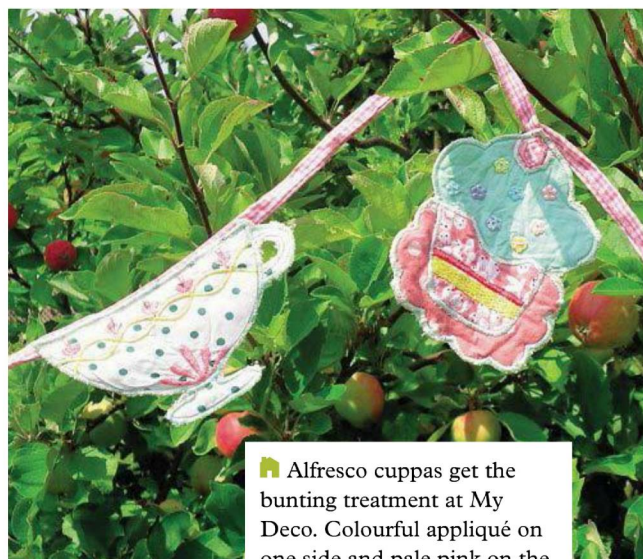


Is London calling you, too? We want to hop on the next Routemaster bus to the capital, Cliff-Richard-in-Summer-Holiday stylee. Michelle Mason's iconic cushions are a **national treasure**, too. michellemason.co.uk

PHOTOGRAPH: BILL OSMENT PHOTOGRAPHY



■ Lola Rockett's *very* limited edition commemorative tea towel puts the **Corgis in their rightful place**. Only 50 will ever be made... Go! Or, how about a skyline design? 2012 birds evokes the Mary Poppins vibe. rockettstgeorge.co.uk

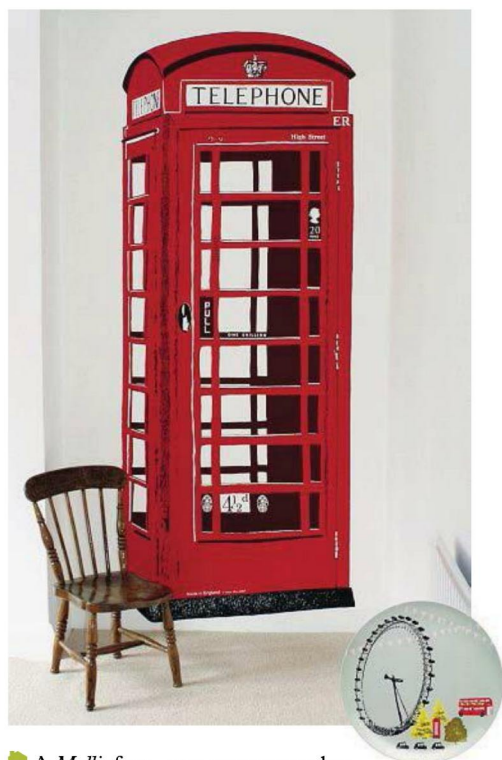


■ Alfresco cuppas get the bunting treatment at My Deco. Colourful appliqué on one side and pale pink on the other – mix and match, like your **best china**. mydeco.com

YOU'RE INVITED!

Celebrate summer with a good ol' handcrafted, indy knees up

■ Be done with blowing up **eleventy million balloons** and pin them, deflated, to a wreath. Save your lungs for better things, such as singing loudly at the party. Get tips on making this version at howdoesshe.com



■ A *Mollie* fave – you may remember her from issue 4 – Lizzie Allen has big news: the **London-centric** designer is collaborating with Habitat for a special collection of 2012-themed goodies, such as this fun plate. lizzieallen.com



■ They're yellow. They're platforms (comfier, so we'd surely wear them everywhere). They feature a good helping of ric rac. And **they're trimmed with bunting**. ModCloth, your work is done. How on earth could a pair of peep-toes get any better than these circus-on-a-sole stunners? modcloth.com



 "There's nothing I love doing more than making stuff with my mates over scones and cider," says Allira Jade. If you have a **costume party** to go to, she's your girl specialising in one-off outfits that will help you win best-dressed. She also has a thing for Zach Galifianakis – visit dressupswithzach.tumblr.com for giggles. lifeisrandom.etsy.com



PHOTOGRAPH: ALLIRA JADE, LIFEISRANDOM.ETSY.COM



Ruff House Art

 Remind your guests how great it is to stop in for a drink – tea or a tippie – with fun coasters. Ruff House Art is a Kansas-based two-press shop, operating Platen Presses from the early-20th century for an authentic letterpress look. We must say, however, that the finished result is **too beautiful to place a glass on**. We're thinking about punching holes in them to make bunting instead....? ruffhouseart.com



Beige is barred

 The price of British postage stamps may have gone up, but you can take a moment to calm down on this **vibrant footstool** from The Colour Union. Designer Zara Siddiqui-Lester is fascinated by contradictions – in fact, her working mantra is 'Creating contemporary antiques'. thecolourunion.com



Hook'n Ain't Easy

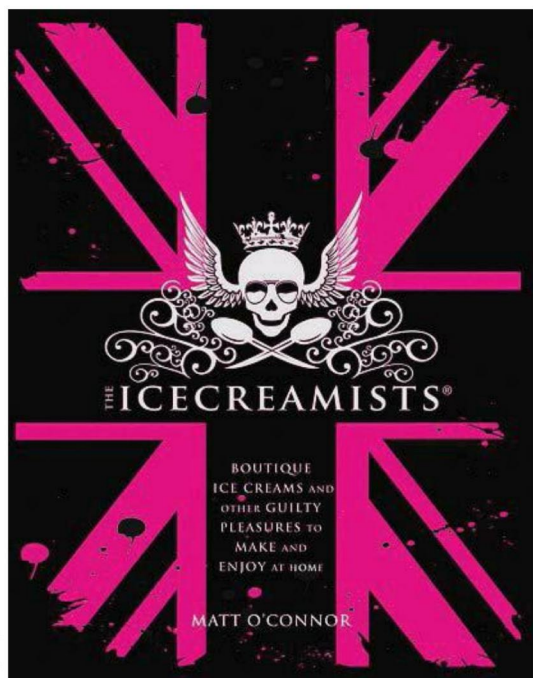
 Tricia Soto, she of "any message, any colour" crochet, is a woman on a **comedy mission**. "Let me know if you have a custom-order idea. A gift, a name, last name, inside joke, pet name, swear word... things look funny on a doily," she states, quite rightly. hooknainteasy.etsy.com



PHOTOGRAPH: MARCELLA TREYBIG

REASONS TO READ

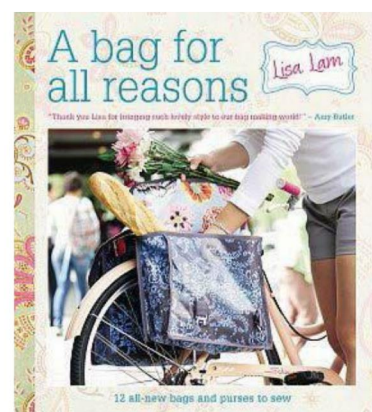
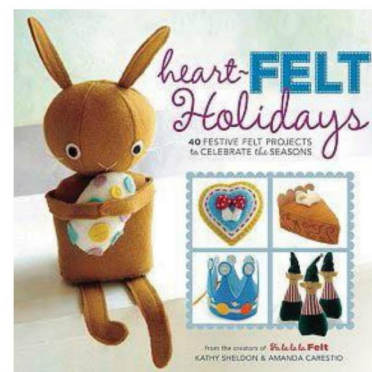
Three celebratory new books for top tips, from ice cream-making to holiday projects to fabric. Any excuse to party...



THE ICECREAMISTS What would a party be without ice cream? The punky princes of gelato teach you how to whip up flavours from Carameltdown to absinthe-flavoured Sex Bomb. Cool! octopusbooks.co.uk/mitchell-beazley

HEARTFELT HOLIDAYS They know how to do their decorations over the pond, and this sweet little book from the twosome behind Fa la la Felt has cute ornaments for every occasion. larkcrafts.com

A BAG FOR ALL REASONS New projects from Lisa Lam are always a cause for celebration – and the bag-making wizard from u-handbag.com, certainly knows her holdalls from her handbags. RUcraft.co.uk



Handbags at the ready! Lisa Lam's new book has 12 of her practical, professional patterns inside its beautiful pages

Website focus: Fishs Eddy

What started as a road-trip gone awry in 1986 became a store full of vintage plates and then some...



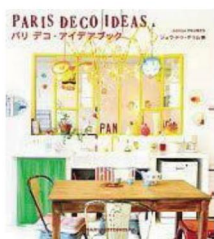
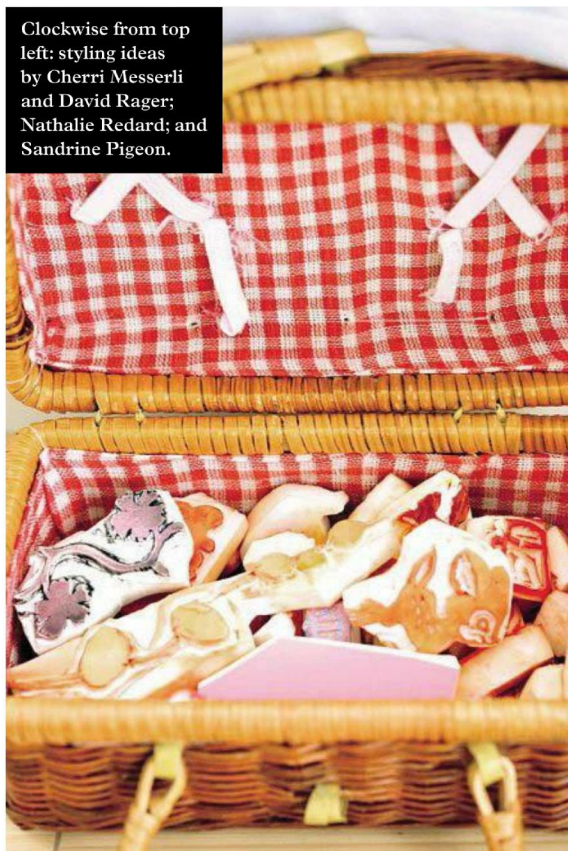
The name of the shop itself was a chance find, after the couple got lost and stumbled on a hamlet named Fishs Eddy, upstate New York. Have a look at their other collected bits and pieces online.



Julie Gaines and Dave Lenovitz's serendipitous mish-mash of finds started in the 80s. A chance discovery during one of many reccies in their dented blue pick-up landed them in an old fire-damaged barn storing mountains of restaurant dishware. After scrubbing the lot non-stop for days, they realised what a coup they'd made. Twenty-five years later Fishs Eddy is stacked with millions of edgy dishes, glasses and more. fishseddy.com



Clockwise from top left: styling ideas by Cherrri Messerli and David Rager; Nathalie Redard; and Sandrine Pigeon.



With our macarons on page 24 and tea shop visit on page 94, there's definitely a French feel to this issue. So we thought we'd share édition Paumes stunning new book, **Paris Deco Ideas**. It's full of styling ideas for the home, including party place-settings, and we just love this picnic-hamper storage from Sandrine Pigeon (of neest.fr). Packed with the best from the photo archives, it's Paris-perfect.

Japanese publisher édition Paumes works closely with European designers. It loves getting behind the scenes to see the homes and studios of creatives and has books about Paris, Stockholm and London amongst others. You can order books at paumes.com



Marimekko

The colour-bursting, happy fabric machine that is Marimekko is celebrating this year, too. On July 13th 2012, its inspirational founder, **Armi Ratia**, would have turned 100. To mark the occasion, and to honour Armi's passion for writing, Marimekko recently invited people to send in their stories, poems and thoughts about the **emotional quality of life**. They'll be sharing these over the coming months on marimekko.com



Follow Suzy's progress and be inspired to give second-hand a go yourself at her website.



SECONDHAND SAFARI-STYLE

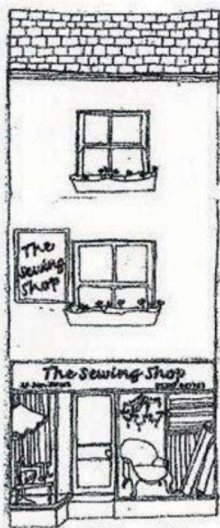
■ Suzy Prince is on a mission.

The former editor of arts and culture magazine, *Nude*, is **forgoing all brand new purchases** (bar perishables such as food) for a year from May 1st 2012 in her **Secondhand Safari** project.

"While shops are closing down or suffering greatly, charity shops, as well as things like boot sales, are always busy," says Suzy. "I don't believe that this is only down to the recession and belt-tightening. It's more that second-hand shopping fulfils a human need for hunter-gathering, and also a desire to own something unique or unusual. For me it's an eternal quest, or 'safari'."

secondhandsafari.com

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Ooh

I COULD DO THAT...

Alpha
beads

If you're like us, you'll love a clever idea – and how about a two-in-one name place come mini-gift for your party guest? Really simple and effective, just string their names onto a length of embroidery thread, and use as a napkin ring. Afterwards they can take it home and use it as a necklace or bracelet. Match with your colour scheme, or mix up the colours to set the party mood.



PHOTOGRAPH: LOUPE IMAGES/DEBI TRELOAR



Left: Petra rocks a mixture of old and new, including an Ercol table, inherited by her husband. Her favourite lamp base sits on top – one of many junk shop finds. The framed piece is a tea towel, with an Ed Carpenter light alongside.

This image: Petra loves this light fitting, from a shop on Goldbourne Road, London. Mismatched old school chairs sit under a tablecloth designed by Petra herself.



Petra Boase's mix-and-match home is an eclectic, retro corner of quiet rural Norfolk

Words: **ABIGAIL EDWARDS, LARA WATSON** Photographs: **ALUN CALLENDER** Feature: **NARRATIVES**

Colour and pattern can be a tricky look to pull off, but not so for Petra Boase, presenter, author and designer of the print-tastic range of stationery, quirky baby clothes and retro inspired fabric of the same name.

The story behind this welcoming north Norfolk cottage actually started in London. "This was our first home in the countryside, which started life as a weekend bolt hole from the city, eventually becoming our home full-time," says Petra. On discovering they were »



expecting a baby, their holiday retreat became the front-runner for family life. “Bringing up children in the countryside seemed more and more desirable, so we changed our priorities,” says Petra. And so the renovation began!

The cottage was almost derelict when they moved in. There was no electricity or plumbing to speak of, just fake brick wallpaper and layer-upon-layer of carpet. But with the birth looming, the new-home project had to be stepped up and it was frantically finished just in time for their first child’s arrival.

“We decided to keep the architecture and the layout of the house simple, to create a blank space for all my treasured finds,” recalls Petra. “And I must say I got addicted to wallpaper steaming! The place was a wreck so it really was all hands on deck.”

The vibrant interior is decked out with vintage fabrics and wallpapers in an array of

off-hued tones from a bygone era. There are an abundance of vintage chairs: bought cheaply and then reupholstered with carefully selected fabrics, old and new, creating a luxuriously quirky scheme. Bubblegum-coloured toys and unusual ceramics are crammed onto every available shelf and surface.

With a penchant for fifties nostalgia, Petra is an incurable collector. She doesn’t buy from high street shops, but seeks out treasures while traveling, and at junk shops, auctions and flea markets. Her favourites are the bric-a-brac shops in Holt, north Norfolk – Fakenham Auction House (jamesbeckauctions.co.uk) and Cobwebs (cobwebsofholt.co.uk).

Unsurprisingly, her various collections have made their way into her design style. Petra’s clothing range for babies is particularly reminiscent of the whimsical illustrations in mid-century children’s story books. »

01 Knitted creatures by **Donna Wilson** and various other tin toys collected on travels sit on the shelves.

02 **Petra’s own designs** make their way off the website and into her kitchen!

Retro makes its mark on the kitchen, too with plenty of brightly-coloured enamelware. The marine ply sandwiched surface was made-to-measure.

LIVING home tour





With print and colour being such an important aspect of her work, fabric design seemed like the next logical step, especially as Petra has been an avid collector of vintage materials for so long. The renovation project also sparked her interest in furniture restoration and upholstery. She explains, “It’s something I really want to get into, I’m only restricted by space!” In the meantime, Petra has made the most of local resources and the skilled

craftspeople around her, preferring to work with them directly to support the community.

Right now, Petra is trying hard to curb her collecting compulsion. Since doing up the cottage and having two more children, the family have recently had to move to accommodate it all! Still based in Norfolk, Petra is currently enjoying pulling new looks together, directing her product photography shoots and travelling to source ever-more enviable finds. 🍷

01 Above Petra’s desk a taster of some of her card ranges is proudly displayed. 02 Petra Boase notebooks are another colourful addition to her stationery range.



