



## Mini makeovers

Clever DIY projects you can do in minutes page 91

## Fun! Fast! Colorful!

168 ideas to freshen up any room

Save on everything

A shopper's guide to awesome deals

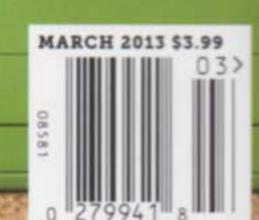
22 CURB APPEAL BOOSTS

Simple kitchen upgrades



Dos & don'ts from the design stars







## ceiling fans

beauty here," says Nate Berkus, who equipped the bedrooms in his New York, NY, home with modern black ceiling fans. Tobi Fairley's pick: a fan with clear acrylic blades that fade into the ceiling, like the Quorum International Prizzm Collection ceiling fan (\$314, lightingdirect.com). But our panel's naysayers see even the sleekest ceiling fans as detracting from the room.



## FAUX FINISHES ON WALLS

Nay. Our judges agree: Sponge painting and finishes meant to resemble natural stone, like marble, look old-fashioned. But subtler finishes, like Venetian plaster, "can be gorgeous if done by an expert," says David Bromstad. If you don't want to splurge, you're better off playing it safe by using wallpaper, grass cloth, or stencils to mimic a faux finish, says Jenny Komenda.

