

SYTYCD – Week 4 (Whites)

Welcome to another week of the [So You Think You Can Decorate](#) Competition! As I mention below, this week has been an unexpected favorite for me. Here's my "white" entry...

"Out of all of the entries so far, this is the one I enjoyed working on the most. Not only did I relish giving the dresser a new life, but I loved finding interesting and unexpected items from around my house for the "photo shoot." A naked lamp shade becomes a cloche for books, ironstone, and coral in addition to a display for old photos. An antique frame painted white becomes a perfect place to feature an antique christening gown and a family letter from the 1880's held in place by a starfish.

I purchased this antique dresser at an auction for \$6.00 last fall. It was a beautiful bird's eye maple, so it pained me to have to paint it, but the veneer was chipped and bubbled and beyond my ability to repair. So, I had to come up with a way to cover it. Some free antique sheet music from my grandparent's attic was the perfect solution. Visit my [blog](#) for before pictures and a tutorial.

One of the keys to decorating with whites is to use lots of texture and varying tones of white and neutrals. I love the texture of this bird's nest against the smooth, bright white eggs, the gloss of the ironstone and the yellowed sheet music. A feast for the eyes.



the Bells, Though I
f-y Ann, Though we
l-y Jane, Though I
o-sie Lou, Though we

er
fall,
ras
maie, I got spous
I was

why I nev-er fell
why I ar and

Oh, ad
Oh! your sis - ter

no
ver - y far from

at do
Oh, Mar - y
Oh, Sol - y
Oh, the - se

And the song abt so
we - y far from

Andante

A page of handwritten musical notation on aged paper. It features several staves of music with lyrics written below. A decorative glass ornament is placed on the page. The lyrics include "the Bells, Though I", "f-y Ann, Though we", "l-y Jane, Though I", "o-sie Lou, Though we", "er", "fall,", "ras", "maie, I got spous", "I was", "why I nev-er fell", "why I ar and", "Oh, ad", "Oh! your sis - ter", "no", "ver - y far from", "at do", "Oh, Mar - y", "Oh, Sol - y", "Oh, the - se", "And the song abt so", "we - y far from", and "Andante".

Ornament

Words and Music by
MARGUERITE L. TEST

Andante

Andante primo

A page of handwritten musical notation on aged paper. The title "Ornament" is visible at the top left. Below it, it says "Words and Music by MARGUERITE L. TEST". The page contains several staves of music, including piano accompaniment and vocal lines. A decorative glass ornament is placed on the page. The tempo markings "Andante" and "Andante primo" are visible. The lyrics "er", "fall,", "ras", "maie, I got spous", "I was", "why I nev-er fell", "why I ar and" are partially visible at the top of the page.



This letter not only displays beautiful penmanship, but the age of the paper looks lovely against the crisp white frame. It was written to one of my ancestors and references her survival through the siege at Petersburg, Virginia during the Civil War.



I love old christening gowns and baby dresses, so this was the perfect time to show one off. The antique wooden hanger balances gracefully on the edge of the empty frame.

Make sure you visit my [blog](#) to see more pictures and a tutorial on the sheet music dresser.”

I'm only permitted to submit five pictures and I need to keep it short, so here's the tutorial for the dresser along with some additional pictures of my entry. This is what the dresser looked like when I brought it home a few months ago. I'm sorry it's buried under other yard sale finds, but you get the idea.

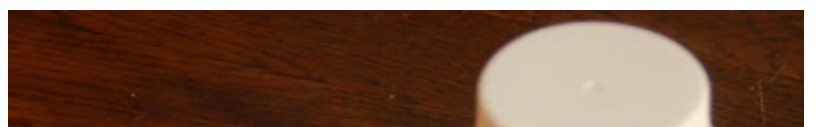
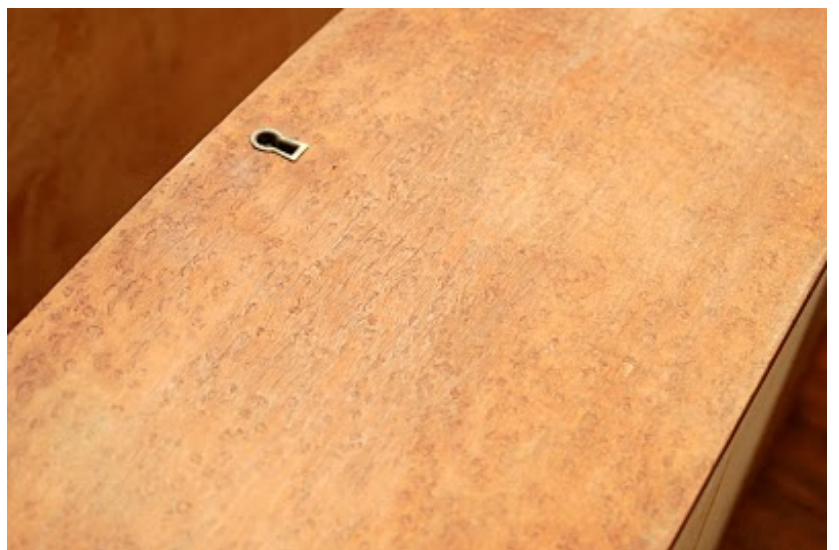
It took me so long to work on this piece because I was wringing out all of my creative juices to figure out how I could save this beautiful bird's eye veneer. Some of it just needed stain



and poly, but several areas were chipped, bubbled and missing. I finally faced the truth that it needed some expensive restoration or it needed to be painted. Paint is what I do, so paint it was.

But paint does not cover missing, chipping, and bubbled veneer. Mod Podge is a fairly recent discovery for me...I know, late bloomer. Vintage sheet music was the perfect solution to hide the imperfections.

I brushed the Mod Podge directly on the drawers and applied the sheet music, cutting around the key holes, knob holes and edges with an Exacto knife. I then applied a liberal coat of Mod Podge over the sheet music.







The paper is always a little bubbly when it's wet, but it dries flat, so don't think you did something wrong if you're trying this. I then applied an antiquing stain over the sheet music and one more coat of Mod Podge. I finished off the top with a coat of Wipe On Poly to make it water resistant.

The rest of the dresser was primed in a Sherwin Williams' bonding primer and one coat of latex semi-gloss ProClassic paint in Creamy. I hit the edges of the dresser with a sander and applied an antique glaze.

I love the original wheels on this piece and how the yellowed sheet music is framed by the white on the body of the dresser.

Here are some additional pictures of the items in the arrangement on and above the dresser.











I hope you enjoyed looking at this post as much as I enjoyed putting it together.
Voting is open until Friday, so make sure you go over there and [vote](#) for your favorites!

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