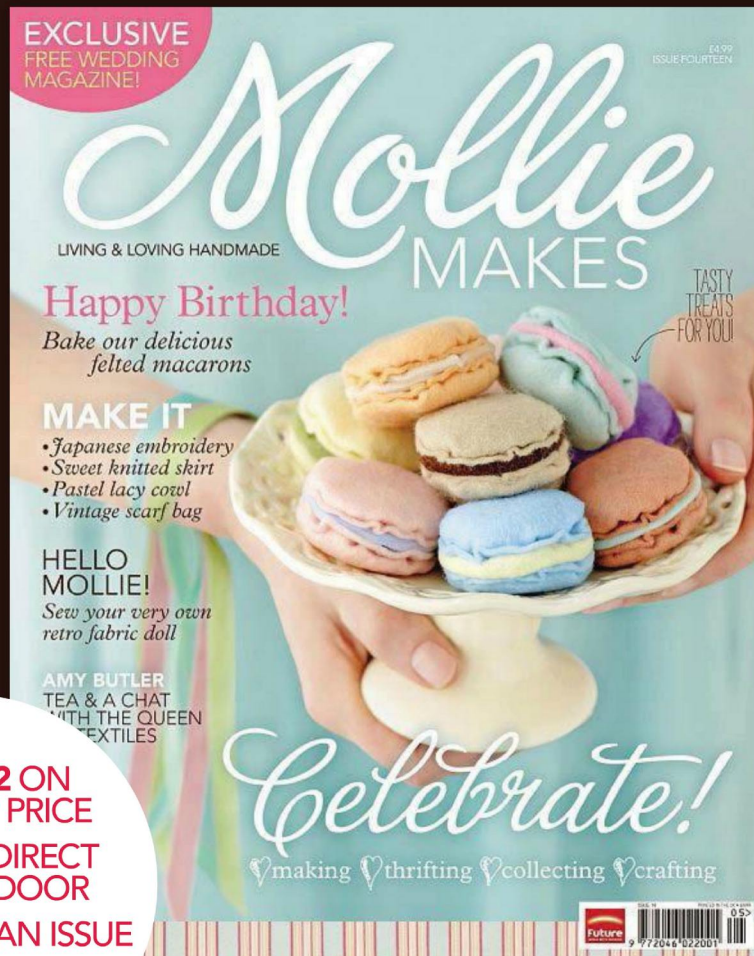
PETRA BOASE

Navigate your way to Petra’s online home to see the gorgeous bits and pieces she’s been designing and collecting lately. With a strong focus on affordable party decorations that can stay up all year around, it’s all honeycomb balls and paper lanterns in cheery brights. Look out for the new bunting ball and paper decorations, which she’ll be exhibiting at the Spirit of Summer Fair this May at London Olympia. petraboase.com

A bedroom full of collected finds! The stunning chandelier came from a successful thrift shop rummage. A Julie Arkell brooch and Ken Eardly mugs and saucers sit atop the mantelpiece.



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Ooh

I COULD DO THAT...

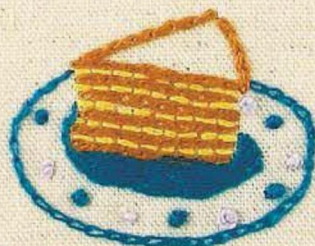
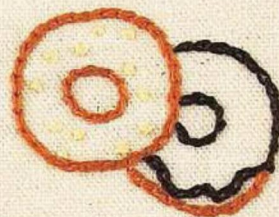
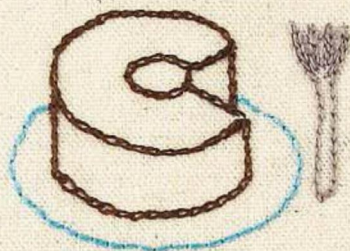
Magnets for
Ma'am



Have the coolest Jubilee celebration this summer with these cute Corgi fridge magnets by Angela Poole. They're stitched with DMC threads on 14 count soluble canvas – it dissolves in water, leaving your stitching all nice and neat. Find these doggy dudes in *CrossStitcher* magazine's June issue, on sale 16th May. Walkies! crossstitcher.themakingspot.com dmccreative.co.uk

SWEET TREATS

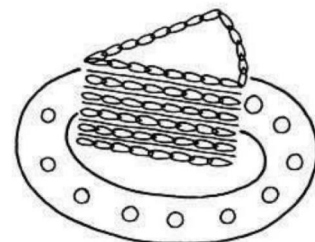
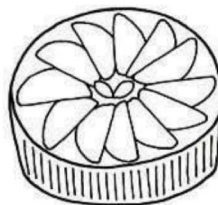
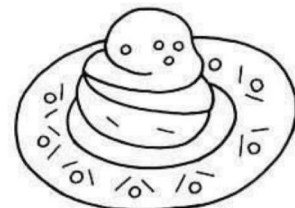
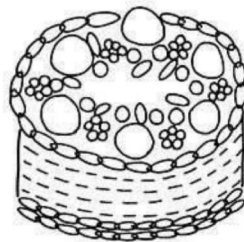
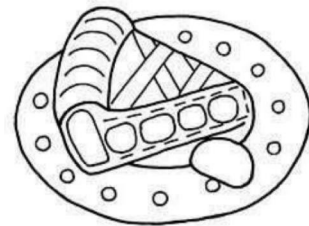
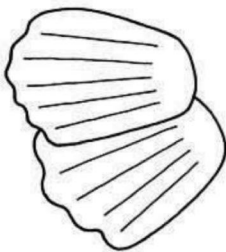
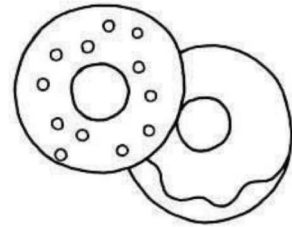
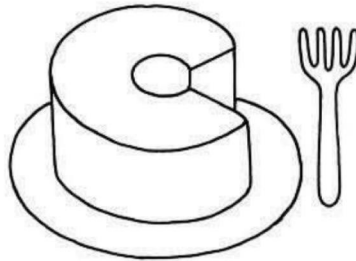
Go on, help yourself to a slice of the good life.
This is afternoon tea, Japanese-style, with a
stitch for every sweet tooth

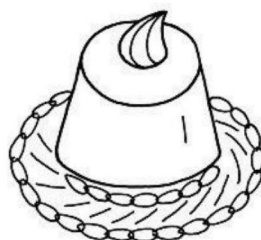
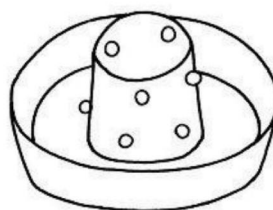
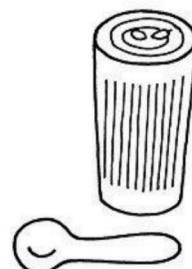
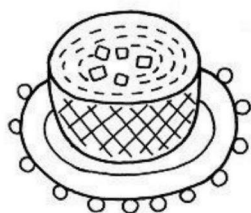




"THERE ARE FEW HOURS IN LIFE MORE
AGREEABLE THAN THE HOUR DEDICATED TO
THE CEREMONY KNOWN AS AFTERNOON TEA."

Henry James





HOW TO STITCH... SWEET TREATS

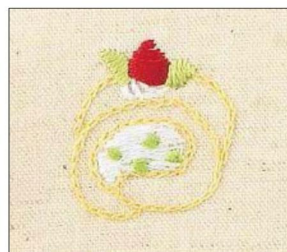
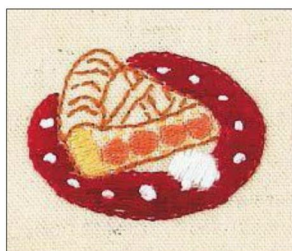
MATERIALS

- Cotton or linen fabric
- Stranded cotton
- Embroidery needle
- Small sharp scissors
- Embroidery hoop

What's sweeter than a mini cake?

These tiny stitchables are the **cherry on top of a fabric button, lapel or sampler**. No special supplies required and you don't need to be an embroidery expert at all, in fact we show you all the stitches you need right here.

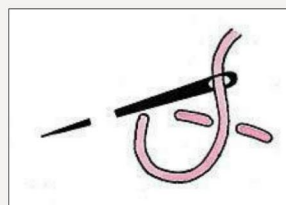
There are several ways you can transfer the designs onto the fabric. Start by tracing your chosen cake on page 60 onto paper. You can then put this on a lightbox, or even sticky-taped onto a window (in daylight!) and place the fabric over the top, you should then be able to pencil the design onto your fabric. Alternatively, you can place carbon paper between the design and the fabric and trace straight through.



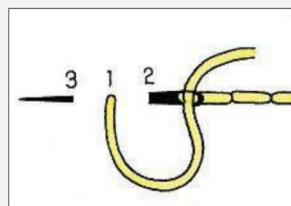
IN THE DETAILS

Big up the textures of your treats by using different stitches. Here we've used a mini **chain stitch** to create a cream-piped look, **French knots** for blueberries and simple **straight stitches** for a lattice pastry top. Satin stitches make for super-smooth icing and fillings – experiment to see what works best.

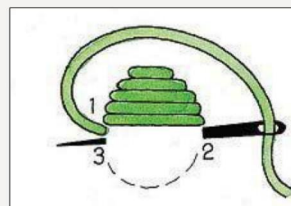
HOW TO... MAKE THE STITCHES FOR YOUR SAMPLER



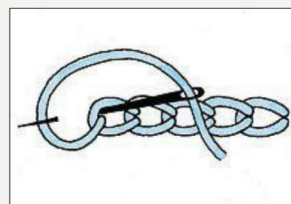
This is a basic **running stitch**, which we've used for the cake outlines. Just bring the needle and thread up and then back down trying to keep the stitches all equal length.



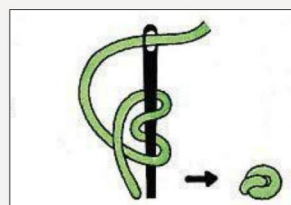
Use **back stitch** for a neat outline. Bring the needle up and take it back over the fabric, as shown. Push the needle back up in front of where you started, keeping the stitches neat and even.



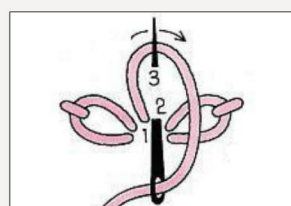
To fill in blocks of colour, **satin stitch** gives good results. Follow the outline using one straight stitch back and forth. You can neaten things with a back stitch around the outline.



To make a **chain stitch**, bring the needle up and back into the same hole. Before you pull it through, catch it at the top of the loop and repeat so that the stitches seem to interlock.



For a **French knot** come up through the fabric and wrap the thread around the needle, now take the needle halfway back in. Slide the thread down the needle, and push the needle back down.



For little bows, try **lazy daisy** stitches. Bring the needle up and make a loop by pushing it back down through the same hole. To fix the loop, come back up at the top and make a tiny stitch.

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WE'RE HAVING A HOUSE PARTY!

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Photographs: JULIA BOSTOCK

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WELCOME, ONE AND ALL!

Come on in! We're celebrating our first birthday in circus-style with a party thrown by Ashlyn Gibson of London lifestyle store, Olive Loves Alfie. It's no surprise that the former Red or Dead Creative Director customises a treat – just look at her sweet kid's blazer and those shoes – once bitten, forever smitten it seems! She also has an eye for detail, like this vintage tailcoat from savvyrow.co.uk. Roll up, roll up for a glass of fizz and superb styling ideas...



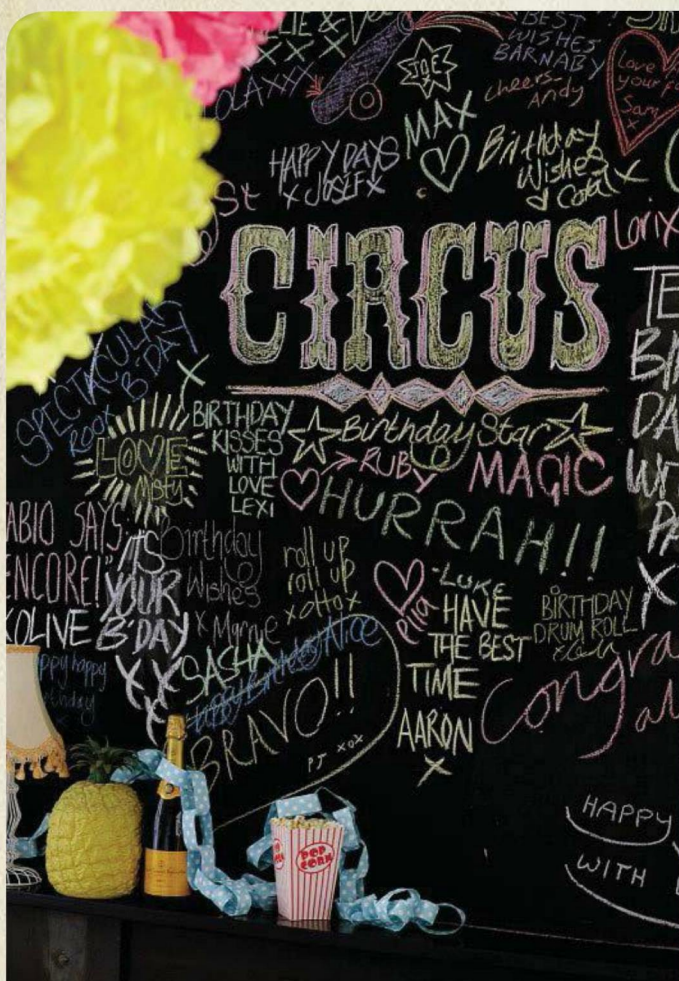




FUNTASTIC GLITTER & GARLANDS

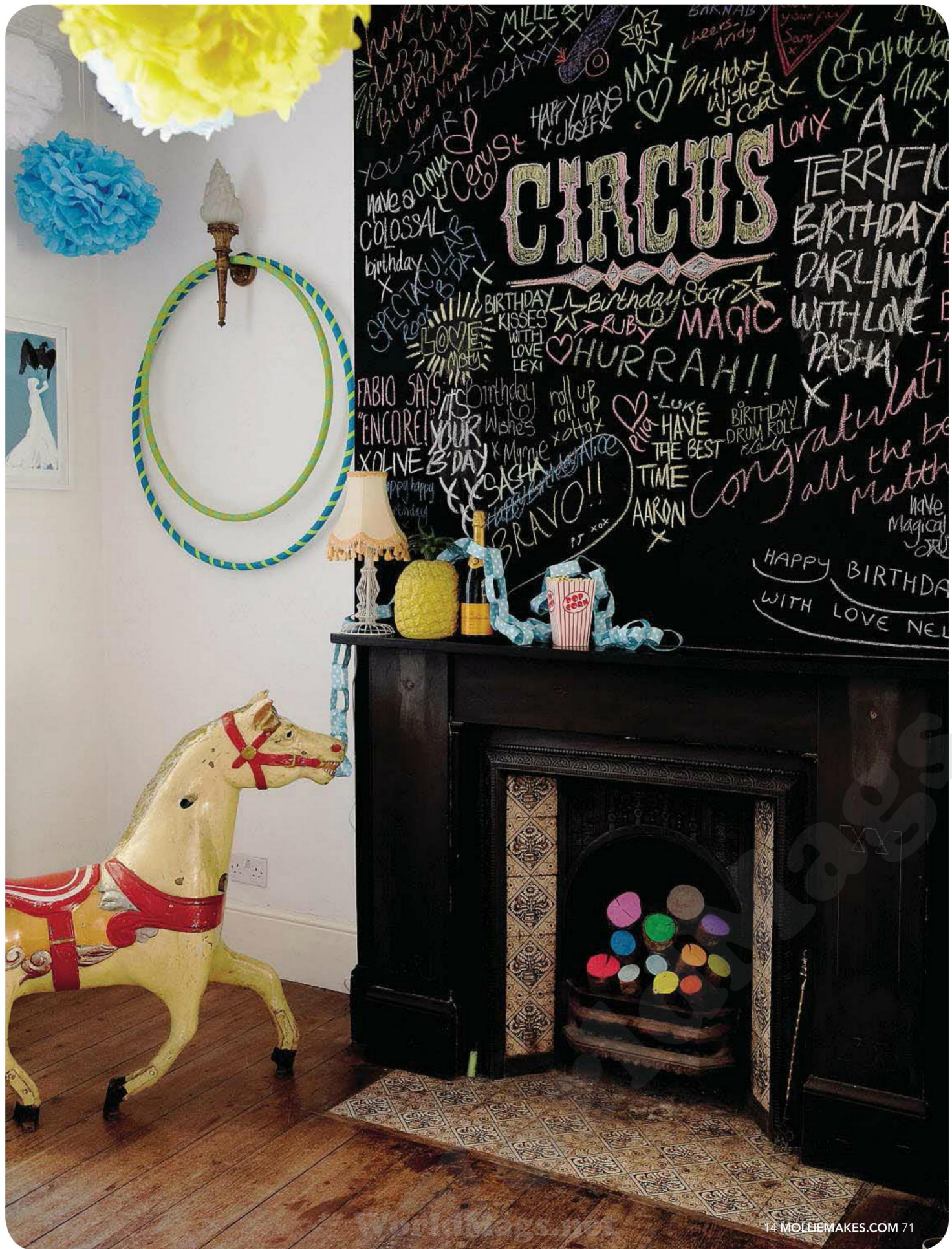
A starry-eyed dandystar.com poster sets the tone for fun and games. Up next is a round of musical chairs – the infant school version, brought to you by committeeoftaste.co.uk. The prize? A giant-bicycles.com tricycle for little legs, and a dazzling mirrorball for the big kids. This one's available to order from olivelovesalfie.co.uk.





WHOLE LOTTA LOVE

Find a space and leave your message in chalk! Blackboard eco paint from olivelovesalfie.co.uk makes an interactive backdrop for the whole family. Go a step further and paint your logs to cheer your fireplace on a summer's day. Then it's all about the popcorn (retro boxes from pearlandearl.co.uk), grab a handful and admire the tutu lampshade.





WINDING UP

Put packing away on display with vintage luggage crammed with trinkets and decorations – these are from plushparties.co.uk. Couldn't you just dive in? Hope you've had fun everybody. Here's to a great year, cheers!

