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live well how to



3 cheap ways to punch up a room

1 Update your kitchen backsplash without retiling. "Give it a good wipe, prime it, then paint over the tiles and grout for a fresh look," says Debbie Travis, host of Fine Living Network's *From the Ground Up*. Use a high-adhesive primer and water-based paint. Once dry, apply two coats of varnish to seal and protect.

2 Want impact in the bedroom? "Drape the wall behind your bed with fabric," suggests Kim Myles, designer and host of HGTV's *Myles of Style*. "Attach a rod to the top of the wall and hang inexpensive curtain panels or fabric in a pattern and color you love."

3 Turn a boring bookcase into a decorative focal point. "Organize books by color and size, then break up the line with pops of color from vases and framed prints," says Gia Russo, cofounder of MiGi, a design and lifestyle company in Los Angeles. For more wow, paint inside the bookcase with an accent color pulled from pillows or curtains. *Laura Eckstein*

