

LIVING *Sims*

The Sims magazine for more style

Home Makeover: The Barn Edition
The Corner Ice Cream Cafe
LivingSims Challenges
Avoiding the Weeds

Interview:
PaisleyAvenue
simSbiotic

Challenge Feature:
10 x 10
Mirror Art

Finds:
Must Haves
Something Amazing
Hot & New

3 Colours · Designer Tips · Gourmet

Staff Spotlight: Jan

Q: Why do you play the sims and what's your favourite part of the game?

A: Ever since I started playing The Sims, I always focused more on building and decorating homes for my Sims. This game basically introduced me to architecture, and I guess I could say it's part of the reason that I'm studying it right now.

Bio:

Staff role: Webmaster & forum admin

Country: Slovakia

Age: 21

Dayjob: Architecture student

Playing: Sims 3 & 4

Q: Where do you go for inspiration for a build?

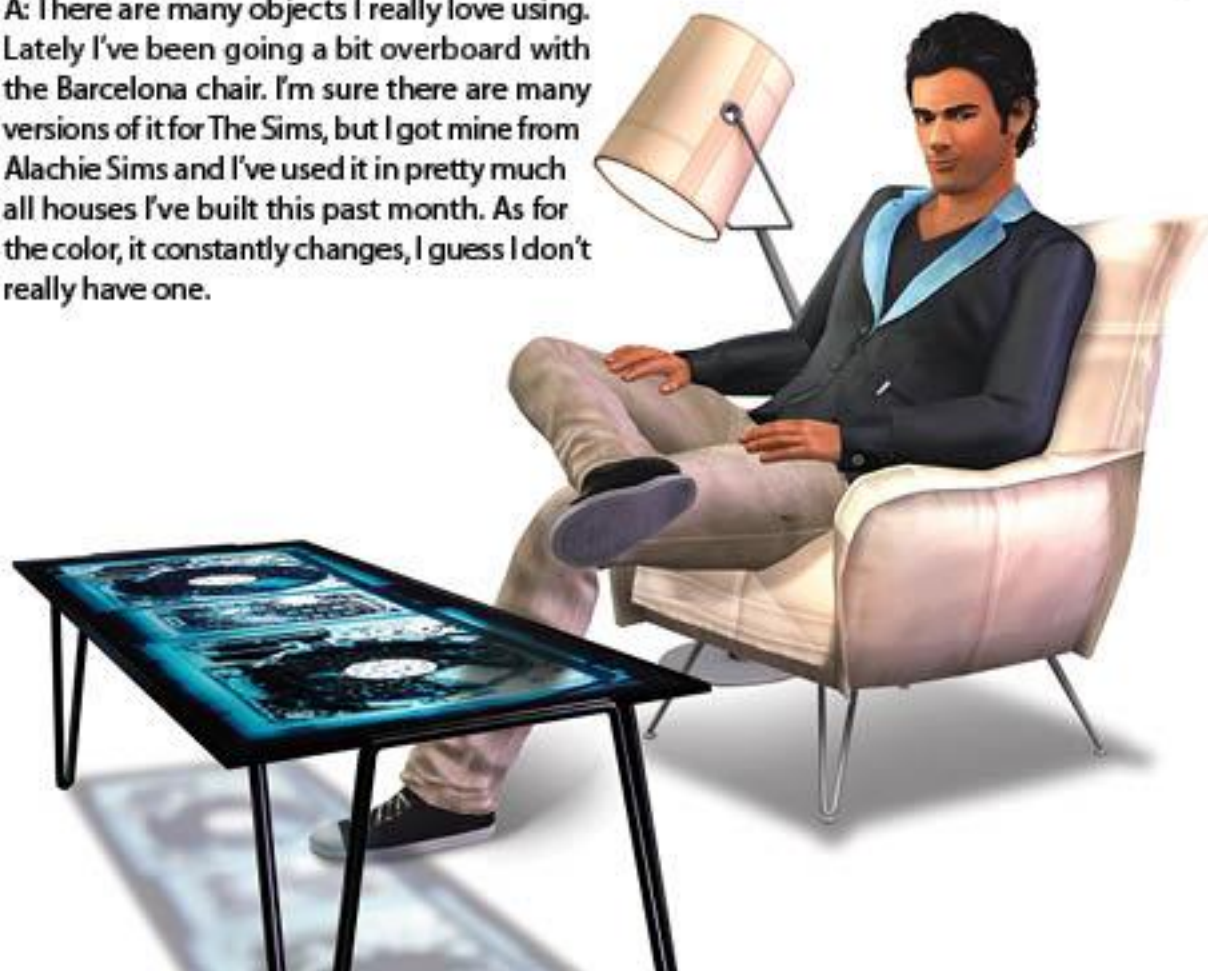
A: I really like seeing what other people create in the game, so I mostly look for inspiration photos on our forums or tumblr.

Q: Is there a color or an object that you find yourself using way too much?

A: There are many objects I really love using. Lately I've been going a bit overboard with the Barcelona chair. I'm sure there are many versions of it for The Sims, but I got mine from Alachie Sims and I've used it in pretty much all houses I've built this past month. As for the color, it constantly changes, I guess I don't really have one.

Q: If you were to build your self a house in real life, what style would you go for, and why?

A: I've thought about this, and it changes a lot. I guess I would go for something simple and minimal, but with a lot of natural materials, like wood. I think it makes the home look much more comfortable, warm and inviting.



JODELIEJODELIE



jodeliejodelie.tumblr.com

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Chief Editor: **macthekat**

Assistant Chief Editor: **kitkat**

Staff: **Allears**, **bsimth**, **KatCat**, **kiare**, **ajOya**,
NuclearWaffles and **Plama_chan** & **LadySpider**

NB

all finds have a direct link to the website
where you can download the object



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Do you have what it takes?

Are you about ready to burst with creative energy and need an outlet?

Living Sims Magazine needs creative writers and we would love to see your application.

Please apply at [LivingSims Forum](#)



MUST↓HAVES

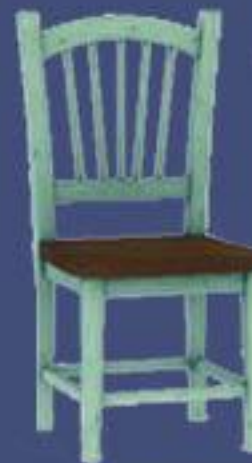
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Nature In
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MUST HAVES



Wood Pallet Set
by Daer0n

Phosphor
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Black White Dining
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us Playroom
Wondymoon



