



Wallpaper from Casart Coverings and Mary Douglas Drysdale can be installed, removed and reused time and again.

Home Front

Chic, and moveable, wallpaper collection

Casart Coverings has partnered with Mary Douglas Drysdale, a nationally published interior designer, to create a line of removable, repositionable, reusable wall-coverings in her favorite hues.

The Mary Douglas Drysdale Signature Color Collection offers 10 original colors in each of Casart's Colorwash and Faux Linen finishes, on an adhesive-backed vinyl canvas that can be installed, removed and reused time and again. The colors were chosen by Drysdale to reflect colors she has commonly used in her own projects and include: Jefferson Yellow, Tuscany, Oushak Orange, Lipstick Plus, Early Spring, Federal Green, French Blue, Innocence, Whispers of Iris and Folly Gray.

The collection is available in three standard lengths, all 52 inches in width: 8½, 11⅓ or 24⅔ feet, or in custom sizes. Colorwash finish is \$12 per square foot; faux linen finish is \$15 per square foot. For more information visit www.casartcoverings.com or call (888) 960-5554.

Worst kitchen? Win with it

Think you've got the worst kitchen in America? DIY Network and Food Network Magazine are teaming up for the second year to uncover kitchens in desperate need of a redo. Food lovers can upload an image or video to DIYNetwork.com and explain why their kitchen is cramping their style. The homeowner selected as having the "Worst Kitchen in America" will receive a full kitchen makeover courtesy of DIY Network and Food Network magazine.

The deadline is Aug. 8. Hosted by licensed contractor Matt Blshaw, the entire makeover will be documented in a one-hour DIY Network special, "Worst Kitchen in America," premiering in January, and featured in the January/February 2012 issue of Food Network magazine.

In addition, the winner will receive a trip for two to attend the New York City Wine & Food Festival, including a meet-and-greet with Food Network host and chef Anne Burrell.

Additional cable channel designations may be found by checking local listings and www.DIYNetwork.com/tv.

Make your DIY project pay

Have an outrageous, shocking or just plain overdue home improvement project on hand and need a little extra cash or help getting it done? True Value is rolling out its Facebook "DIY True Stories" contest, in which ambitious DIYers are being asked to tell all for a chance to win \$2,500 to complete their project, receive expert advice to help them get the job done



THE TILE'S PERSONALITIES

Design Center stores say it's looking like leather, stone, even wood and water now



TOP, FROM LEFT: Tile from the Clodagh Core Collection at Ann Sacks Tile & Stone is priced from \$29.88 to \$65.88 per square foot. ■ Textured tile from Walker Zanger creates a focal point on this wall. ■ Glass tile creates spa-like warmth. **ABOVE:** Tile from the Tuileries Collection by Walker Zanger range from \$12.75 to \$23 per square foot.

By Lisa Mishler
Daily News Contributor

Consider your home a blank canvas to create a work of art that expresses you. Tile is one of the most versatile ways to do it. It can be practical or passionate, create a mood or be a focal point.

Textured tile is a hot new tool if you are looking to add dimension and interest. Patterns appear as if they are in motion, creating the illusion of flowing fabric or the slickness of stone and rock. At the Walker Zanger store in Miromar Design Center, shoppers are greeted by a tapestry of tile textures patterned on raw materials, including leather, wood and glass, as well as porcelain and ceramic.

Jared Becker, Walker Zanger creative director, recommends mixing several elements for greater impact.

"A lot of bathrooms are basically boxes with one window. Combining textures is used widely in fashion. Playing smooth and rougher textures off each other adds visual interest to a space and creates a subtle 'wow' factor that makes a bathroom stand out," Becker says.

His choice: the company's new French-inspired Tuileries collection, a textured, updated look on the classic motif.

Its particular feature, he said is its hand-polishing, "allowing the glaze to pool reflecting light in a way that machine finishing can't."

Gold Coast Tile & Marble, another De-

sign Center company, specializes in setting semi-precious stone into custom tile sizes and shapes. Natural stone can be textured in a variety of finishes, explains owner Brian Smith. Those includes a leather finish, for which the stone is carved to look and feel like leather; a flamed finish and using a wire brush on the stone to create dimension; and sandblasting, which results in a lightly sanded feel.

"You can do walls, floors, backsplashes or countertops," Smith says. "When you are selecting your hard surfaces, keep in mind that these are more lasting pieces of décor. Texture will leave a lasting

impression."

DeeDee Gundberg creates new tile lines for Ann Sacks Tile & Stone at the Design Center, including the new Clodagh Core line of ceramic-textured tiles. This line uses the look of natural wood for its beauty and surface.

"It can be subtle, or dramatic depending on your style," Gundberg observes. "The multi-dimensional surface of these textured tiles forces the glaze to break over high and low areas, creating a beautiful surface that is visually appealing."

Textured tile is even showing up on living room walls, replacing traditional wallpaper and paneling, on lanais and of course in bathrooms and kitchens. Designers are using walls of textured tile in almost any room of the house to add a distinctive backdrop for furnishings, plants or even a freestanding fireplace. In a bath, it can create warmth and a spa-like appeal.

Tile is ultimately designed to serve the practical purpose of creating a surface that is fireproof, durable, soil- and water-resistant and easy to maintain, but why not add an "exciting" to that list?

Lisa Mishler is a marketing writer for Miromar Design Center, off Interstate 75 at exit 123 in Estero.

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GET OUT AND PLAN YOUR DAY

TODAY: Taste more than 20 beers while listening to live music from 6 to 8 p.m. at Whole Foods Market, 9101 Strada Place, Naples. It's all free, and Joe Pais, the store's beverage specialist, will answer any questions about the tastings.



SATURDAY: You can be part of the watermelon seed spitting, speed eating and best watermelon recipe competitions for \$10 for adults or \$5 for children. Or just be in the audience and cheer on your favorite for free from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at Fleamaster Fleamarket, 4135 Dr. Martin Luther King Blvd., Fort Myers. Information: (239) 334-7001