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LOVING



OH, YOU PRETTY THINGS! MOODBOARDS & MUSINGS TO INSPIRE US



♥ Summer's always full of parties, BBQs, picnics and festivals – all those celebrations mean a load of outfits... Unless you tweak your usual looks for less, by raiding your fave jewellery makers' **nifty trinkets**. Stack 'em high! accessorize.com



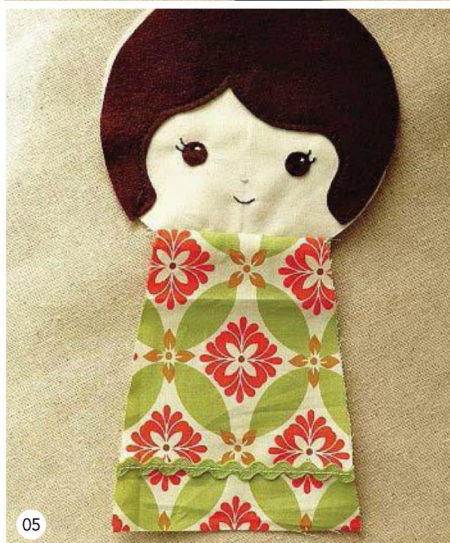
HELLO
MOLLIE!

Hey girl. Great call on the Alice band, ric rac trim and leggings combo. You're the prettiest personification of a magazine we've ever seen!

ooh la la



WorldMags.net



HOW TO MAKE... A MOLLIE DOLL

MATERIALS

- Small fabric scraps
- 22.8cms (¾ yard) muslin
- 22.8 x 30.48cms (9x12") wool or wool-nylon felt in hair colour
- 15.2 x 15.2cms (6x6") piece of black wool felt for shoes
- Polyester fibre fill
- Embroidery floss in black, white and brown
- Ric-rac, lace, or trim
- Scraps of wool felt for eyes and Alice band
- Thread
- Sewing machine
- Hemostats, if possible (for turning arms and legs)

Celebrate our birthday issue with Laura Hunter's exclusive Mollie doll, made just for us. You'll only need minimal amounts of materials for this project, so you can embellish her however you please to show off a different outfit or personality. What does Mollie look like to you?! Starting off with the basic pattern, you can dream up your look. Maybe she's a busy city high-flyer who tweets up a storm and hosts a knitting club? Or is she

a vintage maven with a penchant for sewing-themed tattoos? Just tweak the templates starting on page 98 to suit your vision. Let's get started on Laura's girl-about-town version of Miss Mollie.

01 First, cut out your pattern pieces. Using the muslin, cut out 2 head pieces, 4 arms and 4 legs. Because we've made trousers, we've cut out the bottom portion of the leg in muslin and the remainder of the leg in coral



fabric, making sure to add a seam allowance on both pieces. Sew the seam where the trousers meet the leg and then edge stitch on the outer side. Since muslin is fairly transparent, use a double layer when making the face to hide the embroidery floss ends. Cut two body/dress pieces from the printed fabric. Trace the shoes (2 front and 2 back), 1 head, and 1 hair piece onto the wool felt and cut out neatly.

02 Carefully sew the hair onto the face using a long stitch. Sew right at the edge of the felt. You can also add an Alice band cut from felt.

03 Embroider the face. Cut out small felt circles for the eyes and stitch them on with embroidery floss. Add a nose and mouth.

04 Draw a line 1 inch from the bottom of the dress and sew on your chosen trim.

05 Sew the face and head pieces to the body at the neck, putting them

right sides together and stitching at the neckline.

06 With a long stitch, sew the shoes to the front and back of the two leg pieces.

07 With right sides together, sew the arms and legs using a triple stitch, making sure you've lined up the seams for the trousers and the shoes. Trim the seam allowance with pinking shears.

08 Turn right-side out using a turning tool or hemostats, and »



HOW TO MAKE... A MOLLIE DOLL

stuff with polyester fibre fill, ending 1 inch from the edge.

09 Zig-zag stitch the ends.

10 Baste the arms to the front body piece, placing the top of the arm at the head/body seam line. Baste the legs to the body approximately 1 inch from the bottom corner of the dress.

11 Pin the back/head piece to the front, right sides together, sandwiching the arms in the seam.

12 Starting beneath the arm on the

left, and again using a triple stitch, sew up, around head, and down to dress corner.

13 Tuck the arms and the leg closest to the corner you just stopped at into the head of the doll. Sew the bottom of the dress halfway. Rearrange the legs so that the second leg extends out of what will be the turning hole.

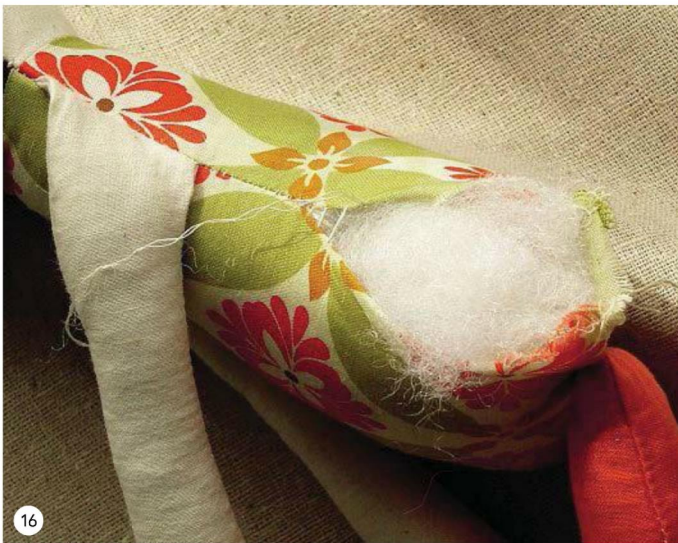
14 Finish sewing the bottom seam and stop at the corner. Clip to the seam line at the head and neck

connection, trim the corner, and trim the head seam allowance with pinking shears.

15 Turn the doll right side out.

16 Stuff the doll, starting with the head and making sure to fill the corners. Use small portions of stuffing at a time to prevent lumpiness in the finished doll. Sew the opening with an invisible stitch.

Your Mollie is complete! Now you can add a tote, scarf or other adornment to finish your look.



Laura Hunter

Laura and her husband live on a 120-acre hobby farm in rural Alabama, where they raise cows, sheep (and children). Laura started crafting as a small child with constant ideas running around her head, teaching herself to knit, crochet and sew. Now she mainly makes for her Etsy shop, rovingovine.etsy.com, where she sell dolls, toys and bags.

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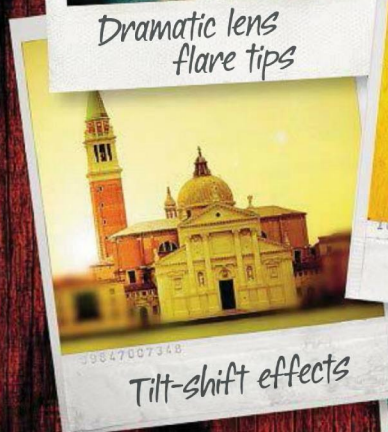
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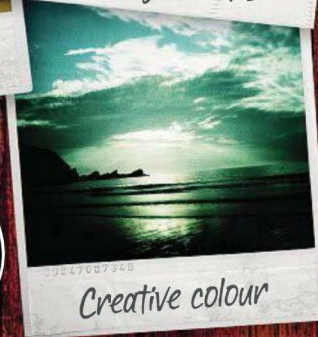


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Ooh

I COULD DO THAT...

Let there be
patchwork



Loving this nifty 'how to' over at Lola Nova. Stuck for interesting things to do with your fabric scraps? Make a colourful lantern! Super-simple and quick to make, plus you don't need amazing needle skills to get the patchwork effect. You could run a few up ready for your next party, for sure. Picking your fabric is the toughest bit.

lolanovablog.blogspot.co.uk



This soft textured cowl from Quince & Co is just the thing for pairing with a vintage dress and some simple jewellery. Wear this statement piece at summer weddings and parties...



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SASS & STYLE

Add a quirky touch to your outfits with this cowl
by Carolyn Kern – it's your new go-to accessory



PHOTOGRAPHS: CARRIE BOSTICK HOGE

Throw this on over your vintage dress, and tick the pastel trend while you're at it...

HOW TO MAKE... A QUIRKY COWL

MATERIALS

- 2 x skeins of Chickadee by Quince & Co (181yd [166m]/50g) in Bird's Egg 106 or use a lightweight DK yarn, such as Debbie Bliss Baby Cashmerino
- 3.5mm circular needle, 40cm long
- 4mm circular needle, 40cm long
- 4.5mm circular needle, 40cm long
- Stitch marker
- Tapestry needle

TENSION

- 21 sts and 32 rnds = 10cm in stitch pattern with 3.5mm needle, after blocking

ABBREVIATIONS

- yo:** Yarn over needle.
- k2tog:** Knit 2 sts together.
- ssk:** (slip, slip, knit) Slip 2 sts one at a time knitwise to RH needle; return sts to LH needle and knit together through back loops.

Carolyn Kern's decadent cowl keeps you cosy at any special occasion. Whip it up in a weekend!

Lace pattern (multiple of 14 sts)

- Rnd 1:** *P2, k2tog, k3, yo, k1, yo, k3, ssk, p1; rep from * to marker.
- Rnds 2, 4, 6 and 8:** *P2, k11, p1; rep from * to marker.
- Rnd 3:** *P2, k2tog, k2, yo, k3, yo, k2, ssk, p1; rep from * to marker.
- Rnd 5:** *P2, k2tog, k1, yo, k5, yo, k1, ssk, p1; rep from * to marker.
- Rnd 7:** *P2, k2tog, yo, k7, yo, ssk, p1; rep from * to marker.
- Rnd 9:** *K1, yo, k3, ssk, p3, k2tog, k3, yo; rep from * to marker.
- Rnds 10, 12 and 14:** *K6, p3, k5; rep from * to marker.

Rnd 11: *K2, yo, k2, ssk, p3, k2tog, k2, yo, k1; rep from * to marker.

Rnd 13: *K3, yo, k1, ssk, p3, k2tog, k1, yo, k2; rep from * to marker.

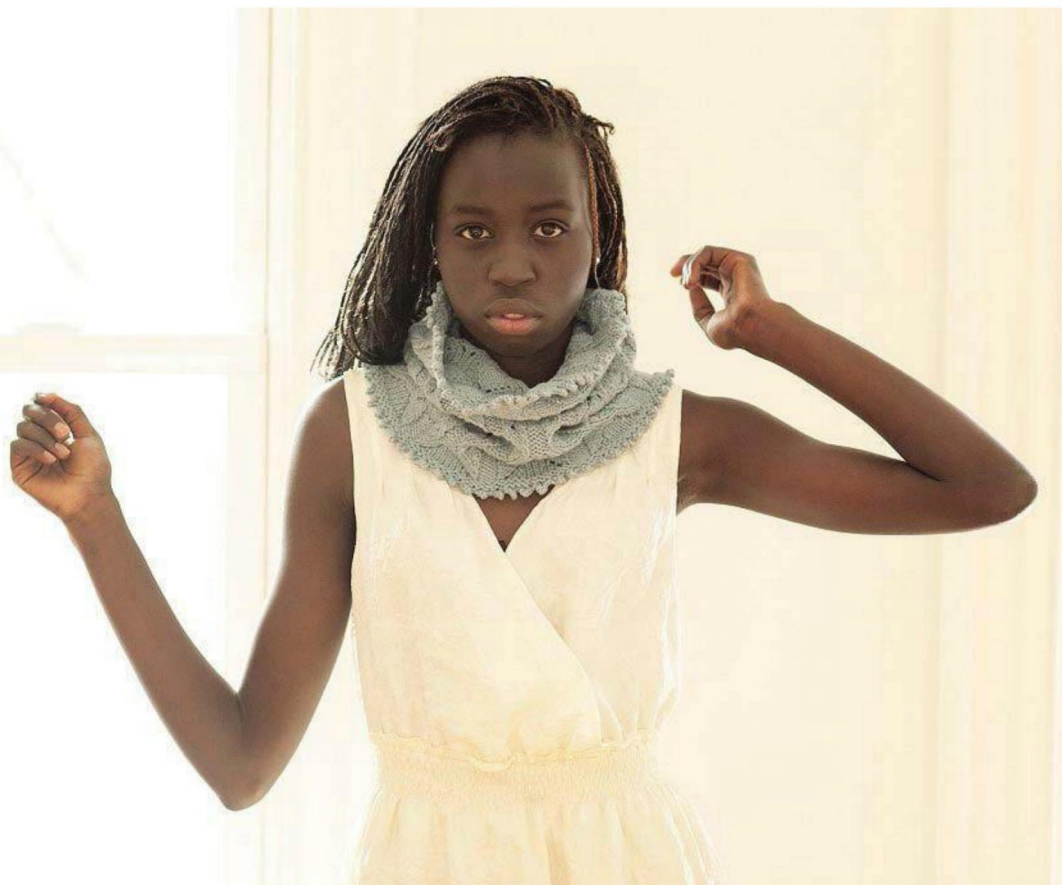
Rnd 15: *K4, yo, ssk, p3, k2tog, yo, k3; rep from * to marker.

Rnd 16: Rep Rnd 10.

Rep Rnds 1-16 for Lace pattern. If using the chart, begin at the bottom right, and work each row from right to left.

Picot cast off

*Cast on 2 sts using the cable cast on. Cast off 4 sts. Slip stitch on RH needle to LH needle purlwise. Repeat from * until all sts have been bound off.



CELEBRATE IN
STYLE WITH
A SOFT AND
SUMPTUOUS
LACY COWL

Pattern

With smallest needle, and using a provisional cast on*, CO 112 sts. Place a marker (pm) for the beg of the rnd (BOR) and then join to work in the rnd.

First rnd: Purl.

Next rnd: Knit. Next rnd: Purl. Begin the Lace Pattern.

Next rnd: Work Rnd 1 of the Lace pattern.

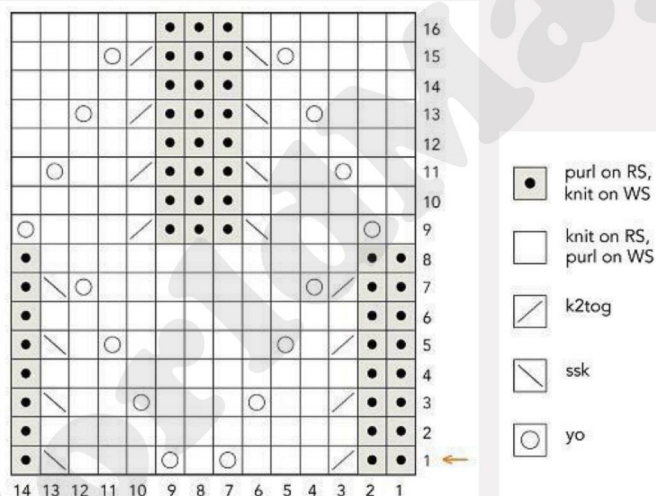
Work rounds 2–16 of pattern, and then work Rnds 1–16 one more time.

Change to a middle size needle.

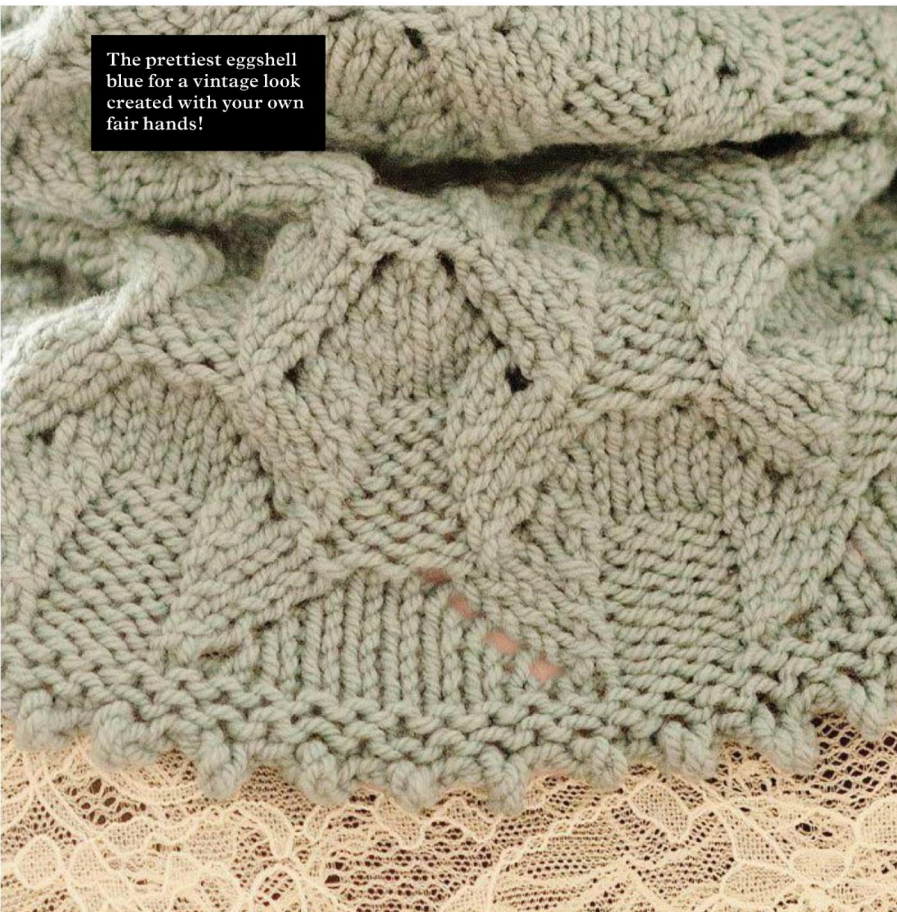
Rep Rnds 1–16 of pattern two more times.

Change to your largest size needle.

Rep Rnds 1–16 two more times.



The prettiest eggshell blue for a vintage look created with your own fair hands!



HOW TO MAKE... A QUIRKY COWL

Next rnd: Purl.

Next rnd: Knit.

Next rnd: Purl.

Cast off all sts using picot cast off. With your smallest size needle, pick up sts from your provisional cast on, and then make sure you remove any waste yarn. Join the yarn, and cast off all sts using picot cast off.