IKEA Hemnes Hallway
by NataTanec

Santa Clara Kitchen
by Saudade Sims



MUST HAVES

4

Little Fish Clutter
by LittleCakes



Minerva Bedroom
by Bildlichgesehen



Morita Kids Bedroom
by jomsims



Fall Set
by Daer0n





simSbiotic



KACICKA777.TUMBLR.COM

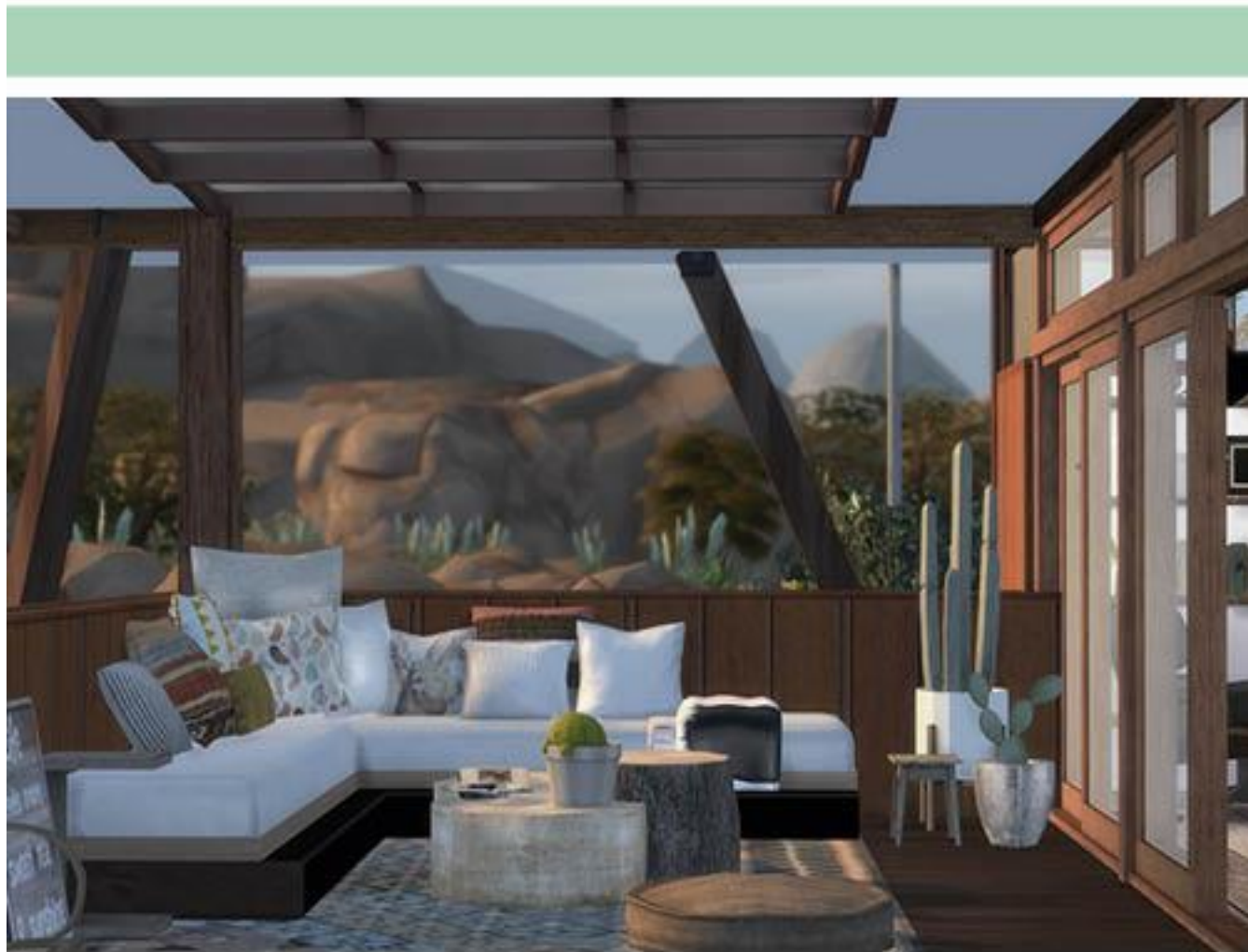
DESIGNER TIPS

Article by: Plama_chan

Photographs by: Allears, bschh, Elle, gooseberry, justme-chelle,
meganfranc, WhiteDot, Plama_chan & SweetCaffeine,

Here in the Northern Hemisphere fall is in full swing, but in much of Sims land it is always summer, so in this issue we have visited a lot of our associate designers to see what they are doing with outdoor spaces.





Allears

Having a nice view from your balcony is always a plus, especially among the city jungle. A way to enjoy it even more is to adapt the space for multiple purposes. Put a nice couch, maybe a few comfy cushions, and voila! You have a reading or knitting nook like no other. Just do not forget to use weather proof materials.

meganfranc

One of the more recent trends when it comes to the designing of outdoor spaces like decks and verandas is to "bring the inside out". Creating an outdoor living area can be both fun and interesting, not to mention the endless possibilities to experiment with different styles. Plus, when having guests over, some extra space can always come in handy.



bschh

Nowadays the look of red bricks is almost classic, but when used as a primary exterior pattern it can come across as a bit outdated. Then again, when you combine it with some modern colors like white and black it might turn out to be exactly what you need to tidy up the loose ends and give your backyard a one-of-a-kind look. Why choose between modern and classic when you can have both?

Ellle

No backyard is complete without some greenery. The choice of the right plants, however, can be challenging for every gardening enthusiast. A very easy solution in this case is to go with a combination of planters with plants in full bloom. This way you can move them around until you are satisfied and plant the bushes or flowers in the ground only when you are absolutely sure of their positions. The result will be simple, but effective.





gooseberry

On a hot sunny day there is nothing like some peace and quiet by the pool, but to enjoy it fully you will need the right set of lounges. Because of the high temperatures during some parts of the day the use of materials such as plastic or metal is not always a very good idea. So an easy solution is to go with wood. Furniture made out of wood can withstand almost all kinds of weather conditions and still offer plenty of comfort for long sunny days.



gooseberry

One can never have too much greenery, especially in the city. But what do you do if you can not afford a nice house in the suburbs and you don't have enough space for a real garden in your apartment? Build yourself a mini-greenhouse on the terrace. Many types of plants and herbs can live in planters and survive the harsh conditions in the city. Do your homework, get creative, and you might be surprised by the results.



SweetCaffeine

There is nothing like having a nice meal in your own backyard, especially during the summer. In fact, why limit yourself with using the space during only one season? By enclosing a part of your porch with the help of some smartly-placed moving floor-to-ceiling doors and windows you can create a space that can be used all times of the year. Keep the doors open during the summer and close them during the winter and you've got yourself a nice addition to both the house and backyard.





justme-chelle

True -- having a terrace or balcony in the city is always a plus, but what about the times when you don't have one? Well, why not use your front porch? With some smartly placed pieces, like a few stools and a table, even the limited space can become functional and offer as much comfort as any other outdoor area. Plus, it will be less expensive to decorate.

WhiteDot

Sometimes all you need to truly enjoy your own backyard is a nice pavilion. Put in some swinging benches, a nice fire pit, and you get a small retreat, where you can enjoy some time alone or with friends, surrounded by greenery. Don't we all love a nice story told by the fire on a starry evening? And all within reach of your own home.





Plama_chan

Not all properties come with the bonus of having a big backyard. So what do you do if you don't have space for much, but still want to make the most of it? Well, be smart. Think of what you want the most and go as minimalist as possible. Why bother to plant grass when you don't have the space for it anyway? Put down some tiles, a nice set of lounges and maybe a hot tub or even a small pool, and there you go. An easy to maintain outdoor entertainment.

