

Father's Day Dining

I think half the fun of finishing an interior design project is welcoming guests into your home. What better way to show-off your redecorating than inviting friends and family for dinner. Since Father's Day is right around the corner, a few trips to Goodwill and your Dad will be amazed at the table you set just for him.



I enjoyed shopping specifically for manly table accoutrements. Believe it or not, this table was inspired by a rather ugly outdated placemat.



As awful as the front was, I loved the flip-side! The cork backing had texture and the look and feel of a sandy beach. This is truly one of those instances where one woman's trash is another's treasure.



A heavy earthenware plate in green with a brown lip provided the color scheme.



At another Goodwill store, I found a salad plate with asymmetrical stripes in green, navy and gold. A perfect match! I could have set the plate with the stripes running horizontally or diagonally. But vertical stripes just "felt" right with this table setting. Next time, I will be inspired to do something different.



Once you know the proper way to set a table (fork to the left of the plate and knife and spoon on the right), you can break all the rules. I gently gathered the cotton napkin and pulled it through a wood ring allowing the bottom to hang over the edge of the table. It looked rather lonely, so I tucked in the silverware. It took only a minute, but what an impact.



I'm not a big fan of using fake plants in decorating. I prefer the real thing (or, in my case, nothing since I can't grow a house plant for the life of me!). But I couldn't resist these plastic palm leaves. They didn't look too phony and added to the tropical feel of the sandy placemats. I arranged them down the middle of table with votive candles and under these funky '70s juice glasses.



Always keep your eyes open to unusual dinner and glassware when shopping at Goodwill. You never know what will inspire your next interior design project or dinner table!

