

Type of Buying Guide: Behavioural

Please keep the heading titles as-is (unless you see a typo)

Please write between 850-900 words of content so we can hit 750-800 words post-edit

[UK Style Guide](#) - There are instructions for each type of guide. When in doubt - ask!

DIY Furniture Restoration

There are so many ways to turn dreary and boring furniture into almost entirely new pieces. Painting, distressing, upcycling, repurposing, reupholstering, and simply, adding touches are great ways to bring new life into old furniture. Restoration is not just for professionals; rehabbing furniture is also for amateur crafters. There are so many projects for people of varying abilities, that allow crafters to showcase what they are really great at. Supplies can be found at specialty craft stores, brick and mortar stores, along with online retailers, like [eBay](#). The cost of the majority of projects is often low. The same project completed and sold could cost ten times the price. By learning what can be done with a drab piece of furniture, crafters can see the potential in their existing furniture.

Paint It

It's simple and relatively foolproof: painting. Adding a pop of colour to a room can bring a living room, for example, to life. [Paints](#) come in different finishes like gloss, semi-gloss, and matte. Choosing a high gloss finish can make that chair come to life and be a statement piece in the room. [Gloss finish](#) also makes the furniture look more modern. For a shabby chic look, painting with a matte finish is desired. Painting can be a great way for some items to fit in with the pallet of a room, or a way to add more colour into an existing scheme.

Distress It

The shabby chic design style is very popular. It is a movement in interior design where soft coloured or textured furniture and items in a room are distressed, whether by age or by the manufacturer, and have a cottage-like feel to them. These items are in no way period pieces, despite the fact that shabby chic furniture can be antique or vintage.

Crafters can attain this look by removing colour in strategic places to give the piece a worn look. They can wear furniture with [sandpaper](#), and use a furniture pen to bring out the wood color under the paint. The key to distressing furniture is to remove paint in areas that would receive the heaviest use over the years.

Upcycle It

Upcycling is a fun movement whereby people take items that could be labelled as "trash" and find a new life for them. It is especially desirable for people who hate to waste anything, labelling themselves as environmentally-conscious. For example, with little effort, [wood pallets](#) can be transformed into bookshelves or even coffee tables. Crafters can even remove the top of a short dresser and the first drawer to create a cute seat by adding a layer of wood over the existing drawers and cushions. Do not throw that extra drawer out, though, because it can have wheels added to it and be placed under a bed to store summer clothes during the off season.

Repurpose It

Repurposing is another popular movement that is similar to upcycling, whereby people take items that would not normally be part of a decor and make them work. For example, homeowners on a budget longing for an island could move a dresser of ideal height into the middle of the kitchen, paint it a colour to match the decor and store pots and pans in the drawers, and add a [paper towel holder](#) and [utensil holders](#) to the sides. The top could be stripped and used as a [cutting board](#). It adds a sense of creativity and fun to a home.

Reupholster It

While sewing may be more difficult than sanding down a chair for many people, it is a great craft to learn. The stitches needed to reupholster are simple and [sewing machines](#) can be purchased at great prices. Adding a fresh piece of [fabric](#) to an already existing sofa can make it so much more relevant and modern. New fabric can also allow the sofa to fit more comfortably into the decor of the room. Chair cushions and pillows can all be reupholstered to add new life to old furniture.

Add touches

Adding touches to existing furniture may not seem high up on the list of priorities when taking on a furniture restoration project; however, it can turn an item that looked fine before into an amazing piece. These touches can be as simple as changing out ugly handles and knobs on a wardrobe for beautiful crystal or [vintage brass pulls](#). Painting accents on furniture is a fantastic idea or even applying a [decal](#). The seat of a chair can be anyone's canvas. Swapping out the legs of a chair for modern, mid-century pin legs is a fabulous idea.

How to Buy Supplies for DIY Furniture Restoration

With people embracing a more thrifty mindset, tools and supplies for furniture restoration are not in short supply. Though they can be found at various shops, [eBay](#) allows people to easily find supplies and have them delivered right to your door. Not only that, but with so many people showcasing goods right alongside one another, prices are kept at a level that customers do not often see in their local craft store.

People can search for [high gloss white paint](#) by exploring the categories or using keywords. When deciding on an item, people should check the shipping charges and delivery times. Since paint is a heavier item, it could cost more to ship. Most importantly, remember to have fun on your adventure in DIY furniture restoration.

Sandpaper|Paint|Vintage Brass Pulls|Sewing Machines|Fabric (each tag is no more than 3 words)