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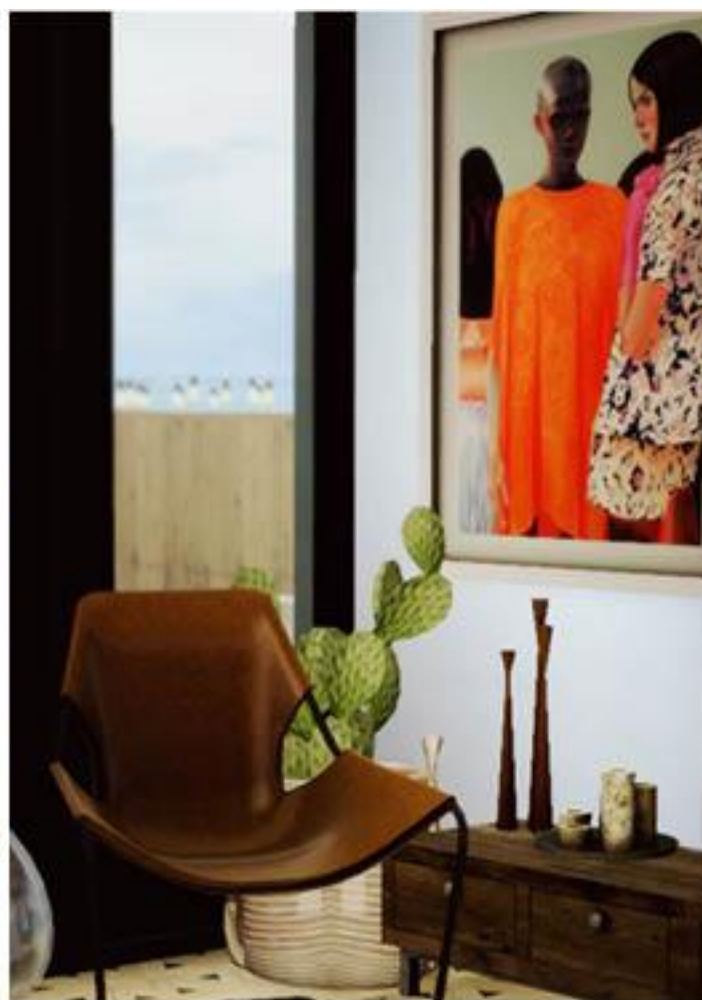


INTERVIEW: PaisleyAvenue

PaisleyAvenueRedux is definitely a tumblr page to drool over. Once you open it, you are tempted to stay there and spend as long as it takes to scroll over all the pages plus download all the awesome custom content. Which means you'll be there forever.

With gorgeous shots, remarkable sense of color, superb editing, and high quality custom content for both TS2 and TS3, PaisleyAvenue is certainly a designer to get to know. I recently sat down with her for a little conversation on who she is in real life and how she works her magic in the Sims community.

*Article by LadySpider & PaisleyAvenue
Photographs by PaisleyAvenue*



Q: You are known as paisleyavenue at your tumblr. Can you tell us about the person behind this username?

A: I used to be super fond of paisley patterns, and so I decided to use it plus avenue when I started creating. I am not so fond of paisley patterns now though, lol!

Well, I think most simmers who follow me know by now that my real name is Mari. I am obsessed with interior design and decorating, and so the stuff that I cannot do to my house in real life, I do them all via the sims. Aside from simming, I love to read and watch films, and I cannot live without Wi-Fi!

Q: How long have you been playing The Sims? And which of the games is your favourite?

A: Oh gosh, I've been playing since the first Sims game, let's see, 14 years? I feel so old now! The Sims 2 will always have a special place in my heart because that's where I started making CC. I play Sims 3 right now, but Sims 2 is my favorite.

Q: How would you describe your style? What inspires you?

A: I would describe my style as Boho eclectic. I like mixing things - that's why my favorite design blog is [sfgirbythebay](#). It's my go-to site when I am lacking inspiration and creativity when decorating for the Sims.





Q: Your interiors are very precise and well-planned. Each also has a unique character. Can you tell me a little about your creative process?

A: I am really slow when it comes to decorating. Sometimes I'd get messages asking me if I can maybe decorate their lots for them, and I would be telling them that I shouldn't because it's just gonna take me forever.

But here's what I do most of the time: I tend to browse interior tumblr and blogs first to look for inspiration, then afterward I load the game and browse the objects catalog, picking things I think I might use later on. When that is done, I rearrange everything as I see fit. I can be really fickle sometimes, and just choosing a sofa can take me forever. When I am satisfied with how things look, that's when I start taking screenshots.









Q: Your interiors are always full of color. What color, or color combos do you prefer the most?

A: Yes I like colors. I can never pull off monochromatic design schemes because I just can't live without a pop of color in a room! But you don't want to overdo it.

My favorite color combo would have to be the colors on the Acapulco-like chair I recently released; yellow, blue and orange really looked nice together paired with the green color of the Hay Bjorn sofa by Milla.

Q: What is the room you tend to decorate first while working on a project?

A: I tend to start with either the living room or the kitchen as they're my favorite rooms to decorate.

Q: What inspired you to start making your own CC?

A: I started with recoloring because sometimes you'd find a great object mesh but the textures do not really fit your design aesthetic. Instead of waiting for another creator to do it for me, I decided to do it myself.

Q: We'll skip the "CC-or-no-CC" question, but are there any Expansion (EP) or Stuff Pack (SP) items you can't live without?

A: I just started playing Sims 3, so I am not familiar with all the EP or SP items in the game. I use CC most of the time. But with Sims 2, the Ikea SP items are a must-have for me.

Q: Your pictures look so real. Could you share some of your photography and editing tips?

A: All thanks to Photoshop! But seriously there are tons of simmers who have way more superior editing skills than I do. But here's what I do: I use Creative Suite 6 (CS6) and start with applying the 'topaz clean softy' preset by Josie/thenoisyneutron.

Then I adjust the curves and do selective color; most of the time I only touch the neutrals and the blacks. Then I use the brush tool for highlighting (overlay) and shadows (multiply). You can also use the dodge tool (highlights) and the burn tool (shadows). Lastly, I use the blur tool on areas that don't need much focus and apply smart sharpen.



