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HOMEOWNER'S UPDATE

Prevent Pets from Damaging Your Furniture

We all love our pets, but none of us loves destroyed furniture. According to *Forbes.com*, 17% of all household furniture claims are caused by pets. Try these tips to keep your home polished and damage free.

To prevent your puppy from gnawing on chairs or table legs, add two parts apple cider vinegar and one part white vinegar to a spray bottle, shake well and spritz anywhere your dog likes to chew. The bitter taste will discourage the habit. Be sure to provide plenty of chew toys to keep your dog occupied.

Cats don't care for sticky surfaces, so try placing double-sided tape on your furniture until your cat learns to stay off. Adding a variety of scratching posts to her favorite parts of the house can also help prevent unwanted claw marks.

Keeping your pet's nails trimmed can also help limit damage. To remove fur, try putting on a pair of damp rubber gloves and running them across your upholstery. Keep your home smelling fresh by placing dryer sheets or scented candles near where your furry companion lounges. If your pet continues to be destructive, talk with your vet as it may be a sign of a health problem.

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Trending Paint Colors for 2020

Each year, various paint companies release their official "color of the year," following the trend started by Pantone 20 years ago. Here are a few of the notable colors for 2020, plus ways to incorporate them into your home.

Sherwin-Williams: Naval

For the start of a new decade, Sherwin-Williams selected a deep, calming navy blue as its flagship color. According to Sue Wadden, director of color marketing at Sherwin-Williams, Naval (SW 6244) is a grounding color that inspires relaxation and self-care.

"Naval is reminiscent of the night sky, which people have looked to for centuries for guidance, as a muse and as a reminder to live more mindfully," she says.

A versatile hue, Naval can work as a neutral for multiple design styles. Pair it with warm leather tones, natural fibers, brass accents, and fresh greenery.

Benjamin Moore: First Light

A soft, rosy shade is front-and-center for Benjamin Moore's 2020 color palette. "We selected First Light (2102-70) as our Color of the Year 2020 to represent a new dawn of idealism, design and living," says Andrea Magno, director of color marketing and development for Benjamin Moore.

Try using First Light as a neutral base, then incorporate shades of deep brown, cream and taupe. Bamboo furniture and black metals provide striking accents when paired with this delicate color.

Behr: Back To Nature

A peaceful, meadow-inspired shade of green is Behr's color choice for the new year. Back To Nature (S340-4) aims to bring the tranquil feeling of the outdoors to indoor spaces – providing a "soft landing at home."

"As we look ahead to a new decade, Back To Nature encourages us to reengage with the natural world, which we know can have a real, positive impact on our well-being," says Erika Woelfel, vice president of color and creative services at Behr.

Incorporate this yellow-green shade into your space along with other earthy hues, wood accents, black hardware, and natural fibers.

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3 Tips for Buying a Second Home

The promising change of scenery and the chance to create new family memories makes buying a second home an exciting investment. Before making an offer, consider these tips.

1. **Get a feel for everyday life.** Spend plenty of time in the area where you're hoping to buy – ideally during peak- and off-season – to make sure it's what you expected.
2. **Research HOA rules.** If you're hoping to rent out your second home when you're not using it, make sure you understand the homeowners association rules in your preferred neighborhood. Some HOAs ban renters or require potential tenants to be screened.
3. **Work with a local expert.** Call any time for a referral to a Realtor® in your dream location.

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Try These Creative Photo Displays

If your walls are in need of a refresh, hanging recent family photos or your favorite travel shots can liven things up. Consider these ideas from *ArtifactUprising.com* and get to work displaying your best photos.

Grown-up gallery

Rather than displaying a conglomeration of frames, choose one color in multiple sizes and hang your photos close together. The result is a classy, cohesive gallery wall.

Side-by-side

If you want to make a statement on a spacious wall, try hanging two large frames side by side. Using two of the same frame as well as coordinating photos or prints can make a big impact. According to Artifact Uprising's website, "Two unique photos from the same event, day or even the same color palette will add thoughtful curation to your wall."

Simply charming

For a whimsical look that's easy to update with your latest prints, hang fairy string lights under your mantel or between two coat hooks or nails. Use clothespins to attach your favorite photos.

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Spinach Artichoke Skillet Bread

Ingredients

- 15 frozen dinner rolls
- 3 Tbsp. butter, melted
- 1 (9 oz.) pkg. frozen spinach, thawed, drained and chopped
- 1 (14 oz.) can artichoke hearts, drained and chopped

½ cup sour cream
¼ cup mayonnaise
1 (8 oz.) pkg. cream cheese, room temperature
1 cup shredded Mozzarella cheese
¼ cup grated Parmesan cheese
½ tsp. salt
½ tsp. pepper

Directions

Place a bowl (about 5 inches in diameter) upside down in the center of a large oven-safe skillet. Spray skillet and bowl with cooking spray. Arrange rolls around bowl. Brush rolls with butter, cover with plastic wrap and let rise until double in size, about 30-60 minutes.

When rolls have risen, preheat oven to 350 F°. In another skillet, add remaining ingredients and cook on medium heat until cheeses are melted.

Remove bowl from skillet with rolls and pour spinach dip into center. Sprinkle with additional Parmesan and Mozzarella cheese, if desired. Bake for 20-25 minutes until rolls are golden brown.



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