

Made In The Shade

I have been involved with the Breast Cancer Showhouse for ten years. Every year designers select a room, come up with a design scheme and pull out "all the stops" to create rooms that offer design ideas and inspiration. And this all helps to raise money for breast cancer research.

Instead of a bedroom, I'm decorating an artist's atelier or studio. My "client" is a 20 something young woman who likes funky, fun and bold colors such as: fuchsia, purple and bright orange.

The showhouse is in a wonderful old home with sloping ceilings, dormers and antique light fixtures. The ceiling fixture in the space is nice, but doesn't work with my design plan.

While shopping at Goodwill, I found a plain white clip-on barrel shade for \$2.99. A barrel shade is cylindrical in shape, but the top diameter is slightly smaller than the bottom opening. It was a little plain and I wanted to spice it up a bit.



I found an orange felt daisy placemat and as luck would have it, it matched all the fabrics we chose for the room.



So, I simply cut out the flowers and glued them randomly onto the shade. I also used a purple marker to draw a swirl in the center and glued on colorful sequins. It turned a plain white shade into a room stopper.





I discovered this wonderful late '60s or early '70s lamp with a chrome globe at Goodwill for \$3.99 and I knew it would be perfect for the room. I wanted the shade to be unique— something my “client” might have created.



Another item I found was a wire basket that was probably intended to be a planter. It became a funky design solution for the room. There was a hole on the bottom of the basket that fit the harp perfectly.



Remember my orange felt daisy placement? I used the extra daisies and glued them to the basket and tucked in little folds of purple ribbon in the centers.



With a little inspiration and imagination, you never know what you might come up with!

Check out the website for details on visiting the showhouse at <http://www.breastcancershowhouse.org/index.html>