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TheCrimsonSparkles

Interior | Exterior | Fashion



thecrimsonsparkles.tumblr.com

Padre333



HOT&NEW²



AnYe

simsSbiotic





szabolon & CrasyDestinyFire



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HOT & NEW 

beautifulnerdkitty





33 • Finds: Hot & New

cordelia-haze

HOT & NEW 

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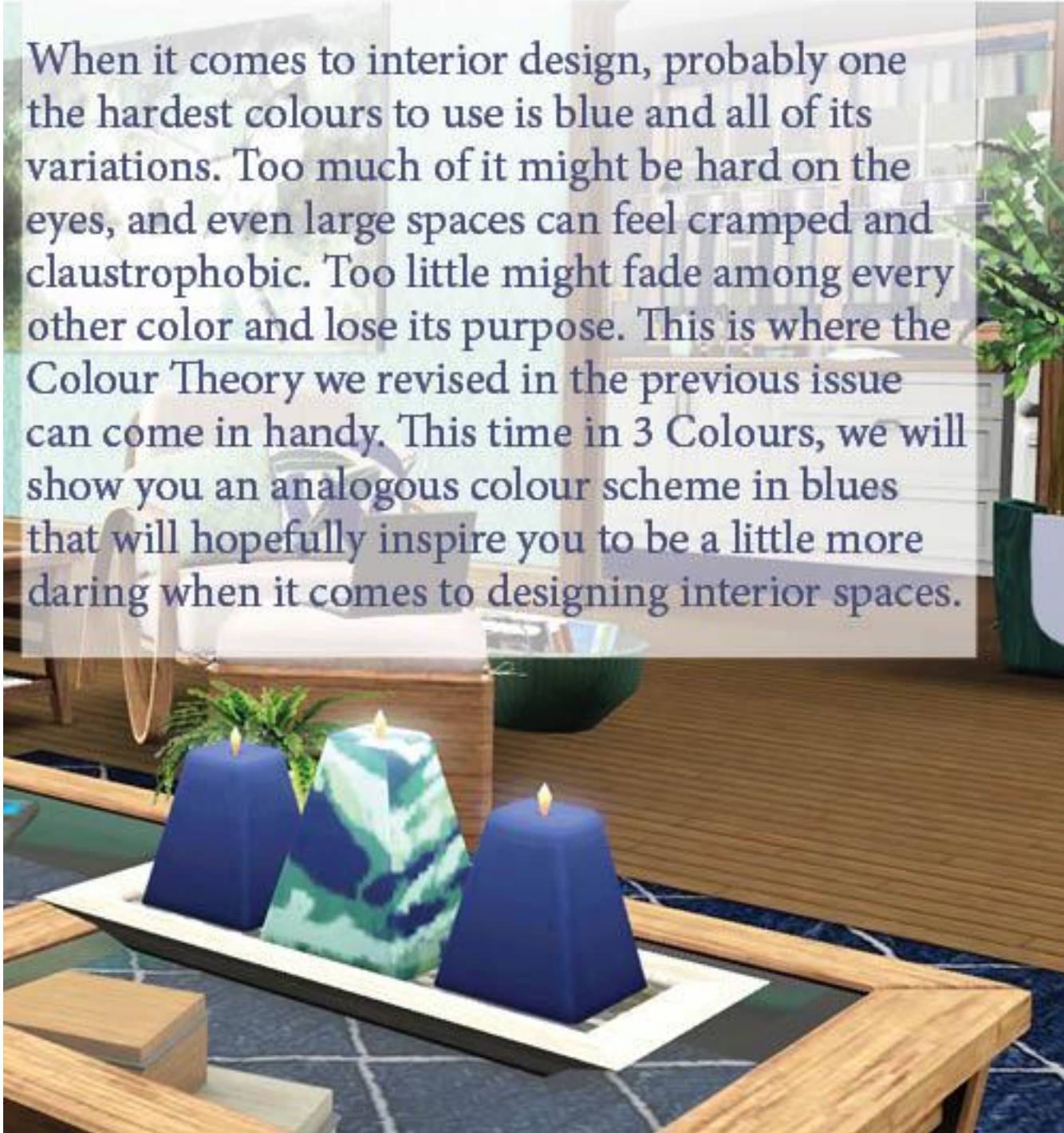
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3 Colours

When it comes to interior design, probably one of the hardest colours to use is blue and all of its variations. Too much of it might be hard on the eyes, and even large spaces can feel cramped and claustrophobic. Too little might fade among every other color and lose its purpose. This is where the Colour Theory we revised in the previous issue can come in handy. This time in 3 Colours, we will show you an analogous colour scheme in blues that will hopefully inspire you to be a little more daring when it comes to designing interior spaces.





The three main living spaces in every home are the kitchen, living and dining areas. Those are the spaces where a family spends the most of their time when at home, so they have to be both functional and comfortable at the same time. This also often makes them very hard to decorate by default. Talk about being brave!

First and foremost, choose a base colour that will provide the "blank canvas" on which you are going to paint. In this case, we are using a combination of a natural and neutral colour - white and wood. They have the purpose of not only smoothing the hard and vibrant blues and teals, but also act as a medium between all of them and thus help them work together not against each other.





37 • 3 Colours



“You can feel the stress of the busy day drain away...”

The result is a well balanced splash of colours, that manages to generate the feelings of calmness and softness, that is both inviting and pleasing. In fact, I am sure that even looking at the pictures you can feel all the stress of the busy everyday drain away to make space for a more warm and cozy feeling.

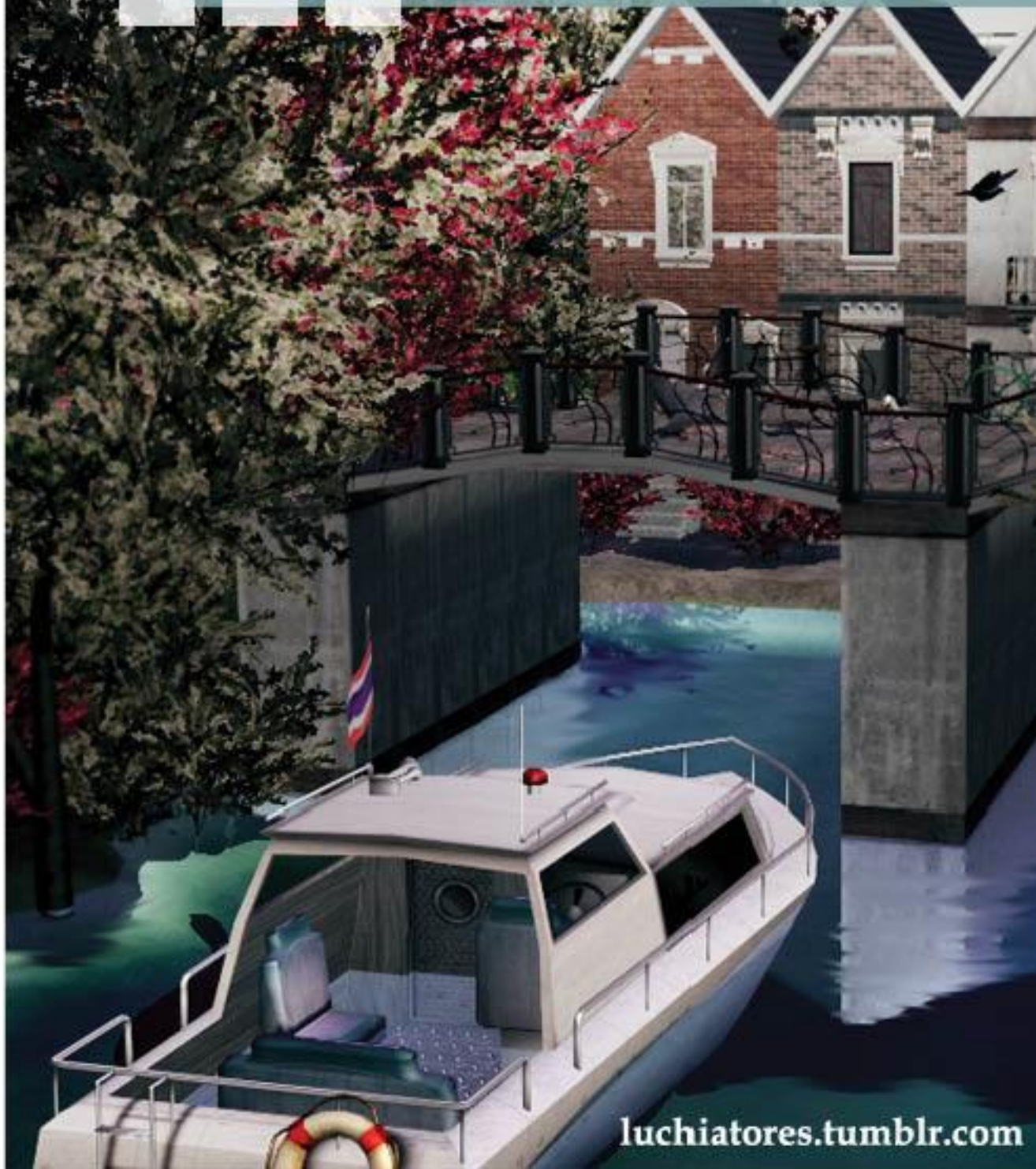
This may sound like a bit of a contradiction since blue is usually considered a rather “cold” color, and that is where the use of the analogous teal steps in. Very often, it is a hue associated with the colour of the ocean, which in turn makes us think of long sandy beaches and sunny days. And that is when the magic of this colour scheme truly starts to happen.

