

Eco news

Be kinder to the environment this month with our favourite buys

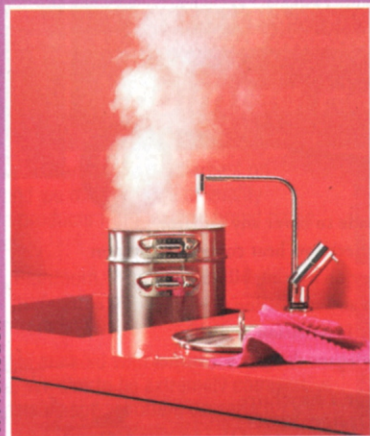
Get an ethnic look



These tota with their lovely multi-coloured fabric birds are lovingly made from remnants of cloth by the women from the village of Chota. With their beautiful beads and small metal bells the tota can be hung in a doorway or anywhere in your home to welcome guests. They are available from My Eco Store in three sizes, and prices start at only £3.95 for the small tota.

Feature Emma Foale

Get boiling water in an instant



YH Promotion

The hot tap is fast becoming indispensable in the modern kitchen, and the Quooker hot tap is a simple yet clever alternative to a kettle that would be useful in any household. We tend to boil two times the amount of water we need on average when making a cup of tea, but this tap gives you water ready at 100°C, saving you both time and energy every day. Prices start at £830, and Quooker is currently offering a free installation service, available for a limited time only. For more information visit www.quooker.co.uk or call 0844 414 3968.

Keep cosy

Alpaca fibre is a warm, soft and lightweight fibre which is celebrated for its hypoallergenic qualities and a myriad of natural colours. The Toft Alpaca Shop, based in Warwickshire, and their online boutique both sell a range of exclusive luxury yarns, knitting kits and ready-to-wear knitted accessories. To find out more information visit www.thoftalpashop.com.

Plus, this month, two lucky *Your Home* readers have the chance to win a place on the 'Make a felt Christmas decoration' course taking place at the Toft Alpaca shop on Saturday 17th



December 2011. To enter, send your name and address to Your Home November Toft Alpaca Course, The Tower, Phoenix Square, Colchester, Essex, CO4 9HU before the 18th November 2011.

Bed sock kit in oatmeal, £16, The Toft Alpaca Shop

READER TREAT



Brighten up your home

Dress your energy-saving light bulbs with a pretty eco lampshade that will make a statement in any room. These rolled-edge drum lampshades are made with eco-friendly inks and hand-printed organic cotton fabric. Peris & Corr make all of the shades in a studio in Snowdonia, using high quality water-based ink that contains no harmful chemicals, solvents, CFCs or heavy metals. You can choose from white cotton fabric or a blend of cotton and hemp in light blue, light green, bright red or teal, plus each one is compatible with standard ceiling or table lamp fittings.

Welsh blanket print lampshade, £39.99, Peris & Corr



Expert tip



Linda Sharples from energy-saving advice website, thinkinsulation.com says...

'Insulating your loft to the recommended minimum depth of 270mm can save the average household up to £145 per year on their annual energy bills, and if you do it yourself it costs from around £150 or less, so you will make your money back after the first year. Opt for glass mineral wool insulation that's free from artificial colours and dyes such as Space Loft Roll.' Space Loft Roll retails at around £15 per roll and is available in all major DIY home improvement stores. Visit www.space-insulation.com for more information.

Make it pretty

You can reduce the amount of rubbish you throw out by thinking about how you can reuse and reinvent your belongings. These beautiful hand-covered buttons are created using contemporary and classic Liberty print fabrics. Why not sew these buttons onto a homemade bag or give an old coat or cardigan a new lease of life? They look so unique, they will attract attention however they are used.

Hand-covered Liberty print buttons, £1.25 each, SewSister at Notonthehighstreet

