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→ LANDSCAPING IDEA

Patchwork patio

Got an odd lot of bricks lying around the garage? Turn them into a custom patchwork patio mosaic. To start, gather enough pavers to cover your desired area or add on to an existing patio. If you don't already have enough bricks, check classified sites like craigslist.org and diggerslist.com for leftover and salvaged materials.

Then map out a design that alternates large pavers with smaller pieces. Create a proper base and lay the brick in various patterns, including running bond and herringbone, leveling the pavers as you go. Finish by sweeping sand between the joints or lifting out a brick here and there for a planting spot. —D.B.



→ MONEYMAKER

Strike gold at your yard sale

In honor of National Garage Sale Day (August 13), Ava Seavy of GarageSaleGold.com shares how to rake in the big bucks:

- 1_ Title your event wisely. "Estate Sale" or "Moving Sale" implies that you're liquidating a house's contents, and can earn you more than "Garage Sale."
- 2_ Drum up attention. Place ads in local newspapers, online, or on public bulletin boards. Reserve signs for the day of the event, and only include the sale's date, time, and directional arrows to its location.
- 3_ Offer freebies. While you shouldn't hand out items without a catch, encourage people to spend more with buy-one-get-one deals, which let you truthfully advertise free goods. —J.D.F.

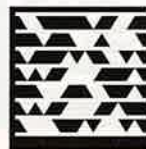


→ EASY UPGRADE

Bath redo by mail

A number of design services will send you samples, renderings, and shopping lists to help you create your ideal bath. But Bath Simple takes things one step further by shipping everything you need for a remodel—from the tub to tile grout—directly to your home in a single container.

The time- (and stress-) saving service starts at \$3,500 and maxes out at about \$35,000, depending on your bath's size and the materials you choose. First, a Bath Simple designer consults with you, either in person or by phone, to devise a floor plan and style scheme using some of the 3,000 products the company offers from major brands such as Hansgrohe, Toto, and Armstrong. Once you make your picks, it takes three to six weeks for your ready-to-install "bath in a box" to arrive. Not up for laying all that new tile on your own? The company will also help you find a licensed contractor to ensure the final result looks just right. —J.D.F.



TO ENTER > Scan this tag with your smartphone for a chance to win a \$5,000 gift certificate from Bath Simple. For details, see page 14. Or just go to thisoldhouse.com/win.