Try to achieve a similar effect in your designs, and you will know for sure how much of the colour theory you truly understand. Now, who is ready for a walk on the beach?



Luchia Torres

FOLLOW THE INSPIRATION



luchiatores.tumblr.com

SOMETHING

amazing

Find: Something Amazing • 40



Aruba Dining
by jomsims



Canvas Storage Rack 4t3
by pixeljackpot



Pokemon Toys
by NynaeveDesign



Mudroom Storage & Style
by cashcraft



Bronze Office
by marcussims91





Trend Dining
by Lulu265



Weather Vane
by Seve



Gardening Shop
by ATS3



SOMETHING *amazing*



anes
rinka



Nordic Inspiration
by Milla



Steamer TV Stand 4t3
by pixeljackpot



Office Sweet
by B5Studio



Indigo by ung999



Mimosa Bathroom
by pyszny16



SOMETHING *amazing*



Scandinavian Bedroom
by pyszny16

Summer Works
by ATS3



Interview:
sim



Sbiotic

A photograph of a modern interior space. In the foreground, there is a wooden cabinet with a herringbone pattern. On top of the cabinet, there is a black pen holder with several pens and pencils. To the left of the cabinet, there is a decorative mirror with a floral border. The background is a light-colored wall with a subtle pattern.

In times when players in the community are mostly debating if they should focus on either the Sims 3 or Sims 4, many of us wonder what will happen with the Sims 2 players. Nowadays, the look of this so-beloved second installment of the franchise looks almost classic and a little nostalgic. Just as we are about to fall down memory lane, almost accidentally, we stomp upon a hidden treasure: a designer and creator who literally sweeps us off our feet with their creativity and eye for detail, just in time to remind us that the Sims 2 still has many amazing things to offer.

Today we will be interviewing yet another such designer. A true gem not only among the Sims 2 players, but among the Sims community in general. Give a big round of applause for simSbiotic a.k.a kacicka777!

Article by Plama_chan & kacicka777
Photographs by kacicka777



Q: So, tell us something about yourself.

A: Hi! here you are: a few basic facts about me. My name is Pavli. I am 26 years old and live on Slovakia in a three-room flat. I try to decorate it as my Sims houses but to be honest, it is more difficult than in the game. I am a doctor and work with newborns. Less formal facts: I am a bookish person, a vegetarian and I love walks in nature and cappuccino.

Q: Why the Sims?

A: Because it is a genial game without an end. Because you can live hundreds of lives in a hundred forms. Because it allows me to be creative while decorating houses or creating custom content (CC).

Q: When did you start playing?

A: About 10 years ago thanks to my sister, who is a hard-core gamer. She showed me The Sims 1 and I was delighted by that game, even though I hadn't played PC games before. And then, The Sims 2 came out, and it was love at first sight. Of course, I tried Sims 3 and 4 too, but didn't experience the same passion.

Q: Which part of the game do you like the most?

A: I either play with my families (now they are in their 5th generation,) or decorate a new house, or create CC. I like all of these activities equally and alternate between them from time to time.





Q: What are your most favorite design styles?

A: Scandinavian, industrial, and vintage style. Thanks to DOTY (Designer of the Year) at Sim-Pearls, I was able to try more different styles and I found out how difficult it is to follow features of a particular design.

Q: Interior or exterior? Or maybe both?

A: Definitely interior. I am terrible at making exteriors. I am thankful for Ohbehave's gorgeous backdrop; my outer space would suffer without it.



51 • Interview: sImSbiotic

Q: Custom content or no custom content?

A: Custom content. I doubt that I used a Maxis object in my last ten houses. Since I have new notebook with full HD resolution, I prefer CC because I like working with high quality textures and I can create more realistic

interiors. My download folder contains over 25,000 items and needs regular maintenance because I love CC hunts.





Q: Where do you get your inspiration from?

A: Mainly from Pinterest and various internet pages about interior design. I also notice interiors used in films (I love Bilbo's Hobbit hole) and watch programs about living. Spaces I create should be believable but original.

Q: Do you have any advice for our readers or any future players of The Sims?

A: Sure. Dear readers, whether you play, build, decorate or create Simmies, the most important thing is to have fun. So, happy Simming!

CALIENTE

Home Accessories

thehouseofcaliente.com

Are you READY for a challenge?

LivingSims Challenges

Looking for something to do over the holidays? Why not try one of our forum challenges?



Enjoy the Outdoors

A pretty standard apartment balcony doesn't have to be a plain space. With just a little bit of imagination, love and care it can be turned into whatever dream space you have in mind, and it doesn't even have to be big. Even the smallest balcony can be an inviting space. You can turn your balcony into a home office, garden, reading nook, dining area, storage room, or whatever you like -- the choice is yours. Closes December 1st.



Deskpace

A desk is an interesting place. It is both a place of great inspiration and wonders, while at the same time a place of mind-numbing work and the worst of frustrations. Having one that suits you helps to give you more of the first and less of the second sort. Closes December 3rd.



Maxis Mayhem 11

EA homes are... questionable at best. The patterns are usually gaudy and misplaced, the colors either too bold or too dull, the furnishing arrangements are... don't get us started. We find ourselves often wondering, "What were they thinking!?" So we are going to set you lovely designers to work making EA homes a little less ugly one room at a time. Closes December 21st.



Roll Your Room 4.0: Holiday Edition

Have you hit a brick wall with your decorating? Have no clue what you want to do next? Well put your next room in the hands of Lady Luck. Let her decide where your inspiration shall come from! Closes December 21st.



Tablescape 7.0

There is nothing more inviting than a beautifully decorated table top. Art, nature and beautiful textiles can all provide the inspiration for tablescapes that truly elevate your dining experience. Would you like to be challenged to evoke a mood or theme in the clever way you arrange a table setting? Hone your cluttering and photography skills? If so, this is the challenge for you! Closes December 21st.



Recipe for Design

It is often said that the kitchen is the heart of the home. It's where memories are made, relationships blossom and grow and both body and soul are nourished. The kitchen is never the same in any two homes. It can reflect many different aspects of its family. Little decorations here or there can transform a kitchen from just a room to a place that feels very cozy and inviting. Participants will be given a picture of a dish of some sort, or they may find their own food image. Then they should design a kitchen that the dish was most likely created in. Closes December 29th.



10x10 5.0

Decorating a large space is not hard. It's easy to make things look good when there is room for things to breathe. It's also easy to photograph. However, we have a harder challenge for you. One that is closer to how many of us live -- at least in our first homes after leaving the nest -- small homes. So we challenge you not only to go small, but tiny. What can you do with a 10x10 lot? Closes December 29th.



Cozy or Creepy

The amazing thing about fall is that it is both the most cozy time of year with friends and family coming together, curling up in a chair with a book and hot cocoa -- and it is also the time of year where an empty playground seems really creepy, where the wind, rain and long shadows makes everything seem bleak. So the question is... are you feeling the creepy or the cozy tonight?

