

correction

Highlighted section in printed copy below is incorrect.

Oil can saturate the wheat and cover, and ignite when heated. Add dried lavender or rosemary, or other dried herbs.



Ready to take on a new craft activity but don't know where to start? Stuck midway through a project and need some advice on the next step? Our Creative Director, Veronica, can always help.

ask veronica

Q I'm hosting a very special anniversary lunch at my home for my parents. I don't have enough matching dining chairs but I have a mix of different types of chairs. What could I do to try and introduce some uniformity to them for the big day? I have a four week window to get everything done.

A Why not make chair covers for all of your chairs? They're really very simple to make and can be altered to fit any chair. Another method I love that doesn't require so much fabric entails buying enough curtaining voile in an appropriate colour to tie a large bow around the top of each chair, around two metres should be enough for two chairs as half the width will only be required. Alternatively, we ran a pattern for chair covers in our debut issue and we also have a 'DIY Cushions & Covers' workbook available. Email me if you want more information on these.

Q. I love hot wheat bags but they cost way too much in the shops. How do you make them and what kind of wheat do you use to fill them?

A. Wheat bags are so simple to make, I'm sure that after you've made one you will be giving them to all your friends and family as gifts. Firstly, always use pure cotton fabric, not a synthetic. I like corduroy as it is heavy enough but still cosy.

Cut out two pieces of fabric to the size required - approximately 18cm x 35cm - or whatever size you like. Using a sewing machine, and with right sides facing, sew around all four sides but leave a 10 cm opening on one of the sides. Turn right side out.

Half fill the bag with cleaned wheat available from most supermarkets.

I also like to put a few drops of lavender or rose oil in with the wheat as well. Sew up the opening by hand, evenly disperse the wheat along the length of the bag. Using the sewing machine, sew a line through the middle of the bag from top to bottom to divide it in two.