Finishing

Finally, weave in any stray or loose ends, and then wet block your cowl (we recommended hand washing).

*For instructions on the provisional cast on, head to The Knitter's blog theknitter.themakingspot.com and search for 'provisional cast on'.



Quince & Co

Find all your top Quince & Co patterns in its handy Lookbooks. Each volume has something for everyone – from scarves, bags and other knitted accessories, to full-on sumptuous, lacy wraps and winter-hardy jumpers. Plus all the Lookbook patterns are clear and user-friendly. Head over to the website at quinceandco.com

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Photograph by Pauline Burbidge, 2009 - a study towards her new studio quilt, 'Lindisfarne Revisited',
to be shown at her retrospective exhibition at the Festival of Quilts in 2012.



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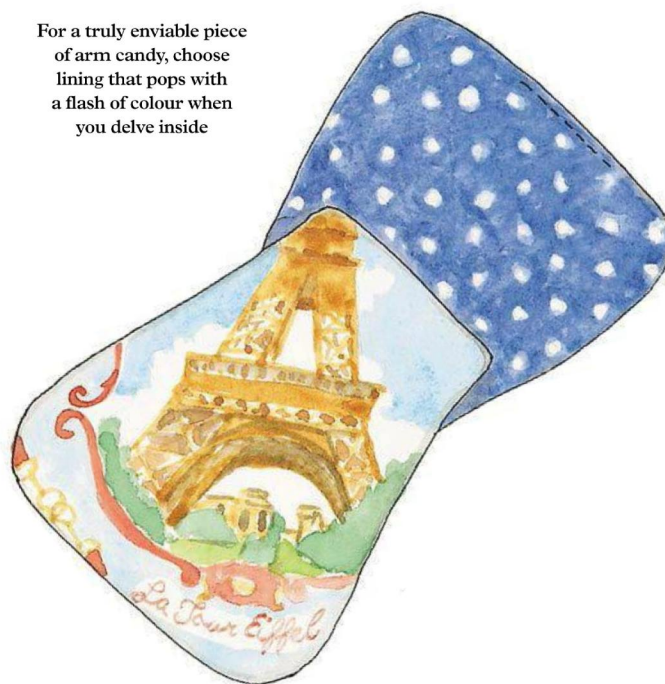
Thrifty style... DAY+TRIPPER

Turn a souvenir scarf or a vintage find into a cute handbag. Self-taught seamstress and all-round thrifty gal Susan Manthorpe shows us how





For a truly enviable piece of arm candy, choose lining that pops with a flash of colour when you delve inside



HOW TO MAKE... A VINTAGE SCARF BAG

MATERIALS

- A vintage scarf, at least 21 3/4 x 11 3/4" (55.2 x 30 cm)
- Fusible interfacing, the same size as your scarf (and at the appropriate weight for your scarf fabric)
- Lining fabric, same size as your scarf
- Fleece batting, same size as your scarf
- Rectangle purse frame with loops, 3 x 6" (7.6 x 15.2 cm)
- Extra strong fabric glue
- A matching chain strap (any length you like)
- Basic sewing kit

FINISHED SIZE

26cm high (10 1/4 inches) x 22.9cm (9 inches) at its widest point
Seam Allowance: 9.5mm (just under half an inch) unless otherwise noted

You can never have too many scarves or bags, right? So why not combine the two with this drool-worthy upcycling how to!

- 01 Press fusible interfacing to the wrong side (WS) of the scarf, making sure to follow the manufacturer's instructions.
- 02 Enlarge the template (starting on page 98) and cut it out. Use it to cut two pieces each from the vintage scarf, lining fabric and fleece. Transfer the hinge markings to WS of all pieces.
- 03 Place the two scarf pieces together, right sides (RS) facing. Sandwich them between the two pieces of fleece. Pin. With the fleece outermost, stitch between the hinge markings down the side

and around the bottom to the other side. Turn RS out and press.

- 04 Pin the lining pieces together, RS facing, and stitch between the hinge markings down the sides, leaving an opening 12cm (4 3/4") wide at the bottom.
- 05 Tuck the outer bag into the lining, RS facing. Pin, and sew between the hinge markings around the top flaps on both sides.
- 06 Pull the outer bag through the lining's opening. Turn the bag RS out, with the lining outside the bag. Stitch the opening at the bottom of the lining. Trim the thread ends and tuck the lining inside. Press the bag gently, paying particular attention to the top and side flap seams.
- 07 Open the purse frame, apply a moderate amount of fabric glue

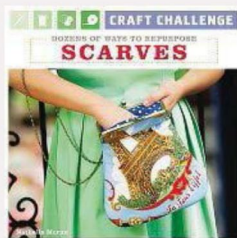


Make this easy-stitch bag, pop in your Euros and a map – then head off on an adventure... Bon voyage!



around the inside of the frame, and quickly insert the bag flaps into the frame. Be careful not to get excess glue on your bag. Leave over-night to dry.

08 Attach the chain strap to the loops; voilà, c'est fini!



Craft Challenge: Scarves by Nathalie Mornu

Get your upcycling freak on, in Lark Crafts' *Craft Challenge: Dozens of Ways to Repurpose Scarves*. Nathalie's collection of her fave refashioning fashionistas will have you chomping at the bit to try your own. From bags to bloomers, there's a whole load of projects to try.

MOLLIE VISITS...

L'OISIVETHE

*Blogger **Leigh Metcalf** visits the Paris shop that's home to the city's tea and knitting aficionados alike*





You can't miss L'OisiveThé with its colour-pop tables and tea canisters. Once inside, it's a feast for foodies and knitters, with luxurious yarns and hand-cooked treats jostling for space.





01



02



03



04

Located in the quaint, village-like Butte aux Cailles neighbourhood of Paris' 13th arrondissement, you'll find the wonderful L'OisiveThé: a delightful tearoom and knitting shop. With its corner location, tea-themed mural facade, vibrant terrace tables plus the yellow bike out front, if you're drawn to colour and craft, it's difficult to walk on by.

One step in the door and it's clear this is somewhere we'll feel at home. L'OisiveThé is welcoming and inspiring with its cosy, cheerful decor. Brightly coloured skeins of yarn, cute mismatched printed tablecloths and sunny L'Oisive tea canisters bring a touch of warmth to an overcast day.

L'OisiveThé owner Aimee Osbourne-Gille is an American in Paris, and has owned the stylish teashop for four years. She blogs about

the shop and her family at putyourflareon.blogspot.com, and her love of knitting and fascination with beautiful yarn came from a mother "who could make anything," says Aimee. "The day mum taught me to knit, it felt completely natural to pick up the needles."

Aimee wanted to open a shop selling all her favourite yarns imported from back home in the US. So looking around the café you'll find primarily hand-dyed North American yarns stashed in all the cute nooks and crannies. Lorna's Laces, Shibui Knits, Dream in Color, Madelinetosh, Sweet Georgia and Koigu are favourites – and an extra treat for customers as these brands are usually hard to find in France. Recently Aimee has also discovered British lines Juno Fibre Arts and Socktopus – in fact, L'OisiveThé is currently the only shop in Europe selling Socktopus yarns.

01 Simple displays show off the vibrant shades and textures of these luxurious hand-dyed yarns.

02 Owner Aimee combines the best of both worlds in her knitting and tea shop.

03 Sock makers are in for a treat with these gift packs from Lorna's Laces.

04 Bright yellow tea canisters bring a touch of sunshine to the gloomiest day.



01



02

01 There are plenty of pattern books and knitted samples for instant inspiration.

02 Choose from a huge variety of tea, including this rose-scented blend.

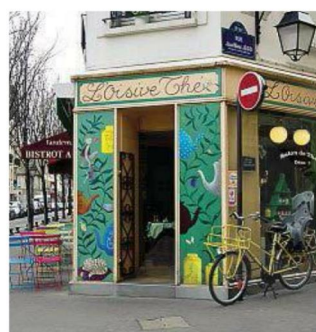
03 Good knitting and good food... the perfect combination.



03

When Aimee's not busy placing yarn orders for happy knitters, she's making sure the lunch and tea service is running smoothly. During the week a regular lunch crowd pours in from local businesses to enjoy a handful of delicious menu items, such as œufs à la coque (soft boiled eggs) with a hearty side salad. On the weekend you can expect to see the Parisian brunchers. "When the weather's nice you can count on the terrace being full all day long," says Aimee. "We're lucky to have a wonderfully sunny spot and visitors love to people-watch on the Butte aux Cailles."

Aimee makes all the baked goods herself, and if you only have time for a quick cuppa, you're still in for a memorable experience with an impressive 70 varieties to choose from! *L'OisiveThé, 1 Rue Jean-Marie Jégo, 75013 Paris.* loisivethe.com



TRICOTHÉ

A knitting club for all nationalities in the heart of Paris

L'OisiveThé hosts a lively knitting group, TricoThé, on Wednesday nights from 7.30-10pm. It's a very popular group, so be sure to reserve your place if you'd like to attend. And

don't worry if you don't speak French! Many attendees are native English speakers or just happy to practice their English. Find out more and check out the group's reservation page on Ravelry: ravelry.com/groups/browse/show/loisivethe-salon-de-the-et-tricot.

TEMPLATES

*All the shapes for this issue's makes.
You can also find the full-size templates
ready to download from molliemakes.com*

VINTAGE SCARF BAG

PAGE 90

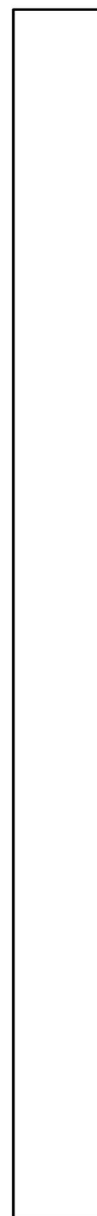


Bag – front and back
enlarge by 200%
cut two of vintage scarf,
lining fabric and fleece

FELT MACARONS

PAGE 24

**Macaron 'pied' (foot)
and filling**
cut one of large
cut two of smaller





Macaron 'meringue'
pieces cut two



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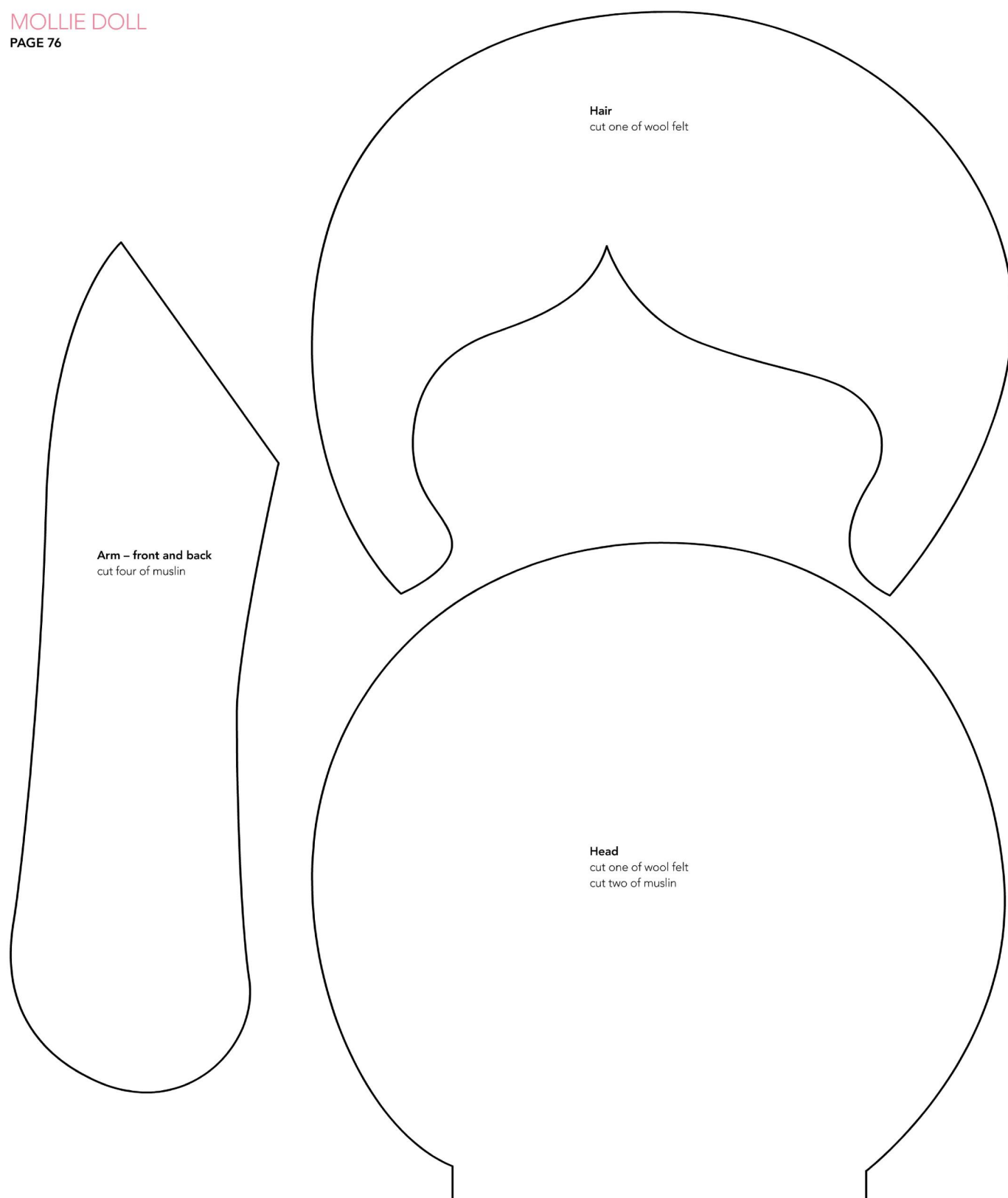
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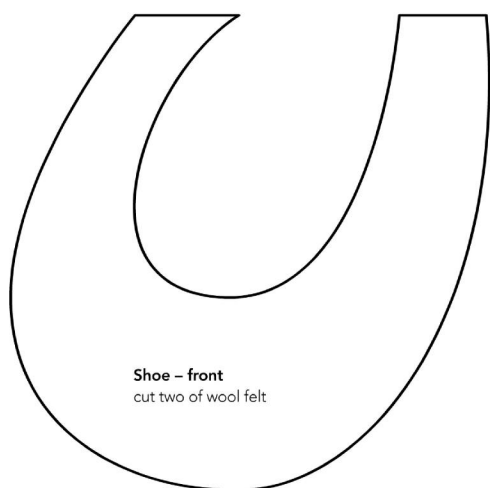
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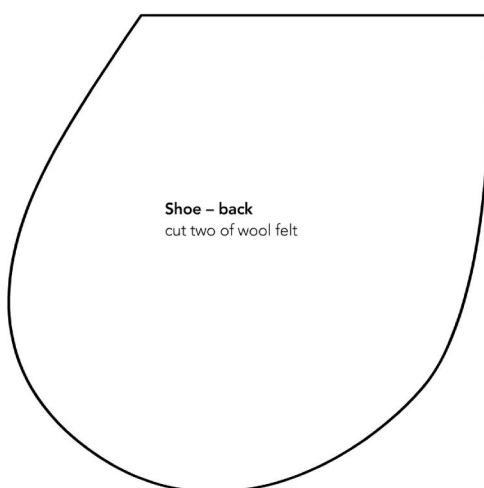
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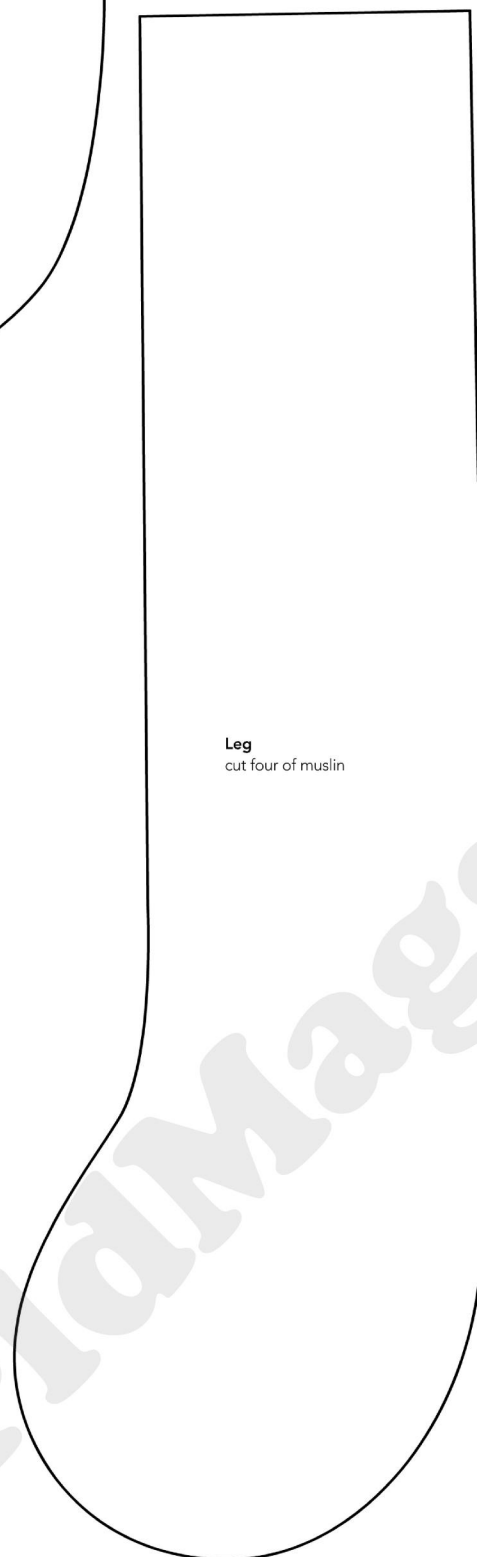
Shoe - front
cut two of wool felt