The Corner Ice Cream Cafe





Article by kitkat
Photographs by FrauEngel & Kitkat



Opal Blankenship is a force to be reckoned with. I found that out while shadowing her for this article. In less than four weeks she managed, counseled, cajoled and sometimes threatened the Corner Ice Cream Café in downtown Windenburg into existence. I don't think the contractors quite knew what to make of the seventy-two-year-old firecracker in their midst. Join us for an opening-day tour of this adorable eatery and meet its charming, yet formidable, owner.





Frau Engel



Opal's eyes are dancing with excitement as she throws open the doors to the Corner Ice Cream Café and beckons the large crowd waiting outside to enter. This day is one that she's dreamed of for years, and it's finally arrived.

A mother of three and grandmother to seven, Opal has lived a full and happy life. When she married and began having children she, like many women of her generation, left the workplace behind to run her family and home. She always had a love for cooking and baking though, something her children and husband adored about her.

Big John Blankenship, Opal's husband and the love of her life, had been encouraging her to open up a café for years. It was always something they planned to do... right after the next family trip or after the next grandchild was born. When Big John passed away two years ago, Opal decided they'd waited long enough and began planning to make her dream into a reality.

"I already had it planned out down to the very last detail in my head," Opal confided to me. "It was just a matter of putting pen to paper -- getting a business plan nailed down and a design plan - the nitty gritty stuff of opening and running a restaurant."

Nitty gritty indeed. The level of detail and planning is apparent as soon as you approach the Corner Café. Whimsical umbrella tables offer patrons a place to eat with a great view of the city center. No detail has been left unplanned, from the hanging baskets to the large planters flanking the front doors. The

exterior looks like it has been lifted from the pages of a storybook.

"I suppose I'm a hopeless romantic," Opal says with a sigh. It surprises me a little coming from someone I've come to know as a no-nonsense businesswoman. "This building is very reminiscent of a wonderful little café that was across the street from our honeymoon hotel in Champs Les Sims. When I saw that it was available, I knew it was the only place our ice cream Shoppe could be."

I nod in understanding. Even though her husband is no longer by her side, Opal still looks at the place as "ours" instead of "mine."





Moving inside, visitors are immediately drawn to the ice cream counter with its selection of house-made ice creams and sorbets as well as an enticing selection of toppings. The waffle cones are baked on site, and the smell is delightful. Opal beams with delight as she steps behind the counter to help serve the steady stream of guests that are wandering in.

When it's my turn, I order a chocolate waffle cone with two scoops of caramel balsamic swirl. And fresh berries on top, of course.

"This is one of my grandkids' favorite recipes. I wasn't sure how it would go over in the café, but it's been selling like crazy."

And I can see why. The savory touch of the vinegar balances perfectly with the sweetness of the caramel. It's divine. Blissfully devouring my cone, I follow Opal upstairs to the owner's apartment.



65 • The Corner Ice Cream Café





67 • The Corner Ice Cream Cafe

I am immediately charmed by its coziness and warmth. It's the perfect retreat and recharge-space for a busy owner.

"Big John would roll over in his grave if he saw how much lace and damask I used up here," Opal laughs. "This would not have been his cup of tea at all. If he were here, there'd be much more leather and pipe smoke, I'd wager. It's that hopeless romantic in me coming out again."

I agree with her assessment: it's a decidedly feminine space – but not in an overdone way. And anyone who has raised three children, lost the love of her life and still has the energy and drive to open a business at seventy-two deserves to have every little thing that makes her happy, décor wise. It's clear as I follow Opal around the small apartment that she is very, very happy here.

"It's clear... she is very, very happy here."

She shows me her kitchen last. "This is where the magic happens," she says with a smile.

It's open and airy with plenty of counter space for working on new recipes. I give the loveseat on the far wall a quizzical glance.

"We all end up in the kitchen when we're here," Opal explains. "It's the heart of the home, and that's something that hasn't changed over the years."

I couldn't agree more. Following Opal back down to the café, I know that she has poured her heart into this new venture. That's the extra secret ingredient in her delicious ice cream and one that is sure to make the Corner Ice Cream Shoppe very successful.



Frazer Engel

GROVE
Furniture Collection
9 NEW OBJECTS FOR THE SIMS 4
Peace's Place Followers Gift



GROVE
Furniture Collection

9 NEW OBJECTS FOR THE SIMS 4

Peace's Place  Followers Gift



Photographs by MsWry, Nilla, SelaranoSims & SweetCaffeine

IOXIO5.0

less house. more home

Decorating a large space is not hard. It's easy to make things look good when there is room for things to breathe. It's also easy to photograph. However, we gave a harder challenge to the community. One that is closer to how many of us live, at least in our first homes after leaving the nest. Small homes, in other words. So we challenged our forum members not only to go small, but to go absolutely tiny. See just what they made of these adorable, small spaces.



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Zingaro



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SelaronoSims



Challenge Feature: 10k





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Nilla





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MsWry



Challenge Feature: 10x10 • 80





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Avoiding the Weeds

How to Take Your Sims 4 Restaurant to the Next Level

Anyone who has worked in a restaurant has heard the term "in the weeds." What does it mean? It means being so busy and behind that you can't get caught up. You're running around like a crazy person with no idea what to do next. The weeds are so high and deep that you can't see over them. In other words, you're at your wit's end with no relief in sight.

Don't let this be you in Sims4! Follow the tips in this article to become the consummate restaurateur with no weeds in sight.

At the end of the article we feature a few pictures from our challenge "Restaurants - easy as 1,2,3!" as inspiration.

Article by klare & macthekat

Photographs by klare, BlueHopper, Evergreen, layzSunjade, riekus13 & Zingaro



Place mostly tables that seat two to three patrons. It is rare that larger groups show up to be seated.

Tips for Making Bank in Your Sims 4 Restaurant

- Place mostly tables that seat two to three patrons. It is rare that larger groups show up to be seated.
- There's no need for a fridge.
- You can easily set your mark-up very high. Even up to 175% is no problem, not even in starter restaurant. You might even be able to go higher than that.
- Don't set menu items that require a higher cooking skill than what your chef has. The chef will get better over time, and you can always add more menu items - and you definitely should.
- Remember to upgrade the level of both food and beverages as time goes on.
- Remember to buy a large trash can - otherwise your restaurant will get icky.
- Promoting a staffer will create jealousy, so be ready promote all of them or they will get grumpy. Grumpy staff might quit without warning, so remember to check often on how they are feeling about their workplace.
- Remember, you can stop seating people when your staff is overwhelmed, or when you get close to closing time - three hours or so ahead of time. This will allow your staff to catch up and will ensure that the customers finish eating, so you can get paid.
- Must-have perks: Patient Patrons & Curious Customers.
- Consider setting higher priced menu items to allow for bigger payoffs per seating. This means that you should prioritize having main menu items rather than starters and deserts, as starters and desserts are cheaper.
- Your start-up should be able to handle about five tables without too much trouble. Your chef cooks per table, not per customer; therefore, bigger groups earn you more money. As you hire more staff, you will be able to handle more tables.



This restaurant has all the elements you need to run a successful starter restaurant.

- Objects which grant fun or comfort (those not part of seating arrangements) will distract your customers from ordering and give a lower table turn over.
- Consider having a staff room for your own sim where they can work on creative projects. Remember to lock the door to keep nosy patrons out.
- Remember to have some child friendly beverages, otherwise they will order free water. We wouldn't want anyone order healthy water instead of costly beverages - this is about capitalism after all.
- In the actual kitchen part of the restaurant, you only need the cooking station - everything else is just for looks. While in the front of the restaurant though, your customers will love a well decorated room. This even includes your own finger paintings.

Did You Know?

