



Spruce: A Step-by-Step Guide to Upholstery and Design

By Amanda Brown

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Discover the joys of upholstery and bring new life to your worn-out furniture. With a few basic tools, an eye for color, and some ingenuity, you can customize your home with fabrics and textures that reflect your unique personality. This comprehensive guide features more than 900 photographs and includes five projects designed to teach you all you need to know to reupholster any piece of furniture. You'll soon be confidently stripping down old sofas, stuffing sagging ottomans, and revamping chairs with your own distinctive style.

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Editorial Review

From [Booklist](#)

Starred Review It stands to reason that a big, heavily illustrated book of instructions on how to upholster furniture should be as attractive as the finished projects it presents. And that is certainly the case with this gorgeous book, which perfectly matches complete, precisely written directions with correspondingly crisp, helpful photographs. Brown is an Austin, Texas–based upholstery shop owner whose expertise simply leaps off every page. Her guiding philosophy is that “upholstered furniture is the root of an interior,” and to that end, she addresses nonprofessionals who are learning to upholster their own furniture, taking them through six projects that can be categorized as advanced but for which all necessary skills are taught along the way. These projects include a pair of slipper chairs, an ottoman, and a sofa. Specific activities required for completing the projects include padding and constructing boxed arms, attaching webbing and burlap to the arms, attaching the dust cover to the bottom of the sofa, and cutting out fabric for the cushions. Sound dizzyingly complicated? Take a breath and follow Brown step by step, and you’ll be surprised at how talented you may become in the art of upholstery. This is a bible, a catalog, a wish book, and an excellent library reference source. --Brad Hooper

Review

“Brown, a professional upholsterer in Austin, TX, knows how to breathe life into tired old furnishings. Her style is hip, eclectic, and delightful, and she injects her personality into the projects, showing off her upholstery prowess. Brown rounds out the manual by offering interior design options. Accompanying photographs demonstrate technique and illustrate each step. Readers will find information on skills requiring much more detail, such as the sewing and stripping furniture, in the appendixes. **VERDICT** Though the author only covers five projects ? a sofa, an ottoman, and three chairs ? she does so in such great depth that quality wins out over quantity. Upholstering is for the brave, and there are a lot of specialty tools here that might intimidate would-be DIYers. Despite these limitations, this is a wonderfully readable volume that speaks to current style. Very highly recommended for any DIY collection.” ? *Library Journal*, starred review

Few things make me happier than watching the people we work with here at D*S do well. Amanda Brown from Spruce has been our resident upholstery expert for a while and we were thrilled when she told us she was working on a book. That gorgeous book, *Spruce: A Step-by-Step Guide to Upholstery and Design*, officially launched yesterday and is chock-full of beautiful (and helpful) upholstery instructions, illustrated by more than 900 step-by-step photographs. Upholstery has always been daunting to me, but Amanda is an excellent teacher and everything she’s shared in this book will help you master the techniques and skills you need to reupholster *any* piece of furniture to suit your own taste and style.

If you have ever had an inkling to try to upholster a thrift store find, this awesome book can show you how.

From the Back Cover

UPDATE YOUR HOME WITH A FURNITURE MAKEOVER

Customize your home with one-of-a-kind upholstered pieces spruced up with contemporary fabrics and fresh details. Amanda Brown's expert instructions - and more than 900 step-by-step photographs - guide you through stripping your furniture down to the frame and then creating exciting new pieces. From calculating yardage to diamond tufting and attaching webbing, here are all the skills you need to elevate that thrift store sofa and your grandmother's slipper chair from frumpy to fabulous.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Rachel Robertson:

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Kenny Grant:

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Betty Young:

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