

marie claire

YOUR BEST HAIR EVER

EASY NEW COLORS + LOW MAINTENANCE HIGHLIGHTS

THE NEW DIY DERMATOLOGY LASER, BUFF, AND ZAP AT HOME

GET YOUR BEST BODY! OLYMPIC ATHLETES SHOW YOU HOW

>> HOT NEW FASHION

Fall trends to buy now, killer stilettos, jewel-tone bags at every price

PERFECT JEANS FOR EVERY SHAPE!

Maggie Gyllenhaal

ON JAKE, MOMHOOD, AND MISSING HEATH LEDGER

LOVE LESSONS "MY LONG-DISTANCE DISASTER" + WHY YOU SHOULD LOSE THE BRAZILIAN WAX

SEX IN WARTIME SHOCKING REPORT





BEWARE THAT DIPTYQUE
(and for godsake, don't light a vanilla one): 18,000 home fires are started annually by candles.

I NEED TO DO THAT?
Professionally shampoo rugs once a year ... dry-clean drapes every two years ... defilm the coffee-maker every three months ... deodorize the microwave monthly ... change bedsheets weekly.

3 GINORMOUS SPACE SAVERS FOR YOUR ITTY-BITTY PAD

We asked Maxwell Gillingham-Ryan, cofounder of apartmenttherapy.com and author of the new book *Apartment Therapy Presents: Real Homes, Real People, Hundreds of Design Solutions*, how to squeeze out a few extra feet.

Create a Landing Strip (no, not down there): Equip your entryway with a chic wastebasket to trash unwanted mail. Check the junk at the door to keep your living space clutter-free.

Lighten Up: If your space feels small, it's probably because it's underlit and full of shadows. Have three points of light in each room (not including the one in the middle of the ceiling). It's the cheapest way to create spaciousness.

Keep 10% Empty: Spring-clean areas like your bookcase, shoe rack, or closet to free up room. "It's the only way to have space for new things in your life," says Gillingham-Ryan. Nordstrom, here we come. —Jihan Thompson

7 Things We've Learned

1. Blouses that button up the back are Satan's greatest triumph.
2. It's amazing how quickly one person can go through a roll of toilet paper.
3. OMG, the hair in the drain is *all yours*.
4. Dinner tastes better eaten pants-less, standing at the sink.
5. A Slim Jim and a Snack Pack pudding make for a really satisfying meal.
6. Alone time makes you philosophical: *If I eat this wedge of cheesecake and no one is here to see it, did I really eat it?*
7. It's easy to go 48 hours without speaking. —Eileen Conlan

Pimp My Pad

■ KISHANI PERERA, the owner of Fuse I.D. in L.A., offers a room-by-room analysis, explaining where to spend and where to rein it in.

Entryway:

Spend: A funky chandelier can personalize the plainest of apartments. Check out Anthropologie's vintage-chic options (\$700+, anthropologie.com).

Save: Don't bust your budget on that table that gets covered by your keys and mail. Try a cute folding tray table, like West Elm's Butler Tray + Stand (\$169, westelm.com).

Living Room:

Spend: You need a comfy couch that will hold up to those *The Hills* marathons. For a sofa that'll last longer than the Heidi and Spencer faux-mance, pick a classic shape in a neutral canvas upholstery. "Funk it up with pillows," says Perera. (\$2000+)

Save: Don't shell out for bookshelves; they're obscured by your stuff anyway. Ikea's grid-like Expedite Bookcase, at \$149, does the low-cost trick. "This piece will change your life—it's functional *and* decorative," Perera raves. (Full disclosure: An Allen wrench is involved.)

Bedroom:

Spend: Roll that metal frame on wheels out the door and replace it with a headboard that makes you want to log serious sack time. Perera recommends Brocade Home's ornate options (\$350+, brocadehome.com).

Save: Don't spring for wall-to-wall carpet; try a flokati—a wool rug that looks like it came right off the sheep's back. "They're decadent and add instant warmth to a room," enthuses Perera. (\$200+)

Dining Room:

Spend: The table anchors the room. "Go for a solid piece with a leaf or two to expand it for dinner parties," says Perera—perfect for your next, bigger pad. (\$450+)

Save: Forget matching chairs. Go thrifting for mismatched ones, says Perera. "Then stain the frames, and reupholster them in a fun fabric." Voilà—your one-of-a-kind set comes at a deep discount. —Beth Roehrig