- You can change your customers attire to match your restaurant. So if you are running a beachside ice bar, you can set your customers clothing options to bathing suits.
- At the end of the workday, you can see how happy your staff is and if they have learned any new skills. Keep an eye on this.
- While kids wait for their food, they will color their placemat. You can hang these in the restaurant - it's so cute.
- If your sims order food on black plates, they have a chance of learning these experimental dishes.
- Your waiters will seat people at the smallest possible table, so the couple coming in will be seated at a two-top table, rather than at the six-top table whenever possible.
- Small items can be placed in the middle of the table without it interfering with the dinners. So you can place candles, flowers or salt and pepper on the tables.



The "Mythic Patio Warming Lamp"

- You can change your staff's outfits to fit the restaurant's theme. The ice bar has nostalgic dinner uniforms while your white tie restaurant has the wait staff in tuxedos.

Object Placement

- If you are using the dinner corner booths, don't add chairs as well. They will not work.
- The waiter station doesn't need room in front of it, while the host station does.
- "I Dream of Sous" chef station can be placed in a corner without any problems.
- The "Mythic Patio Warming Lamp" will give your sims a nice warm buff.





layzSunjade





89 • Avoiding the Weeds



riekus13



Avoiding the Weeds • 90



Zingaro







Evergreen

BlueHopper







SERES *by Yuxi*
RE6 ANTIQUE CHINESE BEDROOM



Mirror Art

*Photographs by gooseberry, Ivyrose, rlekus13,
TurtleEdna & Zingaro*

Art is believed, for a good reason, to be one of the most inspiring things in the world. That's why LivingSims hosted Mirror Art, a challenge to challenge our members' creativity, and make the most of it. We asked LivingSims members to imagine and build a room based on a work of art. The results looked striking, fresh and... unexpected, as always.



gooseberry



99 • Challenge Feature: Mirror Art





vyrose

riekus13



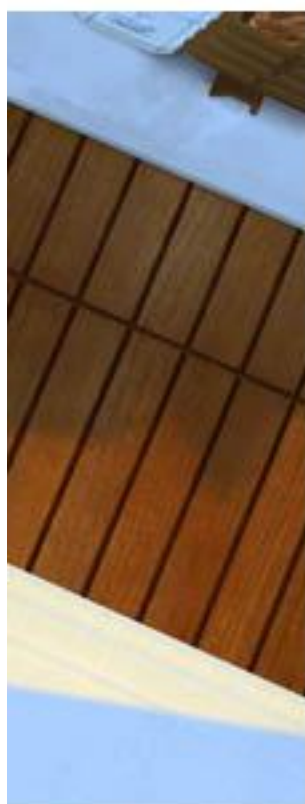




TurtleEdna







107 • Challenge Feature: Mirror Art

Zingaro

LAROSO

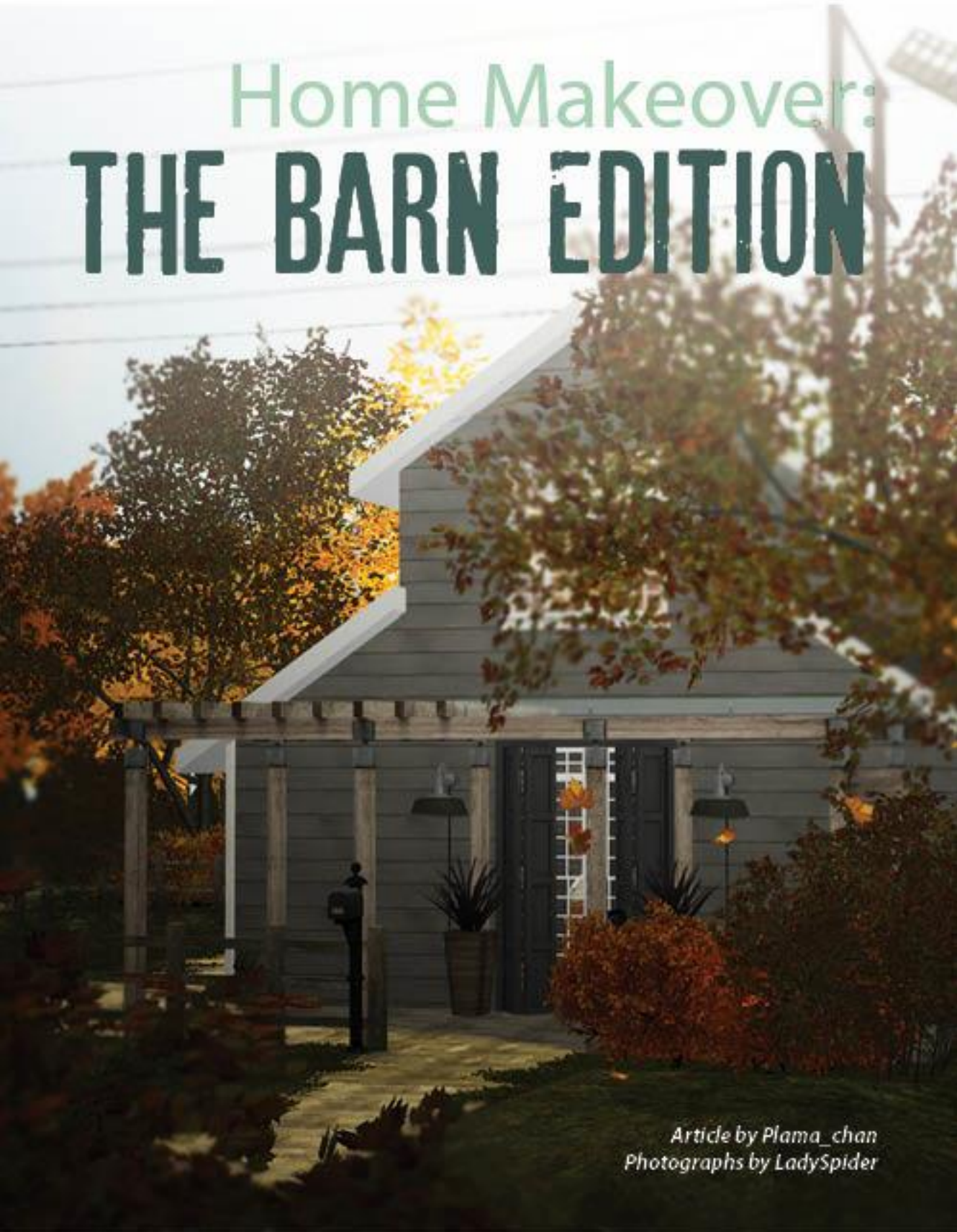


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Home Makeover: **THE BARN EDITION**



*Article by Plama_chan
Photographs by LadySpider*

Creativity.

In recent years this is a word that we often like to refer to, especially when it comes to homes. It also describes the ability that many people display when finding a place of their own on a very tight budget. It is in these exact cases when you must think out of the box and use all the resources in your possession in order to achieve the best results.





111 • Home Makeover: The Barn Edition



There is a time in every person's life when they decide to move out of the family home and start a life of their own. This was the case for Jim Kennings as well. Well, in truth, it wasn't actually his decision. Jim's parents, both happily retired, decided to start a journey around the world. So, in order to gather the funds needed for such an adventure, they sold their home, land, cars and basically everything they owned. Including their home where Jim was currently living. It is easier to travel as light as possible, right?



