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Tinkered Treasures



Synopsis

Tinkered Treasures is a how-to craft book that demonstrates how everyday mundane items can be transformed into charming and unique items. Elyse Major has created over 35 projects, using objects that can easily be found or that you might already have. She refers to these transformations as 'tinkering' as it perfectly describes her style of embellishing, repurposing and altering things without the need for any specialist tools and equipment or techniques. Tinkering is not about constructing - it's about appreciating the flaws but seeing the potential in little details. Each craft project in this book is designed for complete beginners - there are no particular skills involved. Measuring often gives way to estimating and many of the simple techniques are repeated from project to project. The book shows how to tinker all sorts of household and craft items to create a range of gorgeous gifts, treasures and trinkets, from clothespin dolls and tiny picture frames to favour baskets, bunting, fabric garlands, bookmarks and more. If you are new to crafting, have no fear because simple instructions along with a tools and techniques section are provided. All the projects in this book can be adapted to your own tastes - with a simple colour or pattern change you can create items to suit any style or home.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Elyse Major, a writer, blogger and self-proclaimed "tinkerer" has been making things and writing about them for as long as she can remember. She regularly contributes to publications such as

Romantic Homes and Romantic Country. She lives in Rhode Island with her husband and two boys. Tinkered Treasures is her first book.

I really like this book! True, some cranky person said you can find the projects in many places on the internet but the author has made them her own and put them together in a single location and it's sooooo pretty to look through! The projects are all of a single style and feel - feminine and pretty and how fun to see them all together in the same publication. The book makes me happy to look through, it's pleasing to my eye and my heart. We are not only given the How To, but given an ingredient lists and clear step-by-step illustrations. There's even a useful and very thoughtfully shared page of suppliers in the back of the book and under the suppliers she lists what she bought from them so we can, too. I couldn't believe anyone could make something out of popsicle sticks that I would like. Turns out that I don't like them, I *love* them! Most, if not all of the projects could be made from what people have at home already with the exception of a very few things, and crafters will have all the decorative items already. Everything can be made without having to buy special tools. A pretty and perfect book to show us how to make every day functional items pretty :D

I am not a big fan of books by bloggers, mostly because I feel they are just rehashing what I've already seen on their blog. However, the photography and tutorials in Elyse Major's book make it stand out from the rest. The crafts shown here can be done with very little money (literally less than a dollar in some cases) and are both kid and adult friendly. You have to be a fan of the color pink and tolerant of some overly cutesy text, but it is very user-friendly with plenty of details and pictures, and it looks great on my coffee table.

TINKERED TREASURES brings to mind the metamorphose of the ugly little duckling into a beautiful swan. Under Elyse's magical touch a myriad of mundane items are given a new life and a new purpose with beautiful results. Where others see objects ready to be discarded Elyse sees potential. With pretty papers, bits of fabrics, ribbons, and much more, Elyse gently and lovingly transforms prosaic objects into little treasures. The beauty of her imaginative crafts belies their simplicity, affordability and versatility. Tinkered Treasures is THE must-have-perfect how-to book for anyone who loves to create, even if you are new to crafting. Once you get started you will be hooked. Recycling never looked so glorious.

I have been a fan of the author's blog for years. I was over the moon to see that she was writing a

book filled with her beautiful ideas. I am all about repurposing and this book hits the nail on the head! Everything is written with step by step instructions and none of the projects cost a fortune to make! Perfect! You can create each item to any color scheme. Others have said there is too much pastel (which I happen to love) but if you dont, just change it up! This book is so inspiring and fun. I think it would be so much fun to pick a new project each week or month, invite friends over and have a craft party!! You cant go wrong with this book. The photography is just beautiful and the ideas unique and simple. In a nutshell, I love it!!!

I bought this book for a friend who has always enjoyed making small, lovely things out of things she finds laying around the house. I am often the recipient of such gifts. This book has photos and directions for making things you might call shabby chic or cottage decor...lots of white and pale pinks, blues, and greens. The materials are simple things like matchboxes, cupcake liners, thread spools, paper doilies, ribbons, appliques, paint chips cards, ribbons, and pieces of pretty fabric. After looking through the book, I'm tempted to keep it myself and order another one for my friend. These little gifts would be perfect projects for my granddaughter and I to make together and give as gifts, and everything in the book would fit the decor in my house. The pictures are very large and pretty, and the instructions are easy to follow. Virtually anybody could make any project in the book...such as tiny dolls made from clothespins or spools, gift boxes made of matchboxes or mint tins, paper garland and tussie mussies, painted and decorated jars and cans. My friend is going to love this book!

I love this book! I've seen Elyse's work before and fell in love with it several years ago when I saw her adorable little match boxes i....I think it was Romantic Homes. When I heard she had a book coming out, I pre-ordered back in November. In fact, I pre-ordered FIVE of them. I have a daughter, two granddaughters and four great grandchildren. We live across country from each other and I thought having something to work on together, even at a distance, would bring us closer. I packed up little starter boxes for the greatgrandchildren, adding to them as I found things in my sewing cottage. We even found acorn caps under one of our old oak trees! Now that we have our books, we are going to pick a day, each person picking their own project, and have show and tell the next day (If we can all get Skype hooked up!!). Once you've looked through Tinkered Treasures and seen how fun and easy these projects are, you will never look at household items again without first wondering if they'll be handy for a treasure! I need to start a "Save Me" box in the garage to save items in. Like that coffee can my hubby is getting ready to throw away.....Noooooooooooo.

This is a fun book just to look at. It has lots of ideas, with pictures and directions, for making ,simple everyday items into reallycute things. I want to make everything in this book!

Great book for the person who loves all thing Shabby!! Elyse gave it the perfect name "Tinkered Treasures" because it is perfect for the person that loves to tinker and for the person that loves their handmade treasures...it is a perfect fit for me (her book is kind of a mixture of the style Shabby Chic and Cathy Kidston style) and I happen to love both. I can't wait to get started tinkering...also if you love the book you will love her blog "Tinkered Treasures". Thanks Elyse!

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