

Top tips

- Beautifully green materials are available in a wide range of colors and patterns. Choose 100 per cent sustainable materials such as cotton, linen, wool, silk, jute and bamboo.
- Use natural paints with ingredients based on natural oils and minerals – try water-based finishes such as the water-based polyurethane. Use special formulas to prevent chemicals and they don't have a strong smell either.
- Buy natural, over-dyeed, dye-free and natural dyes. Synthetic dyes are full of unnecessary ingredients.

Recycled glass vase, \$40, www.100percentcotton.com

Hand-made jar for tea, \$15, www.100percentcotton.com

Stress made from recycled bottles, \$18 for two, www.100percentcotton.com

Area coffee table, \$99, John Lewis

Recycled seat belt

Green bag, \$100, from \$40, www.100percentcotton.com

Eco living is easy

Making your home better for the environment is simple – and cheaper than you'd think

REDUCE, REUSE AND RECYCLE – this should be every household's motto. It not only saves the planet but it can also save you money. Buy energy-efficient light bulbs – and when it comes to furniture, the possibilities are endless. Thinking before you buy can help make a real difference to the environment.

Woolf bag, \$100, www.100percentcotton.com

Furniture made from recycled seat belts, \$125, www.100percentcotton.com

Woolf bag with recycled seat belt, \$100, www.100percentcotton.com

The Green Issue

Homes