

**ANTIQUES**

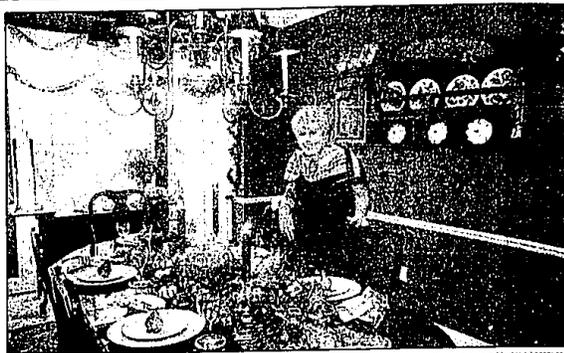
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cases several pumpkins. Surrounding it are some of Zamjahn's prized tins. "You just learn to mix your stuff, and put different things in different places." You don't have to spend large amounts of money on flawless antiques, either, said

Zamjahn. "You just have to look. I always look for something a little different. It doesn't have to be perfect." Sometimes, those less-than-perfect, less-than-grand pieces are the most interesting anyway. Among the more unusual tin pieces in Zamjahn's collection is a large, odd-shaped container apparently used by English clergy in the late 1800s and early 1900s to store hats. The piece bears the

owner's name, "R.A.A. Downs." "It's really in the details," Zamjahn said, adding that half the fun is wondering who owned the items she now possesses. "I always wonder what did they put in there? Where did they keep this in their home?" "I guess this is how I get my rush. I also love that I have so many memories from the things I have."

nlstalford@eohome.com.net | (248) 901-2567



PHOTOS BY JOHN STORZJANC | ECCENTRIC

Above, Carol Zamjahn and her interior designer, Nancy McGowan strive to make antiques functional, rather than mere showpieces. Zamjahn also incorporates her antiques into seasonal decoration of her Rochester Hills home. At left, Zamjahn of Rochester Hills joined Goodwill Industries of Greater Detroit to give back to the community. Within a few years of membership, she was an avid collector of antique furniture and home accessories.



**STEPS**

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wrinkles and make covering as taut as possible. Step three: Using sponge, cover fabric with a coating of liquid starch and allow to dry.

**Tips**  
■ Buy a small quantity of fabric and test how it reacts to the liquid starch before making a final purchase. Liquid starch shrinks fabric, thus affects the quantity of fabric you will need. Starch may affect a fabric's color tone, too.

■ If you're working with a pattern fabric, you'll need to match up panel seams appropriately, as with pattern wallpaper. The fabric's pattern repeat

and the size of your coverage area need to be considered when determining how much fabric to buy.

■ Err on the side of buying more, rather than less, fabric, especially if it's on sale or being discontinued.

■ Likewise, it's a good idea to size your panels on the larger side (beyond the amount you've figured in for shrinkage). Excess fabric can be trimmed after the second application of starch has dried.

■ Before starting the application process, clear furniture from the area and cover floors with a drop cloth. Though fabric is easy to remove, affixing it is as messy as putting up wallpaper.

- By Nicole Stafford

**FABRIC**

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create additional wall texture when using fabric, too, said Haberman.

For example, fabric panels can be edged at their seams with narrow cardboard or wood slats lined with a light hatting. For a pleated fabric covering, simply affix simple curtain rods at the bottom and top of the wall. Then hang fabric in the same manner as curtains on a French door, said Haberman.

Another decorative option with tremendous potential: fabric wall borders instead of ready-made paper ones. Combine two fabrics to make a custom border or use one fabric border with a wood trim.

And for additional ideas and techniques, Haberman suggests *More Sewing for the Home* (Singer Reference Library series, \$16.95) available at Haberman Fabrics.

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