

{DIY tutorial} sunshine girls room makeover

Tuesday { April 24 th } 2012

so... this isn't a photography post. it's a little crossover into my personal life. i don't have the energy or desire to create and maintain a crafty mom blog. there are SO many incredible ones out there already, and i'll point to a few of them below. but, there have been some {teasings?} requests for me to write a kid's book- to include photography, DIY, art & crafts, some fun fiction and recipes. oh wait,

"Bridgette, that was delicious! I must have your recipe," said no one ever.

scratch the recipe part. anyway, since that book is probably never gonna happen i thought i'd share some of our recent DIY adventures here. the girls begged for new beds so i took to the internet for inspiration. as usual, ana-white.com did not disappoint! we followed her plans for the "easiest hanging daybed" which is a little too optimistic a name if you ask me i loved this gorgeous execution of it best, by [the bumper crop](#). 😊





a few trips to lowe's later, we had this pile of commitment.

and just a tip, if you are gonna DIY, let the lady of the house make the runs to the hardware store- alone. i got eager VIP white glove service with a smile. They hand picked the best boards for me, cut them to my specs, helped me choose the proper hardware and a happy customer volunteered himself to load them into the car for me.

if they assume I am helpless who am I to argue??



back home, i found a few more eager helpers!



in my research of those who have

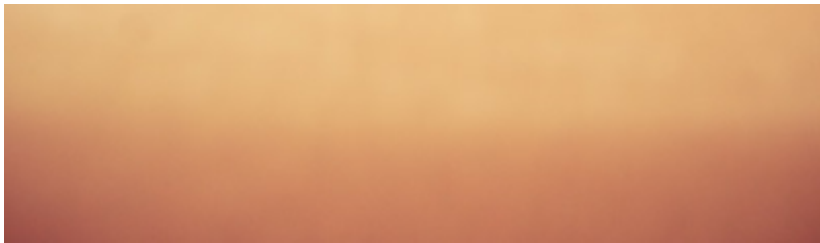
In my research of those who have attempted the floating beds, hanging them was one of the biggest problems. These are **very heavy**, and while we opted for 1x4s instead of 2x4s for the decking planks to save us some weight, it was still too heavy and awkward to hold level for any amount of time. and it took a *good* amount of time to get all seven 5-inch lag screws ratcheted into the wall studs. so, we used this resourceful method to support the whole thing and took our time making sure we did quality secure work on the beds that might precariously dangle our beloved children 5 feet off the ground each night.





after we hung the ropes and apprehensively removed the supports, each of us tested it out one by one. lots of adrenaline was in the air for sure. anxiety from us and extreme excitement and satisfaction from them!





once i trusted that they would hold up, my nerves gave way to that same excitement, and maybe a twinge of jealousy





these beds are soooo adorable. they remind me of camp bunks...





...which led us to finish the room with a glamping theme {girly glamorous camping}



our girls' middle names, Soleil & Solana, both mean sunshine so i had a little fun with that on their chalkboard wall. those paintings are a tradition we have. each year on their birthday they get a blank canvas to paint with their new age #.



we had a MALM dresser from IKEA that was begging for a facelift.



before ↑ and after ↓



our awesome generous friends gave us this dresser. it needed a slight repair which i did with wood glue and clamps via this tutorial from emily at [merrypad](#) {apparently it's a common issue}. then i measured the drawers and headed off to staples copy & print department for a fancy ole \$3.19 engineer's print. i trimmed it at the shop and applied it with spray adhesive at home. they make no claims to the prints being photo quality- and while it's just black and white on lightweight paper, you can see from the close up that it's not too shabby at all!





finally, since they would be sleeping further apart than they ever have {until now they had separate beds, yet each morning i would find them spooned together in one} they insisted on making tin can phones so they can tell secrets without yelling across the room.





if that isn't the cutest display of sisterhood, i don't know what is. almost makes it worth the extreme exhaustion and soreness that resulted from our staying up til 2am and spending an entire weekend on this hot pink room



*special thanks to my handsome husband who never shuts down my extreme ideas, from moss wall guest rooms to a roofing tin accent wall in our master bedroom. his sweat and pure brawn got these awesome beds off my pinterest board and onto our walls. AND we worked *together* the whole weekend without a single bad word slipping or tear shedding.*

"we've come a long way baby!!"

{UPDATE}

my tutorial for the dresser makeover is featured on [ikeahackers!](#)