Jim, fresh out of college, had two options. Buy the house and land off his parents or move out and find a place of his own. Unfortunately both turned out to be essentially impossible because he was still looking for a permanent job and could not raise the funds needed for either of those options. So he had to come up with an alternative.

One day while looking out of the window of his room, he noticed a roof-like structure perched almost on the edge of their property. It turned out to be an old barn which everyone had forgotten even existed, and the moment he saw the two story building, an interesting idea was born.

Luckily, to buy just the portion of the land where the barn was situated turned out to be easy and within Jim's budget. A barn is not truly a building after all, so he was basically paying only for the land itself. If a barn just happened to sit there, so be it.

That also left him with a reasonable amount of money to renovate the barn, so all that was left was to roll up his sleeves and get to work. Having learned a lot of things from his grandfather, once a contractor himself, Jim was able to come up with a renovation plan.





He used a lot of materials found on the land and around the barn. He rebuilt the walls of the structure almost entirely. He built a whole new metal roof with the help of some friends.

Building a plumbing system and connecting it to the existing one was a bit of a challenge, but in the end he was able to come up with a solution for that as well. In his kitchen and bathroom, he used secondhand tiles and a lot of reclaimed wood which he sanded and repainted himself. Also, he was able to keep some of the furniture from his parents' home; and, with some refreshing and polishing, he was able to find a new purpose for even the older pieces.

The whole renovation took him months, and he worked almost around the clock. Once the barn was done many of his neighbors came to take a look and couldn't believe the

transformation. No one could believe the house had actually been a barn once.

It turned out that one of his neighbors, a friend working for a construction company, seeing the wonderful job he had done, was quick to offer Jim a job. What a lucky break after so much uncertainty and hard work.

And here we are, so many months later, sitting on the porch of the barn and listening to Jim's story. Surrounded by forest trees with autumn colors, we are once again reminded by all the creativity displayed right before our very eyes. Jim still calls his home a barn.

He also tells us that even now he continues to work on it, adding things and making improvements. He is also constantly looking forward to the days when the barn will be filled with children and, maybe one day, even grandchildren.



“Once the barn was done, many of his neighbors came to take a look and couldn’t believe the transformation.”




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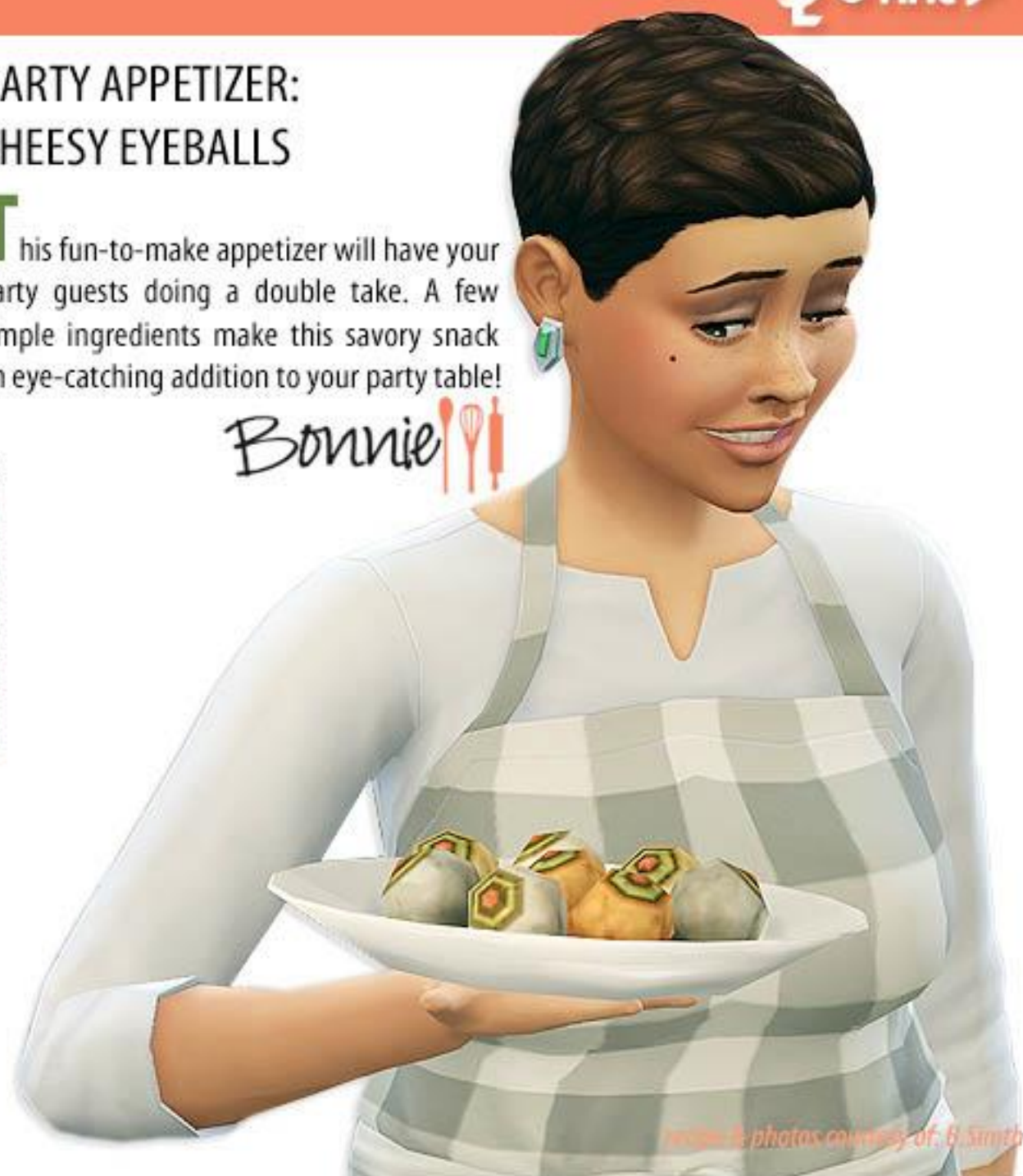
WITH **BONNIE**

PARTY APPETIZER: CHEESY EYEBALLS

This fun-to-make appetizer will have your party guests doing a double take. A few simple ingredients make this savory snack an eye-catching addition to your party table!

Bonnie 

Gourmet: Cheesy Eyeballs • 116



recipe & photos courtesy of: B. Smith



CHEESY EYEBALLS

INGREDIENTS:

2 cups grated Cheddar
1 stick unsalted butter
1 cup all-purpose flour
1 teaspoon Creole season
1/4 teaspoon salt
1/8 teaspoon cayenne
24 pimento-stuffed green olives, drained and patted dry

PREPARATION:

Preheat the oven to 400 degrees F. Line a large baking sheet with parchment paper. In a large bowl, cream together the cheese and butter. In a separate bowl, sift together the flour, Creole season, salt, and cayenne. Fold into the cheese mixture and blend until combined. Drop the dough by tablespoonfuls onto the prepared sheet and shape into an oblong, almond-like shape to resemble an eye. With the handle of a wooden spoon, make an indentation in the center of each "eye." Place 1 olive in each indentation, turning the pimento side up to resemble an eyeball. Bake until golden and set, 12 to 15 minutes, rotating the pan halfway through baking.

Remove from the oven and serve warm or at room temperature.
Enjoy!



TOTAL TIME: 30 min.

Prep: 15 min.

Cook: 15 min.

YIELD: 2 dozen

LEVEL: Easy

LIVING *Sims*

PICTURE PERFECT!



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