Shoe - back
cut two of wool felt



Body/dress
cut two of printed fabric



Leg
cut four of muslin

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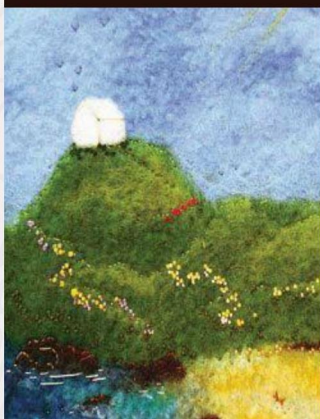
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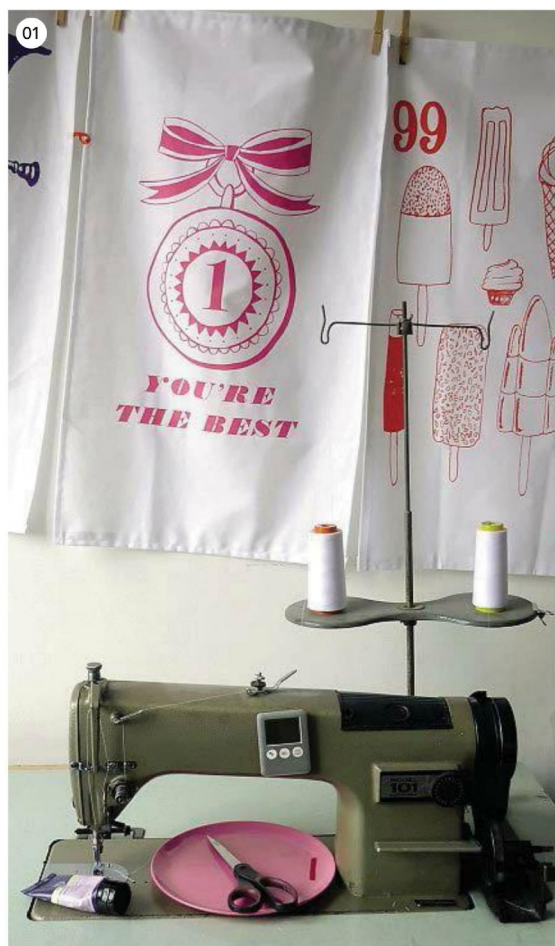
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PHOTOGRAPHS: MEGAN PRICE

MY SPACE

Illustrator and designer Megan Price of Mr.PS print fame invites us into her often messy corner of Salford where inky splatters rule



"My studio is in a former cotton-spinning mill in Salford, Greater Manchester, just a short cycle from my house. Sitting at my sewing machine I think of all the previous workers there, and it seems apt that I'm making tea towels! I have different work areas, the printing end of the studio is inky, so there's a clean end for sewing and packing, and the middle part is where my designing desk is. Storage boxes on shelves and under all surfaces keep things neat – it's the only way! I've deliberately kept it bare and functional, you can't be too precious about walls and floors when you're screenprinting. My favourite thing about this space is the light and the view – it's great for daydreaming. I also love that it's my own space: what happens in there is what I make happen!"

Watch out for Megan's new designs this summer, including men's T-shirts at mr-ps.co.uk 📸

01 This is my sewing machine, it's integrated in the tabletop and weighs a ton! It was out of use in a friend's studio, so I had to recruit some strong friends to carry it up. I keep Mr.PS tea towels on the washing line – sometimes designs I'm working on, so I can step back and see how they're looking.

02 My studio is on the fourth floor of the mill, with wonderful views across Greater Manchester and the moors. 03 Having designated spaces helps to separate tasks, so

when I'm printing I'm printing, and when I've got admin to do I get it done sitting in my home office. My ink cupboard was in my husband's old kitchen, but it quickly made its way here. I feel a bit awful that it's gotten so inky! 04 I stack up all my silkscreens along one of the walls so they're easy to access. There's still various bits of iron-work moulding and pillars that are handy for hanging up my print apron! 05 My home office is where I do all my admin. I made this pinboard using a big old picture frame and cork tiles.

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Jane

Jane Toft, editor, Mollie Makes



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contents

04

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06

YOU'RE INVITED
Send happy mail to your well wishers

08 10

RETRO ETSY FINDS
Editor Jane's choice from Etsy featuring all things fun, colourful and funky

RETRO WEDDING
The real-life wedding of über-blogger Elsie Larson and hubby Jeremy

16

PHOTOBOOTH CHALKBOARDS
DIY messages from your loved ones

18 20

VINTAGE ETSY FINDS
Deputy editor Lara's dreamy, lacy and soft vintage-vibe picks from Etsy

VINTAGE WEDDING
Wedding coordinator Alanna Lock's romantic day with husband Tim

28

BROOCH BOUQUETS
Heirloom blooms to ogle over

30

BRIDESMAIDS
Designs with a difference for your best girls

32

FABRIC FLOWER BOUQUETS
Your posies get all sewn up

34 36

RUSTIC ETSY FINDS
Art Editor Helena's pick of the best rustic makes on Etsy, naturally

RUSTIC WEDDING
Bleubird Vintage blogger, Miss James, marries Aubrey

44

FRINGED GARLAND BACKDROP
Thrifty decoration DIY to wow your guests

48

PERFECTLY GROOMED
The boys tie the knot in style

50

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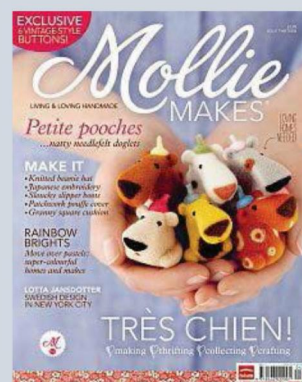
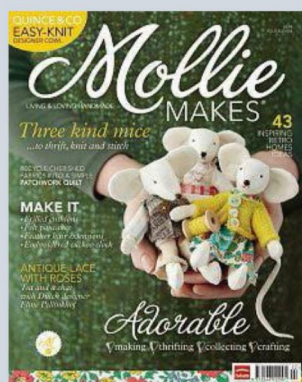


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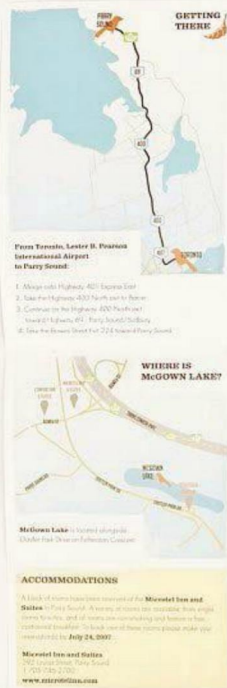
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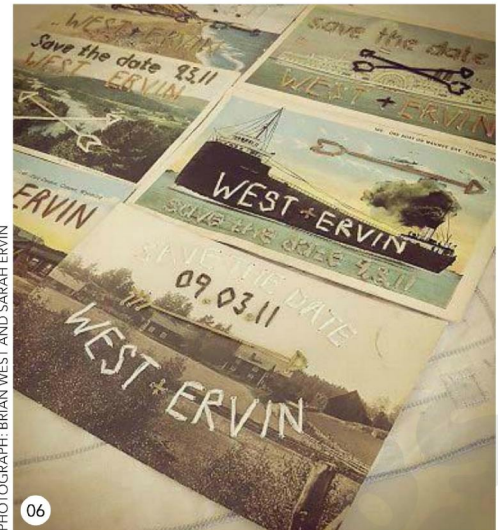
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03



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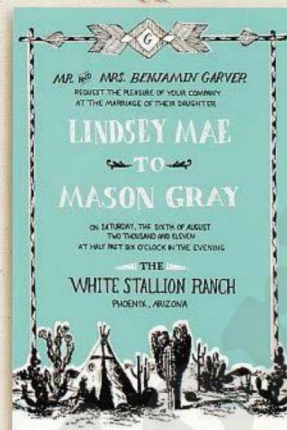
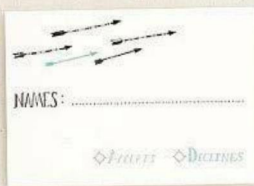
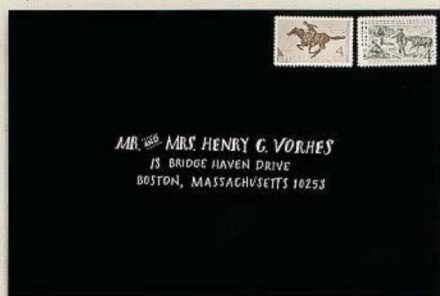


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06

It's the first glimpse your guests will get of your special day, so make sure you put the time and effort into setting the tone with a knock-out save-the-date or invitation. Crafted, printed or stitched, care and attention creates a piece of mini artwork they'll always treasure.

04



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Above: Encourage your guests to **go incognito**, photo booth or not...

www.themanicmoose.etsy.com

Right: **Kiss me, always!** Adorbs pegs from www.housethatlarsbuilt.etsy.com



funky retro

ETSY FINDS

In homage to the bright and colourful designs of the 1950s, 60s and 70s, *Mollie Makes* editor Jane Toft picks her favourite crop of funky retro Etsy buys

‘Nothing says “celebration” more than the funky retro trend. The colours and quirkiness are real party starters and mood lifters, so it’s the perfect theme for a wedding reception. And especially ones with plenty of children (or kids-at-heart – best man, I’m totally looking at you!). Your guests will have a memorable time in the photo booth with The Manic Moose’s colourful props and you’ll have the most unique stationery ever with Ello There’s record sleeves. Finally, little details like Oatmeal Lace Design’s Simply Sweet Kathryn clutch bags ensure your best girls have all their must-have items to hand – including yours!’



Rock your wedding stationery! Whether you’re tone deaf or the next big thing, **these invites are a hit.** www.ellothere.etsy.com

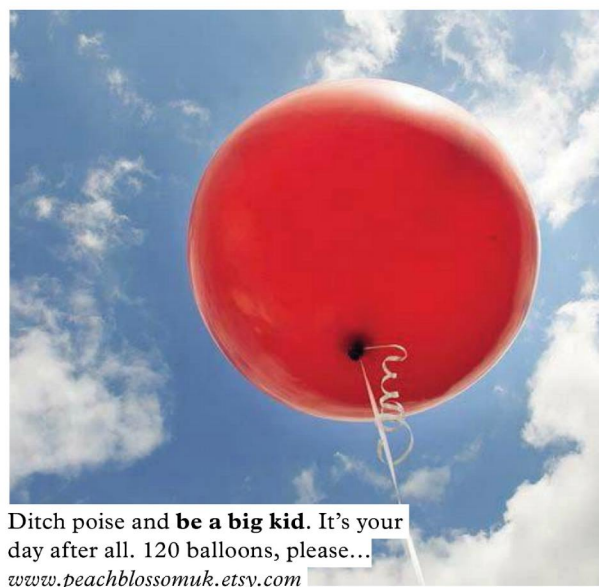




Get in a **tizz** over these tassels. That's one quick way to wow-factor.
www.everlylane.etsy.com



Lush pompoms are bursting with fun. www.pompboutique.etsy.com. Right: Get a cheeky smile in with a framed saying or two. www.handz.etsy.com



Ditch poise and **be a big kid**. It's your day after all. 120 balloons, please...
www.peachblossomuk.etsy.com



Give carnival tickets to guests in exchange for drinks, games – **entry to the wedding itself!**
www.peachblossomuk.etsy.com



Show your ladies how well you know them (and that you've forgiven them for the hen do) with **bespoke clutches**.
www.oatmeallacedesign.etsy.com



Y'know that tutorial you saw on Pinterest for the **feather fascinator**? You can totally do that with these!
www.peahenlee.etsy.com



BIRDS OF A FEATHER FLOCK TOGETHER

Photographs: ARROW AND APPLE,
CHRISTOPHER BROWN, KINSEY MHIRE

Style princess Elsie Larson is the super-cute co-owner of Red Velvet retro boutique in Springfield, Missouri. As massive fans of her blog, A Beautiful Mess, we knew her wedding to musician Jeremy would be a full-on creative affair – and we certainly weren't disappointed! Elsie's wedding is packed with ideas to inspire you if you're looking for the funky retro vibe.



We love how Elsie mixed the shabby chic disused third floor of her shop (her something old) with stunning, bright tissue-paper pompoms. A truly striking look...



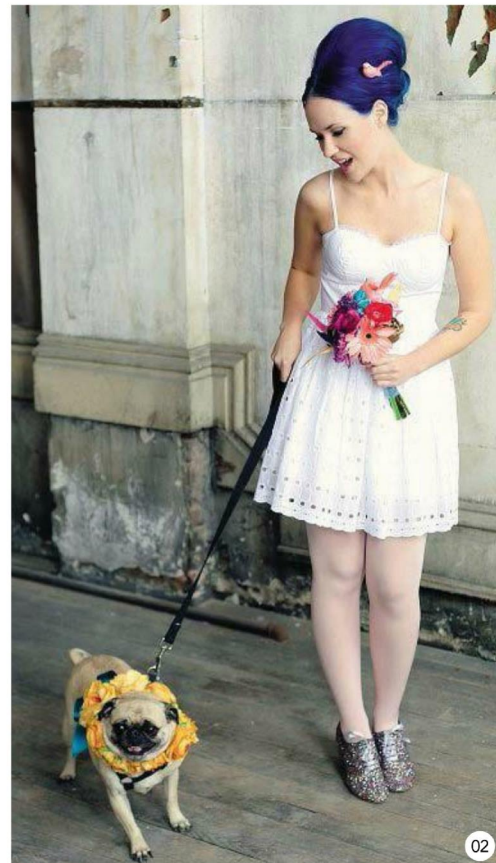


funky retro

Birds of a Feather! 01 Elsie borrowed the **bird tree** from Abbey Hendrickson of **Aesthetic Outburst** blog fame 02 **The wedding pins** were made in an evening with all of Elsie's wedding party getting involved 03 **Something blue...** Elsie's flower girl had her hair dyed for the occasion 04 **For the extra personal touch**, the couple had a custom stamp made for their invites 05 The Bridesmaids wore **vintage-style dresses**, with rainbow tights. »

Elsie runs her shop,
Red Velvet, with her
sister, Emma – another
something blue! We love
the sisters' quirky style,
especially the birds
nestled in the bouquets





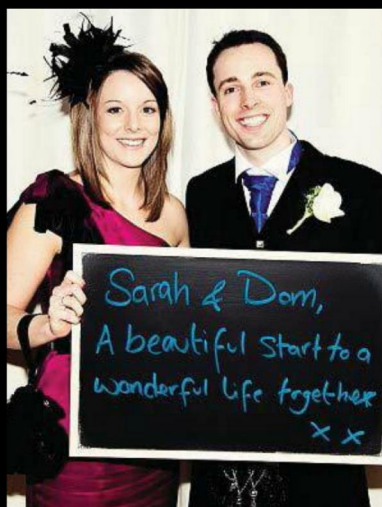
funky retro

- 01 The bride and groom's super-stylish friends **pulled out all the stops** in the photo booth 02 **Puppy Love!** Who needs an usher? Emma's puppy, Love Love, escorted her down the aisle 03 Bouquets needn't be floral only. Elsie added **feathers, birds and berries** to hers. So start your collection of quirky bits and bobs now.
- 04 We love a chalkboard at a photo booth. Scribble your message – don't be too naughty!

photobooth chalkboards

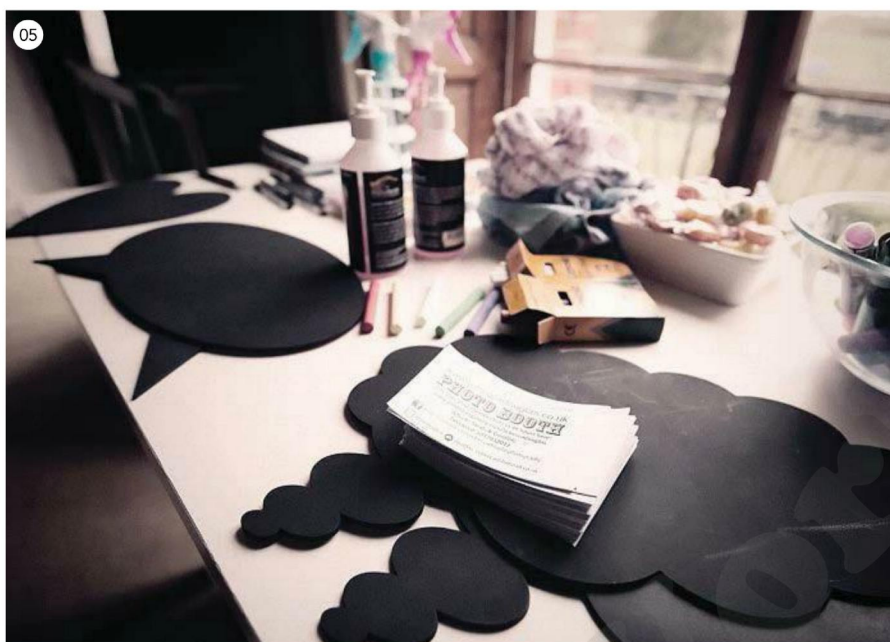
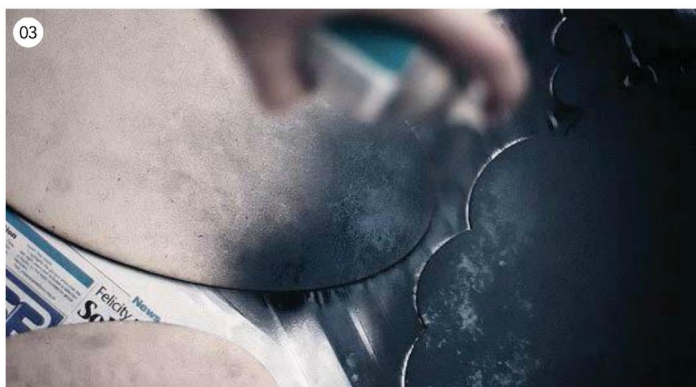
What do you get when you mix photobooth frippery with guestbook gushing? Photobooth chalkboards!

