

# Real Life Design

## This is how we do it.

Coverings that go **up and down** are **better choices** than coverings that open and close from the sides. Natural grass window shades roll up and out of harm's way. And they're easy to keep clean—just vacuum or wipe with a dust cloth.

**Highly scrubbable wall finishes**, Like Benjamin Moore's AquaPearl paint, are very stain resistant. This paint reflects light, takes a scrubbing and you can do spot touch-ups without having to repaint the entire wall.

Natural red oak planks with **three coats of hi-gloss finish followed by a final coat of satin finish** will get through soccer and baseball seasons (cleats) better than a stained floor. Maintenance is easy with a damp mop and a little diluted ammonia. Using water-based finishes helps prevent the floor from yellowing over time.

If you want to display photos and decorative items, put them in shelving and **keep your tabletops free for use**. These custom built-ins provide flexible storage and display and they're stained to match touch-up crayons- just in case.

**Good lighting can make modest rooms impressive; without it impressive rooms look modest.**

Three inch low voltage lights are perfect for wall art and shelf display, while larger centered recessed fixtures, combined with a hanging fixture, gives soft and decorative lighting for the seating area.

**Re-use and recycle** grandma's high-boy to save money and keep familiar pieces in the family. The top of an old, tall piece was taken off and painted to match the room décor and provide functional room storage.

**Heavy-duty textured fabrics** in a cotton and nylon blend will ensure a smooth feel and you

can reap the stain resistant benefits. Spend the money and **upgrade seat and back cushions** to extend the wear and feel of your upholstery, with greater support and shape retention.



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