

The signs of home sweet home

We've always known signs were beautiful—now they're beautifying our homes

By Donna Williams

Typography has found a new home it seems. And I'm not talking about new places to hang street signs. Ohhh no! This is all about the home you go to at the end of your day.

The hottest trend in home decor these days is typography. It doesn't much matter if it's letters, numbers or logos—the very thing that has brought immense joy to sign makers has finally reached a point where it's appreciated as art by the non-sign maker!

What does this mean for someone in the industry? If you like cool signs, you can have an equally cool home yourself or provide your

customers with one by getting creative with unique sign placement right where one lays their head at night. •§•

You can see Donna's approach to making a faux-vintage sign at www.signcraft.com/articles.



While this sign may not be selling anything, it doesn't fall short on providing a necessary duty. And that would be holding all those sign checks of course!



Old barn window frames were the perfect candidates for enhancing these CNC routed samples from a Dan Sawatzky workshop [www.imaginationcorporation.com]. Rich tone-on-tone hues have you focused on the texture, rather than the color. I call this look "Modern Vintage."



Donna Williams shop, Graphic Impact, and her home décor studio, Funky Junk Interiors, are in Chilliwack, B.C., Canada. You'll find her on Facebook at Funky Junk Interiors, and on her DIY home decor blog at <http://funkyjunkinteriors.blogspot.com>.



A little outdoor table was stenciled, wearing the illusion that the top was created out of an old cut down sign board. The off-center graphics added an offbeat, imperfectly perfect, appeal. Special meaning was also implemented in the graphics as a gentle reminder of fond memories from the past.



Vintage license plates also get in on the fun. Being a collector of all things rusty and sign like, marrying the two ideas together becomes a decorator's dream come true!



I'm always on the lookout for a great find. The kind owner of this market was ecstatic that I showed an interest in a long-forgotten sign that had been sitting in his storage area for many years. It landed at home as a unique headboard!



Having a sign like this in the kitchen will indeed remind one to pick up that milk! The best visual treat here is the three layers of paint, creating quite an authentic vintage-like finish.



I'll always be grateful the carpet man didn't show up. Resorting to plan B, plotter made decals were used as paint stencils, creating the illusion that the stairs were made from old crates. Simple acrylic craft paint was applied directly to the original wood, then distressed, stained and sealed. Eclectic risers of all kinds were used to further highlight the rustic elements. It took the cats eight months to figure out they didn't have to walk around each graphic on their way up or down.