When Kent-based photographer, Rebecca Douglas wanted to offer her brides and grooms a more personalised service, she hit upon a **scribble-tastic idea**. Guests could write out their messages on **blackboard speech bubbles** that she could snap and then save in a photobook. You can find pre-cut blackboards on eBay and elsewhere on the net, but making your own gives it the **personal touch**...





01 Get your hands on some **chalkboard paint** 02 If you have the tools handy, cut your **3mm thick MDF** into whatever shape you like or buy ready-made 03 Place on newspaper and spray evenly 04 Stick your feet up with a **cuppa and a cookie** while you leave it to dry 05 **Respray** another coat (three coats is best), and then you're ready to get snapping!



Rebecca Douglas is a Kent-based wedding and lifestyle photographer who loves working with people, and making beautiful things! *Mollie Makes* readers who want to add Rebecca's photobooth to their 2012 wedding get 10 per cent off the booth if they quote 'Photobooth Chalkboard How To' when getting in touch. You're welcome! www.rebeccadouglas.co.uk



vintage

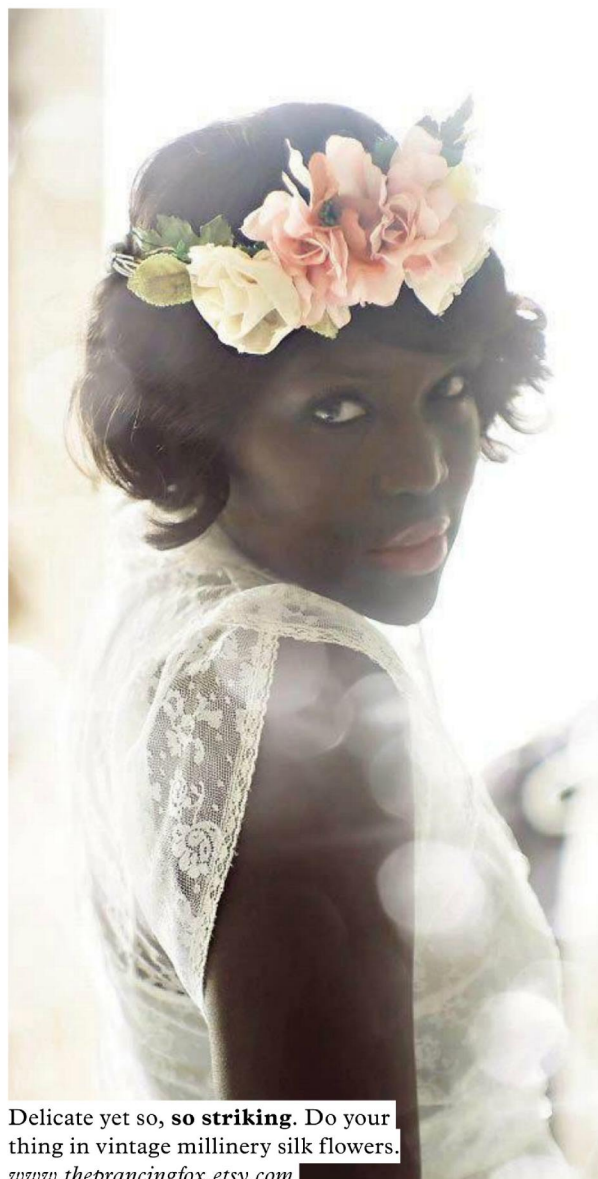
ETSY FINDS

Downton Abbey, tea dances and pin curls, we're loving all things yesteryear. Mollie Makes deputy editor, Lara Watson, chooses her favourite Etsy sellers

'I'm a sucker for nude pink, layers of lace and that aged look for my jewellery. There's something demure and unfussy about a well-styled vintage wedding. Add just a hint of va-va-voom glamour and you've got the perfect mix for an unforgettable entrance. The Prancing Fox's headpieces, veils and accessories are good examples of this simple yet striking look. Not One Sparrow's vintage glass and verdigris jewellery is another favourite – that coppery jade green is such a winner! And remember, it's all about your props – try antique spoons, lace bunting and hankies.'



Replicate your dream bouquet or fave florals on stunning stationery. This 30s-style hydrangea is a **walk in the park**.
www.digibuddhapaperie.etsy.com



PHOTOGRAPH: VLASTA PILOT PHOTOGRAPHY

Delicate yet so, so striking. Do your thing in vintage millinery silk flowers.
www.theprancingfox.etsy.com



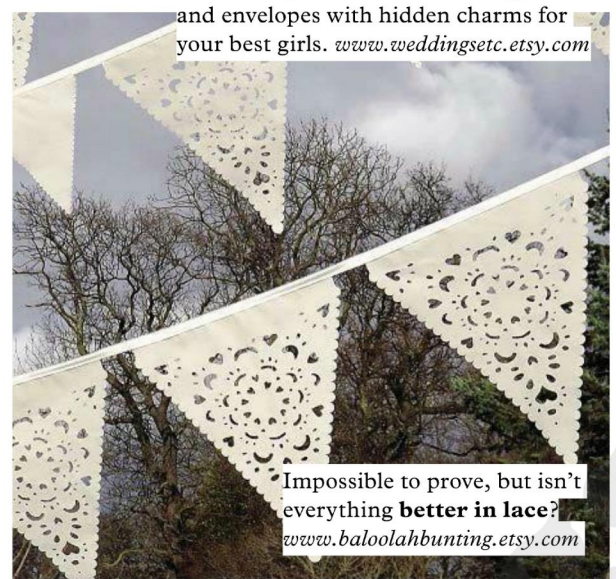
Touches like battered silverware make this look. Perfect for the **bottom drawer**, too.
www.epochco.etsy.com



Birds of a feather **flock together**...
www.notonesparrow.etsy.com, www.houseofglitter2.etsy.com



Sweet surprise! A cute cake topper and envelopes with hidden charms for your best girls. www.weddingsetc.etsy.com



Impossible to prove, but isn't everything **better in lace**?
www.baloolahbunting.etsy.com



Not to be sneezed at! Wrap custom printed hankie invites with these cute little **belly bands**.
www.benignobjects.etsy.com



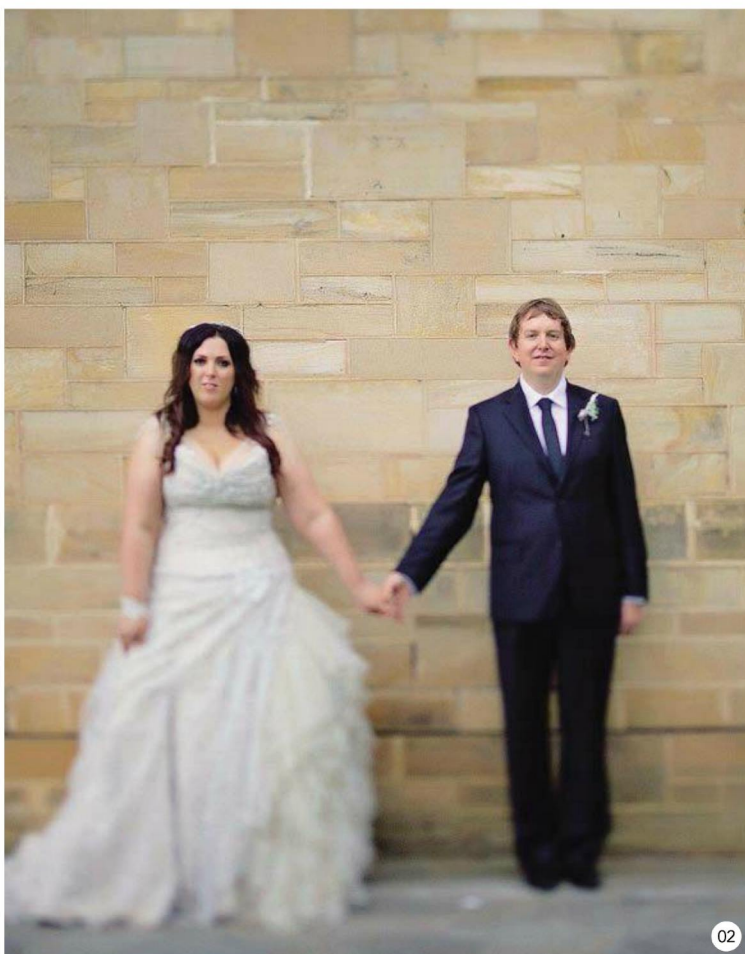
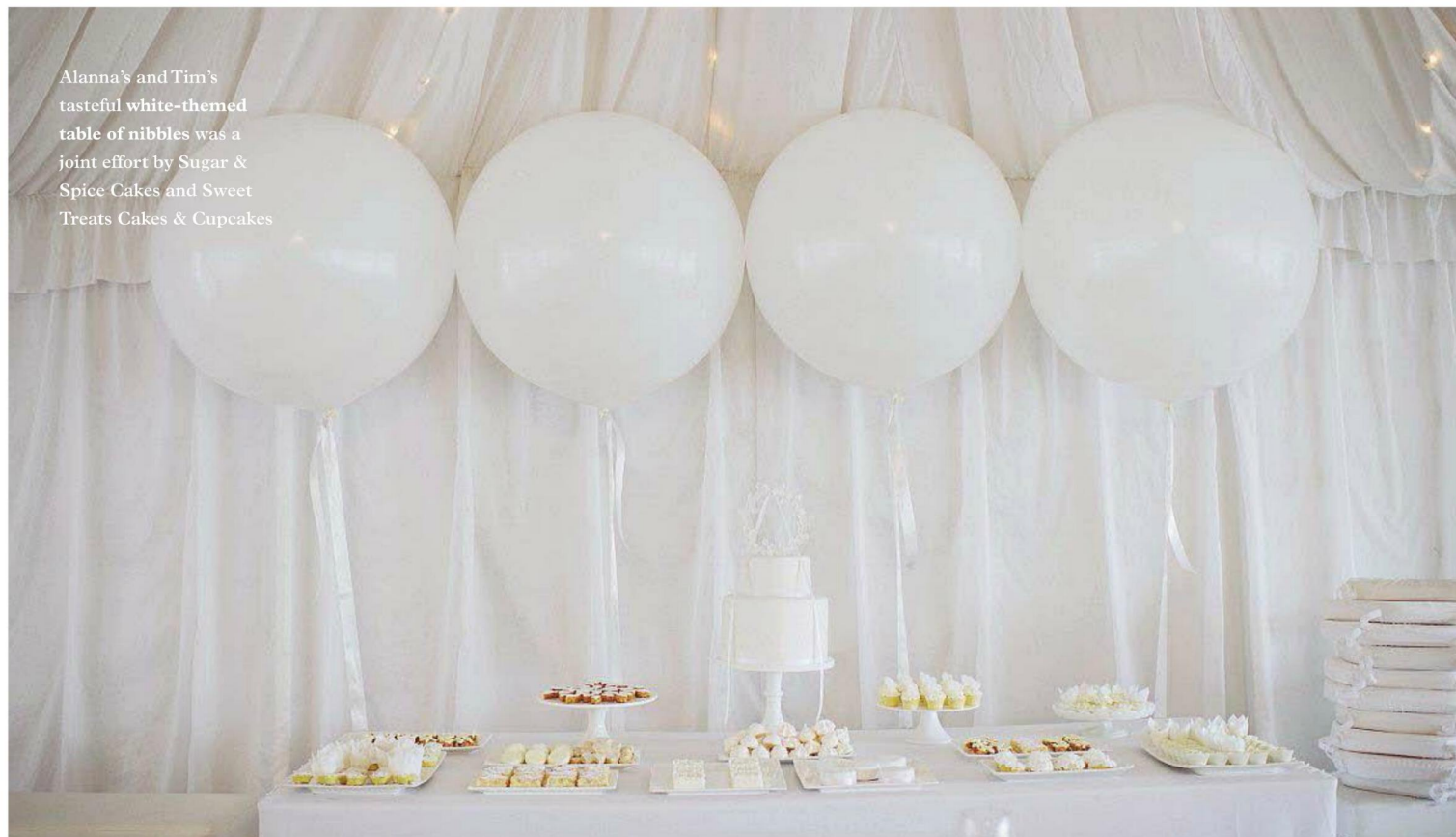
Oversized **Swiss dot chiffon** corsages are just peachy.
www.prestonandolivia.etsy.com



What do you do when you're a wedding stylist and you're about to get hitched? Call in the favours, that's what! Here's the gorgeous Alanna from White Room Events and her wedding full of heritage and antique-style touches. Get ready to go green with envy – a vintagey sage green, of course...

Photographs: CHRISTINE POBKE OF POBKE PHOTOGRAPHY

Alanna's and Tim's
tasteful white-themed
table of nibbles was a
joint effort by Sugar &
Spice Cakes and Sweet
Treats Cakes & Cupcakes





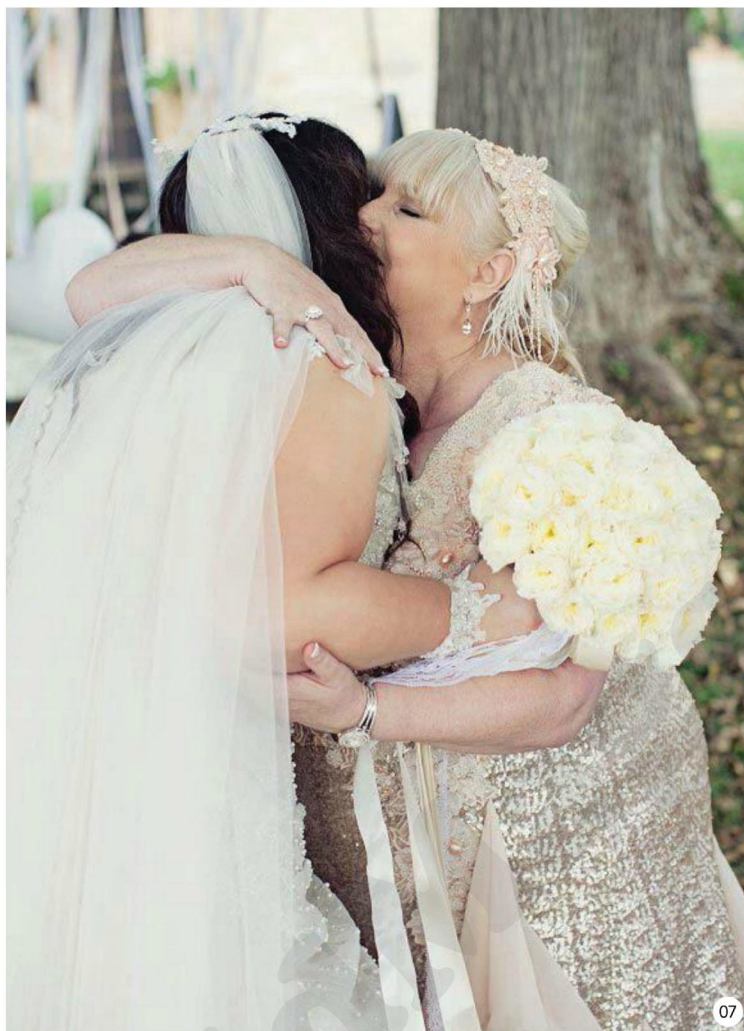
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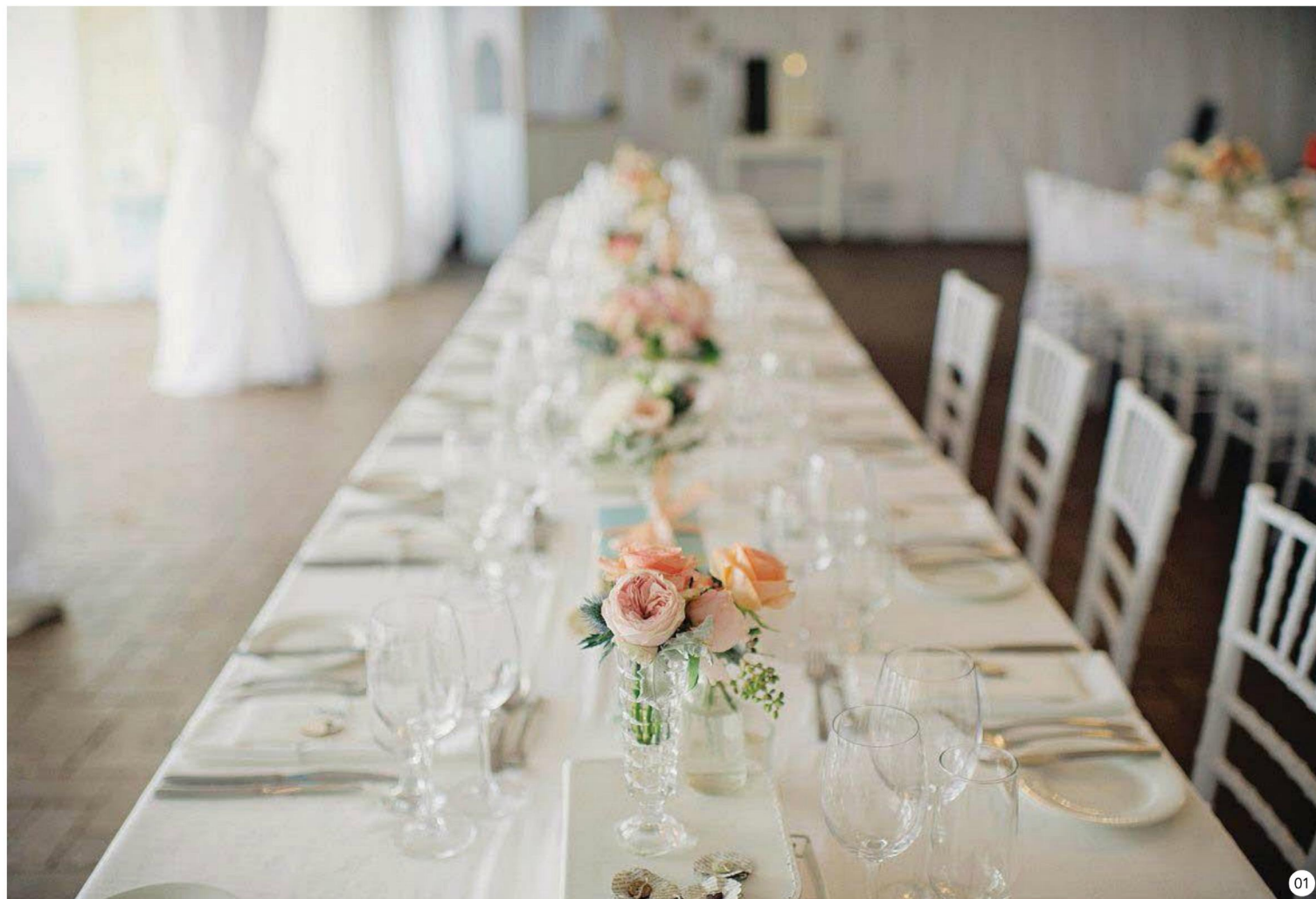
06

vintage

01 Stick to a **muted colour palette**. Dusky pinks, peaches and greens scream vintage 02 Keep his look **clean and simple** to compliment your finery 03 The only flowers for a vintage wedding are roses – **big, fat, luscious roses** in stunning antequy vases. These are by Lotus Flowers 04 You can't beat a **touch of doily** 05 Alanna's **wedding jewels** were timeless 06 **Frilly cakes** look too good to eat 07 Even the **well wishers** looked the part »

