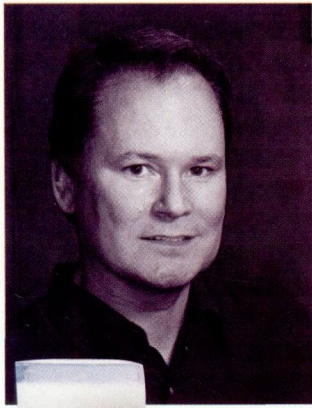


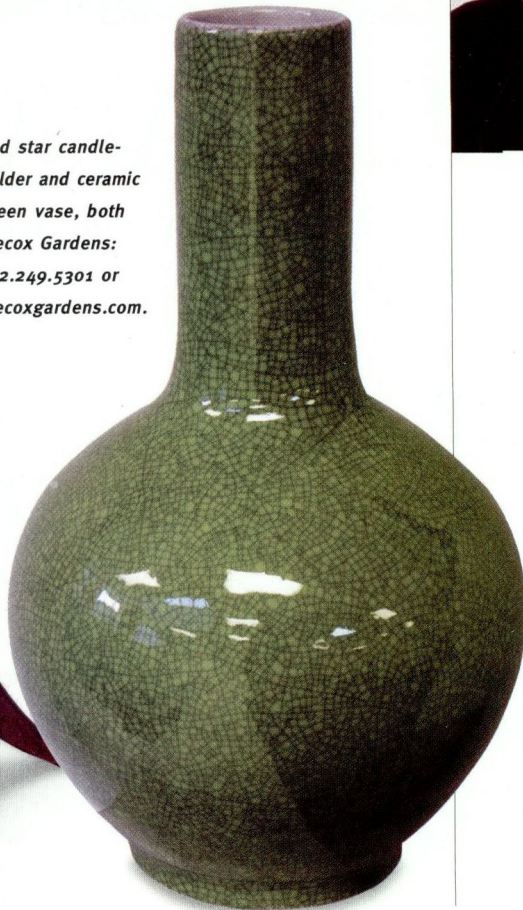
## Matthew Smyth



**1.** Reassess your accessories! Replace old candlesticks with fresh, fun, new ones from Mecox Gardens in a bright color. Remember to throw out old candles. They don't age well and can look sad and dirty when left out too long. **2.** Paint bookshelves and trim with Benjamin Moore "White Dove" and use Janovic #141-A "Chocolate Brown" on the walls. Think of '60s Hicks. **3.** Wallpaper can hide a multitude of sins. Stripes add height, a scenic paper opens up a dark room, and a toile camouflages architectural defects. **4.** Slipcovers can spin a room around. Adding canvas or chintz slipcovers in the spring and summer can lighten a room and come fall, the original upholstery will look fresh again. **5.** If you have a piece of furniture that has a good line but the finish is not very interesting, paint it glossy black. Many a mediocre piece of reproduction furniture from the '50s can look chic with a good coat of black paint!



Red star candleholder and ceramic green vase, both Mecox Gardens: 212.249.5301 or [mecoxgardens.com](http://mecoxgardens.com).



## Tori Golub

# 5 WAYS

**1.** Invest in a modern classic. Items such as the Saarinen Egg chair, Mies Van Der Rohe's Barcelona daybed, or Serge Mouille's two-arm wall lamp are timeless pieces and will infuse any room with a modern air. **2.** Clean up. Pare down. Put Away. Invest in storage cabinetry that will hide your tendency to be a pack rat. Try custom cabinets with flat, closed-front panels and concealed hinges. As an inexpensive option, look for Ikea's "Pax Storage Solution." **3.** Buy a new rug. Introduce a new material by using a hide, add texture by bringing in a shag rug, or use a round area rug to make a break from traditional style. **4.** Reinvent your furniture. Update your sofa by recovering it in a mod Bouclé. Streamline by replacing multiple saggy seat cushions with one new tailored cushion. Finally, add pillows in bold, graphic colors and patterns, or try bolsters and other funky shades. **5.** Put collections on display. Start a collection of modern glass or ceramics that is about shape and color. Can't part with those favorite knick-knacks? Try mounting them on custom metal or Lucite stands, taking them from visual clutter to a remarkable exhibit.



Saarinen Egg Chair, Troy: 212.941.4777 or [www.troysoho.com](http://www.troysoho.com).

