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decorating

fun ways to make your home
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DIY
paper box
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does Christmas

Every December, this Phoenix, AZ, home overflows with crafty holiday decorating. Borrow some ideas!

DIY
garland
trees



mantel
"I grew up in Phoenix with a fireplace, so I really wanted one in this house, even though they're rare around here," says Sarah. "Hanging stockings on the piano just didn't feel the same." So during the home's 2015 reno, she got an electric fireplace from Lowe's, then had her contractor build and tile a surround with 8-inch-by-8-inch cement tiles from Granada Tile, which are used throughout the house. Pink-and-red-striped stockings hang from a thick slab of barnwood, and Sarah filled the wall space above with felt-ball garlands hung in tree shapes from adhesive hooks.

dining corner

Before the reno, the couple took a tour of a home in Phoenix that was filled with colorful tile. "After that, Ryan was totally on board," says Sarah. "He even picked out this pattern." With help from their contractor, they built the L-shaped storage bench, which is where Sarah stashes all her wrapping paper. She sewed nearly all the pillows—using a napkin set from Target as fabric for most of them—and at Christmastime she adds a few store-bought holiday-themed ones. The paper cone trees on the table were Hudson's favorite craft this year.

DIY

paper cone trees





This wreath is made with real gingerbread cookies hot-glued to a wreath form.

kitchen

Because the patterned tile rules this space, the Hubbells kept everything else pretty simple: white cabinets with black bin-style pulls from IKEA, open shelving made from 2-inch-thick slabs of barnwood, and powder-coated cherry red stools from overstock.com. A custom island was beyond their budget, so Sarah found a dresser that already had casters on its legs at an antiques store in Phoenix, and attached a piece of IKEA butcher block to the top.

“We thought about doing white subway tile, but we really wanted to take a risk. The result is so much more us.”

—Sarah