Go postal and have a **backdrop of envelopes** as a guestbook. Get your friends and family to write you personal postcards and pop each one into an envelope to read later





01



02



03



White Room Events

Alanna Lock is a stylist for White Room Events, a party and wedding co-ordinating company. See just what she's been up to lately, and be wowed by all the pretty pictures at the website, www.whiteroomevents.com.au

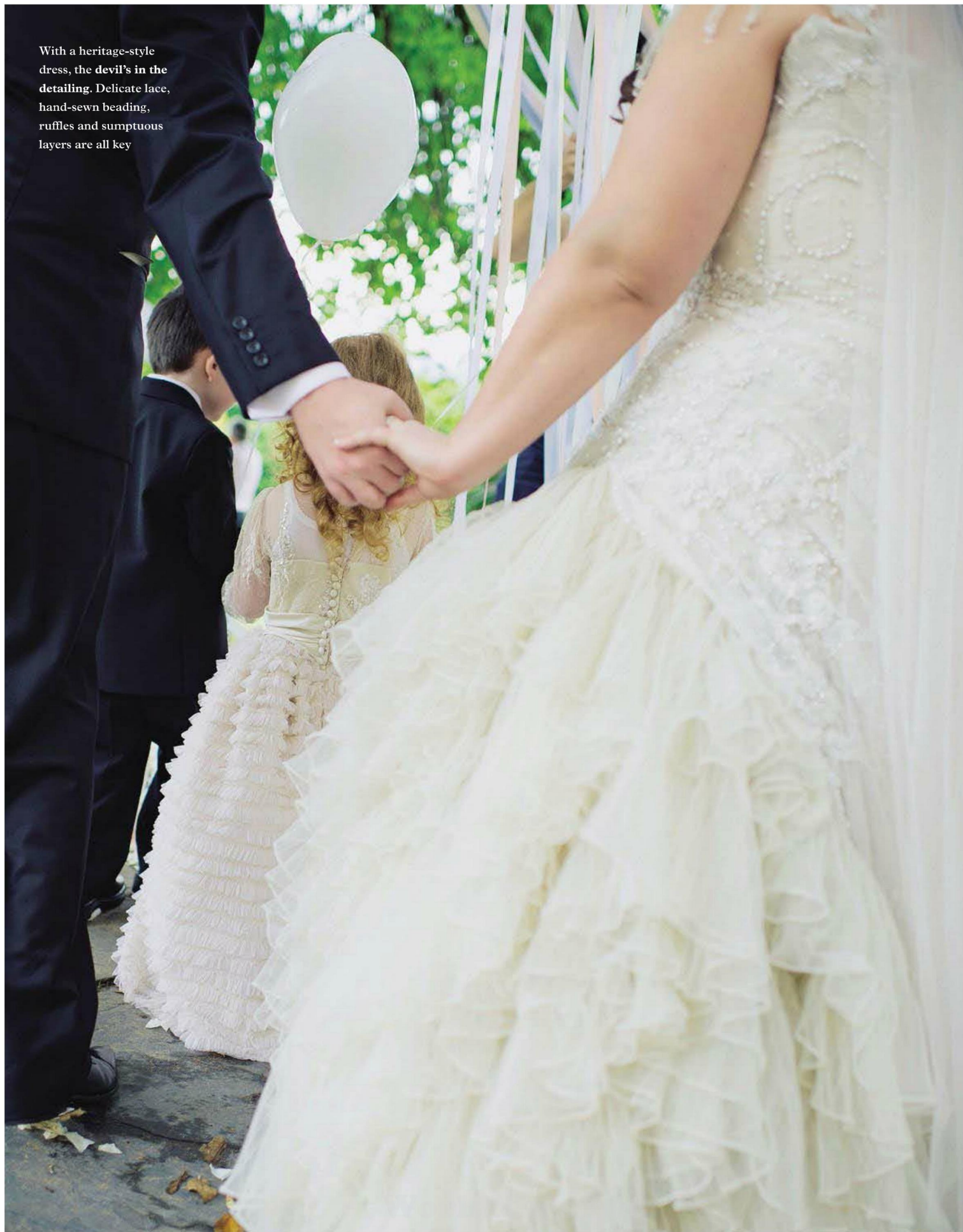


04

vintage

01 Keep your table decoration simple with a few antique vases and roses running down the middle 02 Collect **paraphernalia and other objet d'art** to dot around your venue 03 **What a novel idea.** Stack vintage books up to use as presentation stands 04 Spread the love with **heart-shaped biccies** »

With a heritage-style dress, the devil's in the detailing. Delicate lace, hand-sewn beading, ruffles and sumptuous layers are all key





01



02



03



04



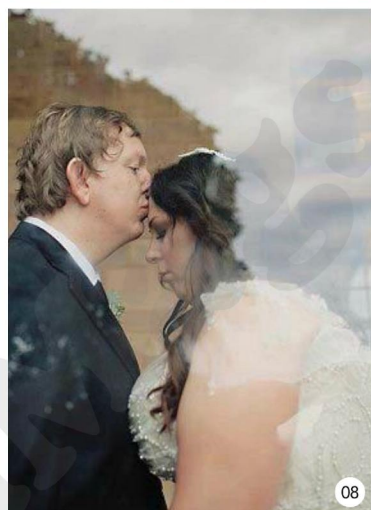
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06



07



08

vintage

01 Give your flower girl a **princess dress** of her own 02 Read and repeat: you'll never go wrong with a **single white flower** in a bottle 03 Find quirky ways to do **place names** 04 Alanna and Tim's marquee had 400 **tissue paper pompoms** and garlands 05 Leave a **typewriter** out for guests to compose a message 06 Give friends and family the **key to love** as favours 07 Do **something different** for the groom's button hole 08 It started with a kiss...

Go for eclectic texture
and mix in soft, wispy
feathers and beads – like
this one from Vintage
Bridal Bouquet.
www.vintagebridalbouquet.etsy.com

BROOCH BOUQUETS

*Want a totally unique day full of sumptuous
vintage style and family history? Then a
brooch bouquet ticks all the boxes*



01



02

Amanda Jane Heer started the brooch bouquet trend in 2009. Since then a stunning array of bling has bloomed on the net...
 01 & 02 Amanda Jane Heer's gorgeous designs. www.fantasyfloral.com and www.broochbouquets.com etsy.com



03

03 Show your love with a heart-shaped posy from Ritzy Rose. www.theritzyrose.com
 04 This bride added buttons for a crafty touch. www.ruffledblog.com/intimate-home-wedding



04



01



02



04



05

PHOTOGRAPH: STEPHANIE WILLIAMS

PHOTOGRAPH: STEPHANIE WILLIAMS



03



06

bridesmaids

If you're giving them a killer bouquet, keep the dress simple and sweet. These gems are guaranteed tantrum-free

- 01 Do your bit for the planet while you're at it with this gorgeous gingham offering from www.peopletree.co.uk
- 02 & 04 Floral fancies with a 50s twist at www.shopruche.com
- 03 Hipster-chic for the coolest maids ever. www.alexandragrecco.com
- 05 This midnight blue number turns heads (but won't detract from you, we promise). www.bhldn.com
- 06 Long is still lovely. Get a hippy beach vibe going with ground-skimming hemlines. www.lazyly.com.
- 07 Flower girls look the part in cute cotton. www.gillygray.etsy.com



07

PHOTOGRAPH: WWW.JULIEBURTONPHOTOGRAPHY.COM

Think pink for summer
weddings. Add pearls for
a bit of grown-up glam.
[www.autummand
gracebridal.etsy.com](http://www.autummand
gracebridal.etsy.com)



FABRIC FLOWER BOUQUETS

*Stitch to get hitched! Fabric bouquets are
perfect for material girls who want luscious
textures and that extra special touch...*

WorldMags.net



**Fabric posies for
sew-chic brides...**

01 Add brooches for
classic vintage-chic.
www.cultivar.etsy.com

02 Fabric as a petal
substitute – pollen won't
stain your dress! www.florabond.etsy.com

03 Your girls will
treasure theirs. www.freshsewn.etsy.com

04 Use muted colours
for a rustic, homespun
feel. www.innstyches.etsy.com

05 Give a pop of colour
to simple dresses. www.autumnandgracebridal.etsy.com





rustic

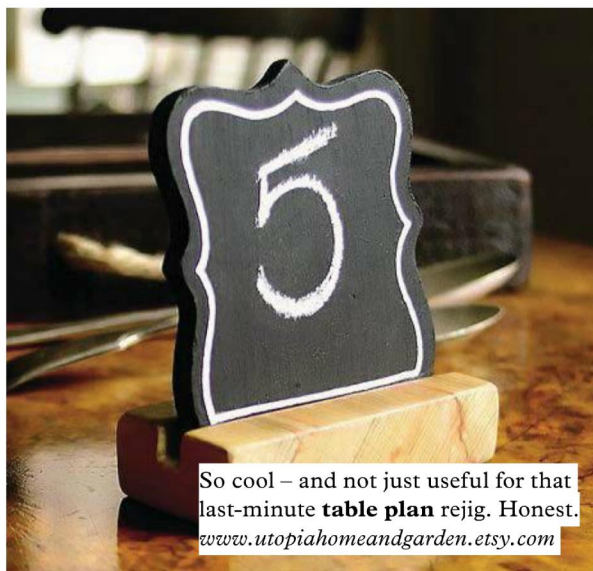
ETSY FINDS

***Mollie Makes* art editor, Helena Tracey, unleashes her inner nature goddess and chooses her favourite rustic-style Etsy sellers**

‘There’s nothing quite like a relaxing ramble in the country – so why not create that same atmosphere, and let your wedding guests unwind at your rustic-themed nuptials? Choose to wear wild flowers in your hair, like Serenity Crystal’s stunning head dress. Have woodland tones running throughout the day (use browns and greens on your invites and other stationery), then pick some lacy touches for an idyllic rural theme – I’m loving Which Goose’s Queen Anne bridal lace headpiece, and rustic ring bearer pillow. And for utter nature-lovers you can’t beat Beth Cyr Weddings’ Tree Bark Love Knot ring.’



Remember Flower Fairies? Get that **greenwood vibe** with hair garlands.
www.serenitycrystal.etsy.com

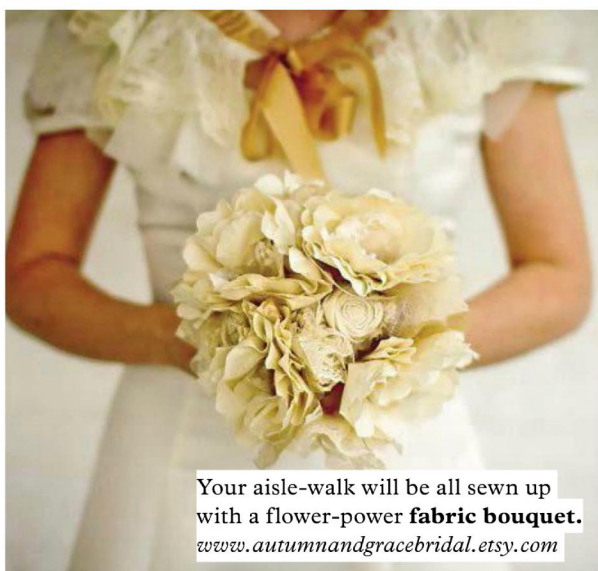


So cool – and not just useful for that last-minute **table plan** rejig. Honest.
www.utopiahomeandgarden.etsy.com



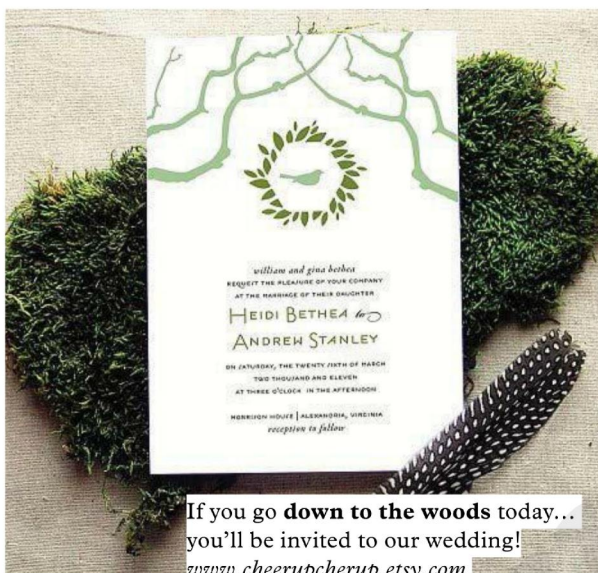
Love this utterly different wedding band. Truly a **diamond in the rough**.
www.bethcyrweddings.etsy.com

PHOTOGRAPH: AARON WILCOX PHOTOGRAPHY



Your aisle-walk will be all sewn up with a flower-power **fabric bouquet**.
www.autumnandgracebridal.etsy.com

Get your guests pining for **wedding noms** with this incredible cake stand.
www.postscripts.etsy.com



If you go **down to the woods** today... you'll be invited to our wedding!
www.cheerupcherup.etsy.com

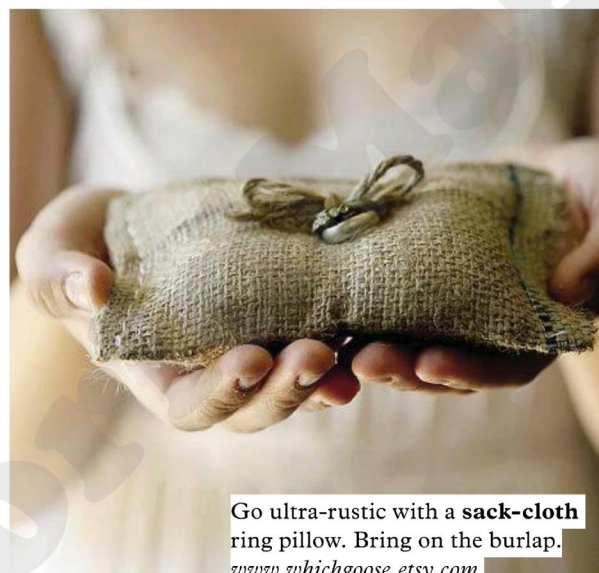


Hold the **best view** for VIPs – don't be tempted to ship your MiL off... yet.
www.woodandgrain.etsy.com

PHOTOGRAPH: MELISSA MCCROTTY



Be a **vintage lovebird** in a lace skull cap. Hunky groom, model's own.
www.whichgoose.etsy.com



Go ultra-rustic with a **sack-cloth** ring pillow. Bring on the burlap.
www.whichgoose.etsy.com

**FREE
SPIRITS**



Welcome to the enviously hip nuptials of
Bleubird blogger, Miss James, and her hubbie Aubrey. This
effortlessly stylish pair are parents to three super-cute kiddos, so
they wanted their day to focus on family and friends. Thrifting
most of it, and creating a relaxed home-spun atmosphere, this duo
are our new style king and queen...

Photographs: **BROOKE SCHWAB** Event styling: **ASHLEY MEADERS**

Forget the marquee, a **teepee** is the way to go for nature-loving couples. Create a cosy, intimate space, where you can all share your special day.





01



02



03



04



05



06

rustic

01 The stylish bride bought her entire outfit from **BHLDN**, with her bridesmaids dressed in vintage 02 Big blooms **tied together with ribbon** are perfect in their simplicity 03 For the chilly autumn evening, some **lush vintage booties** were a must 04 Keep it personal, and store your **wedding bands** in an old trinket box 05 Man's best friend creates a proper **family vibe** 06 Use **glitter instead of confetti** for a sparkling celebration... »

Want an actual wedding banquet? Use long tables to create the look. Most of James and Aubrey's table decor was thrifted – find mismatched glasswear for an eclectic vibe





Bleubird

The ultimate yummy mummy, James lives in Houston, Texas with her chic hubbie Aubrey and kids. She loves vintage and blogging – which is lucky as she's pretty good at it... www.bleubirdvintage.typepad.com
Find photographer Aubrey here: www.aubreymccoy.com



rustic

01 Go über-folksy and bring inside furniture outside. **Sit around the campfire**, chatting and jamming along on your acoustics into the night 02 & 04 **Roses popped into rustic tins or glass jars** are so simple but sooo effective 03 James thrifted a heap of blankets so her guests could **snuggle up by the fire** »

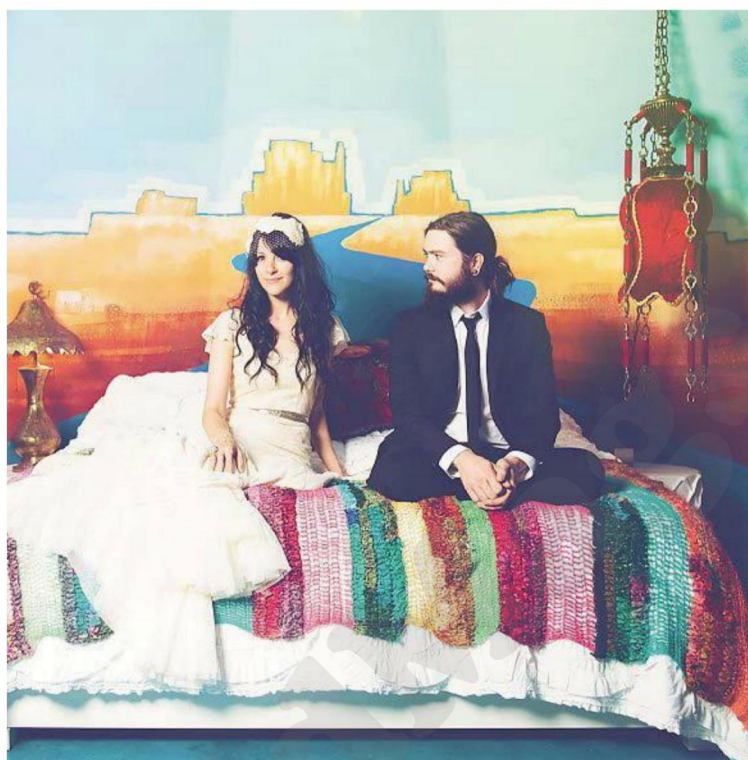
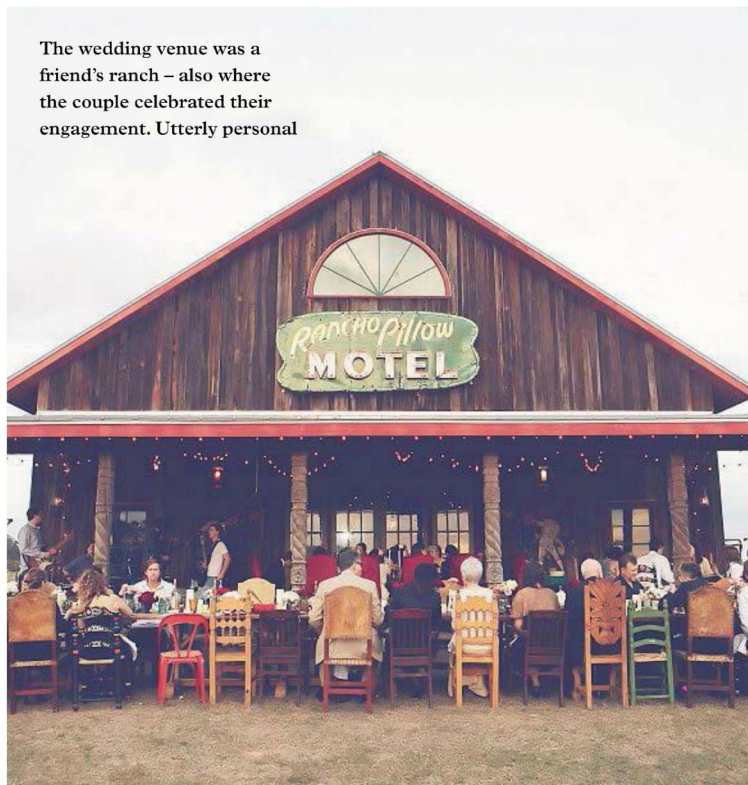
Black feathers dipped in gold paint and tied on lengths of string or twine, transform an inside space in to something dramatic and memorable



WorldMags.



The wedding venue was a friend's ranch – also where the couple celebrated their engagement. Utterly personal



Event design & invites: **Ashley Meaders**. Photographer: **Brooke Schwab**. Videographer: **Geoff Boothby** aka **Landshark**. Venue: a good friend's **private ranch and recording studio**. DJ & Music: **The Flashdance**. Band: **Poor Pilate**. Flowers: **The Byrd Collective**. Bride's gown, head piece, boots, and reception dress: **BHLDN**. Groom, groomsmen and ring bearer bow ties: **FORAGE**. Bridesmaids' dresses and head pieces: **vintage**. Bridesmaids boots: **Modcloth**. Flower girl dresses: **Tea Princess**. Bride and flower girl moccasins: **Minnetonka**. Frances the pug's collar: handmade by **Ashley Meaders**. Invite printing: **Baltimore Print Studios**. Hair: **Brandi Lisenbe** of **DoorDyeTX**. Makeup: **Ginny Lee**. Gourmet mobile wood-fired pizza oven: **Bola Pizza**. Family style dinner catering: **Royers**. Cakes: **DeCapo's Bakery**. Beer and booze: provided by **Lonestar Beer** and **Titos Vodka**. Vintage place setting rental: **Lindsey's Whimsys**. Homemade jam favours: **Sqirl**. Photobooth: **Smilebooth**.

• DIY •

fringe garland backdrop

This stunning garland has the wow factor. Plus, it's made from bedsheets – thriftilicious!

Photographs: **ARROW & APPLE**

Her blog may be called Delightfully Tacky, however Elizabeth's garlands are anything but. This **vintage-loving bride** went full-on DIY for her rustic wedding: she made invites and created folksy-style camera covers for the reception. But most impressively, she made this **wispy backdrop** with **vintage bedsheets**. Read on to see how... »



PHOTOGRAPH: ARROW & APPLE

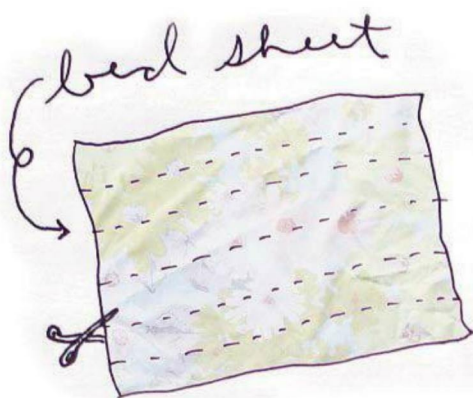
Thinner sheets actually work better than higher-quality materials – the light will shine through in a magic, ethereal way. Aaw.

PHOTOGRAPH: ARROW & APPLE

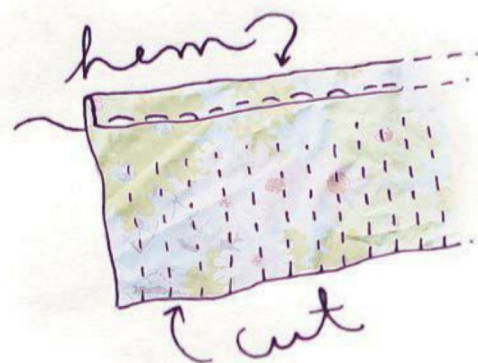
• DIY •

fringe garland backdrop

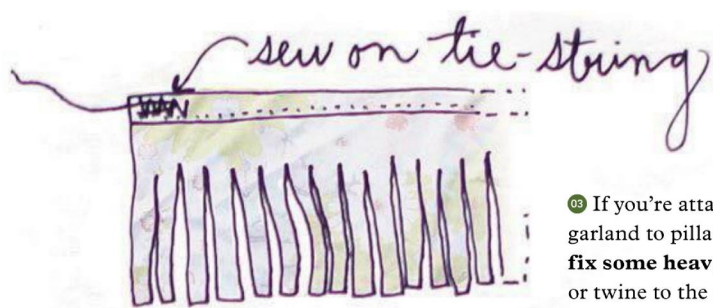
PHOTOGRAPHS: ARROW & APPLE



01 First off, **measure how wide your space is**. You'll want to **make your garland 30-45cms longer** than your space, so they have room to sag in the middle. Cut your bedsheet into **strips of about 20-30cms deep**.



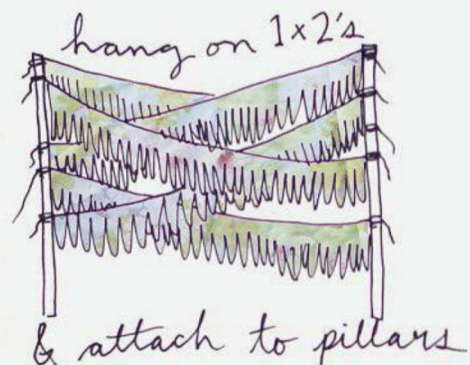
02 **Hem one of the long sides** to make the top of the garland. Hemming stops it fraying, and gives it some strength. Now take some scissors and **start chopping your fringes about 2.5cms wide**, along the bottom edge. This will take a while – do it in front of the telly!



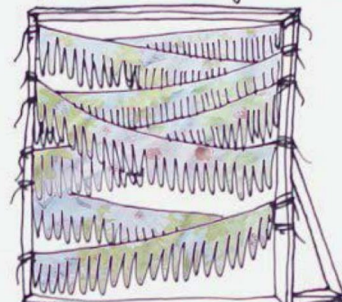
03 If you're attaching your garland to pillars or a frame, **fix some heavy-duty string** or twine to the ends, et voila! If you're **pinning it** on to the wall, then you're done!



This project is taken from **Wedding Bliss**, a gorgeous online magazine from the talented people at Ruche. Check out their new **Bridal section** and **To Have and to Hold**, a lookbook of wedded beauty at www.shopruche.com. You can find Elizabeth's blog at www.delightfully-tacky.com.



make a frame



for free standing backdrop



attach directly to wall!



He'll be wedding-ready
with this ultra-quirky
Barnabas bow tie by
Dreadnought Designs.
[www.dreadnought
designs.etsy.com](http://www.dreadnought
designs.etsy.com)



PERFECTLY GROOMED

*Get your man all set to tie the knot –
geddit? With these great ideas he'll
turn himself into a proper dapper fella!*

WorldMags.net



Go dotty over him all over again in this **pre-tied number** by Bowtiecompany. www.bowtiecompany.etsy.com



He'll be **bang on trend** in this orange offering by Tie Obsessed. Great for chic cocktail receptions. www.tieobsessed.etsy.com



KnotNowBowTies' traditional self-tied **gingham dickie bow** is perfect for picnic themes! www.knotnowbowties.etsy.com



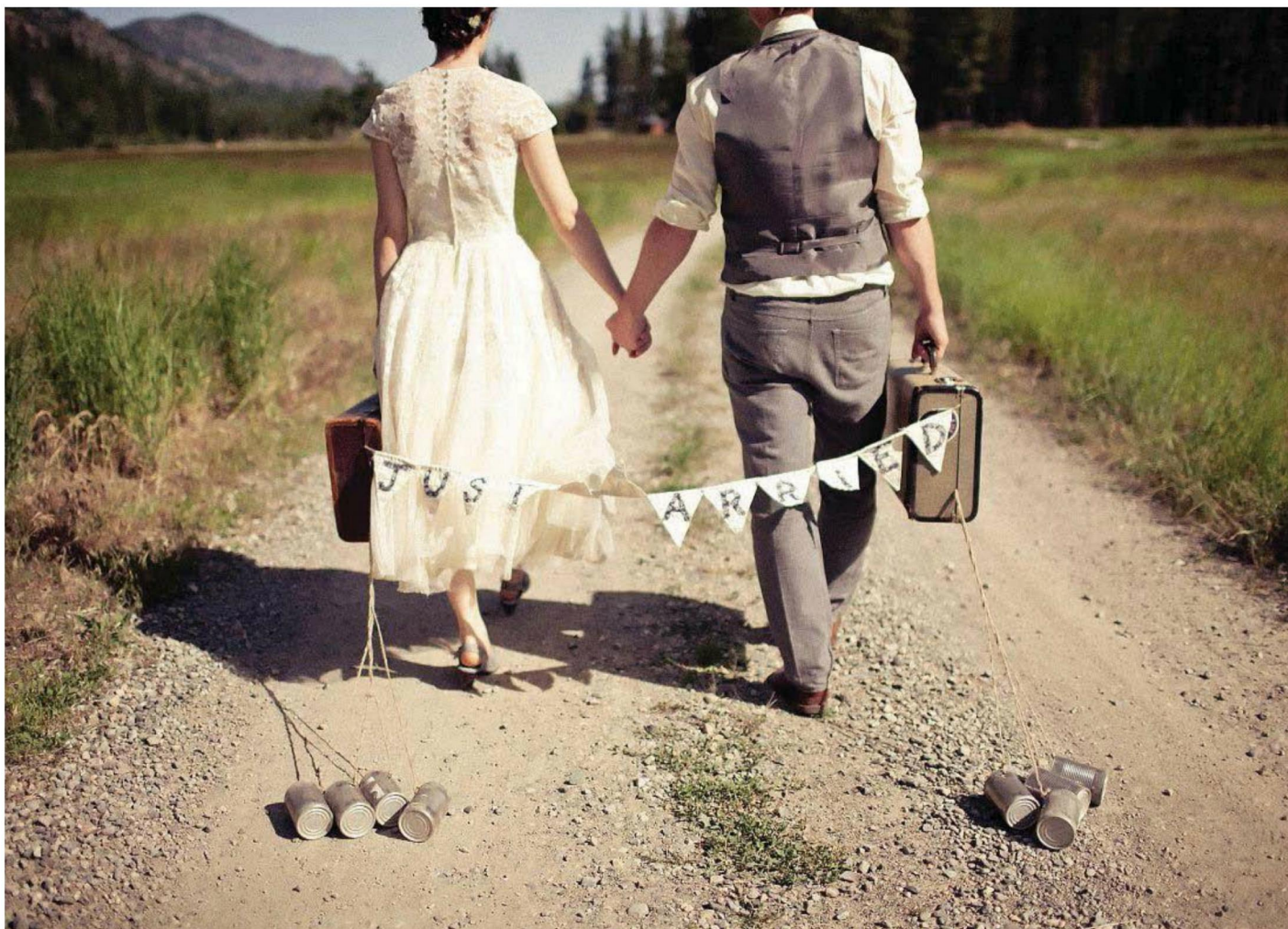
Tweedy gents should wear a **brown herringbone** self-tied wonder, like this one from Monty's. www.montysgoods.com



He'll look the bees knees at a **garden party bash** in this floral Bell and Belle bow tie from Hello In There. www.hellointhere.co.uk



A multicoloured neck tie screams '**Let's celebrate!**' for sure! Try this Plum Dots one from Forage. www.forage.bigcartel.com



PHOTOGRAPH: JAGGER PHOTOGRAPHY

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funky retro
ETSY FINDS

In homage to the bright and colourful designs of the 1970s, 60s and 70s – *Mollie* Maher editor Jane Tolt picks her favourite crop of funky retro Erykku!

"Nothing says 'celebration' more than the happy ones we need. The colors and quirkiness are real party starters, and mood lifters—perfect for a relaxed wedding reception, especially once with plenty of children (and those littlest ones—how fun, I'm totally looking at you!) Your guests will have a crazy time to the photo-booth with The Music Man's colorful photo booth props. You'll have the most unique souvenir ever with this quirky storage ringed storage tin. Make sure your best guys have all their man-hive items to hand—including yours!—with Otiswell Lady Designer's Simply Spout Kaitlyn's clutch bag."



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vintage
ETSY FINDS

Downton Abbey, tea dances and pin curls, we're losing all things yesteryear. Mollie Mahes Deputy Editor, Lora Wilson, chooses her favorite Etsy sellers.

It's a voucher for made-to-order, layers of lace and that good look for my jewelry. There's something domestic and *unfussy* about a well-styled storage wedding. Add into a box of easy room decor and you've got the perfect rest for an unforgettable occasion. *Myla Cadden's* headbands, coils and accessories at *Tiny Shop*, *Twig & Honey* are good examples of this simple yet-stunning look. Not one *Spartan's* storage glass and vintage jewelry is another favorite — that coppery jade green is just a winner! And remember, it's all about your space — try antique pieces and lace beading.



11452489 (17) Abstracts, 1994-2000

Easy



rustic
ETSY FINDS

Hollie Mahee Art editor, Helena Treacy, unleashes her inner nature goddess and chooses her favourite rustic-style Etsy sellers

There's nothing quite like a relaxing weekend in the country—so why not create that same atmosphere, and let your visiting guests unwind in your rustic-themed tapatio? Soak up your wild flowers in your hair, the Queen's Crystal's stunning head dress. How wonderful is rain running throughout the day (as it should) and guests on your terrace and other outdoor spaces, then pick some busy touches for a rustic rural theme—The Living/Which Queen's Queen Anne Inland has landscape, and rustic rain, heavy pillow. And the user name: David Rich City Wedding! The Right Low Ring ring is a real diamond in the rough.



JAHNKESEN ON ALLEGEDLY CORRUPT

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