

pages

Home Improvement

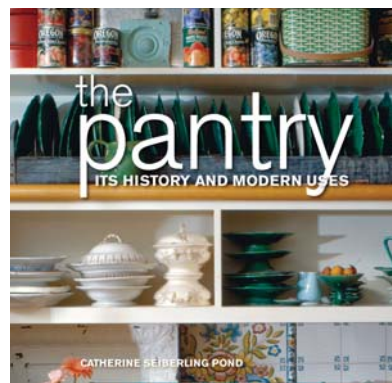
Organize, collect and decorate—
these books will show you how

BY REBECCA J. RAZO

PHOTOS BY SUSAN DALEY AND STEVE GROSS FROM THE PANTRY BY CATHERINE SEIBERLING POND. REPRINTED WITH PERMISSION OF GIBBS SMITH, PUBLISHER.



LIKE ALL GREAT RECIPES, a successful home-reference book must contain the right ingredients to create the perfect blend of aesthetic appeal and useful information. *The Pantry*, by Catherine Seiberling Pond, combines one-part history lesson with a bit of utilitarian function and a dash of decorating instruction. The result is a fabulous recipe for a stylish and organized kitchen pantry.



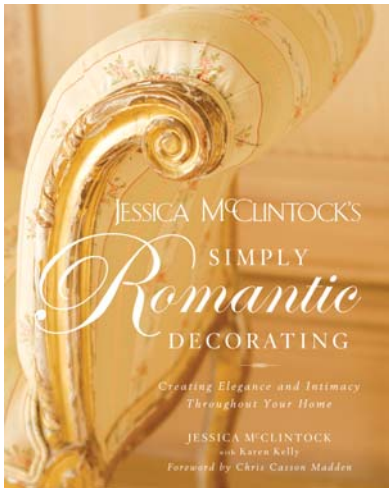
COVER PHOTO © F&E SCHMIDT PHOTOGRAPHY

Whether your homemaking skills rival those of June Cleaver or Peg Bundy, this book offers a little something for everyone. Homeowners of historical homes and history aficionados will undoubtedly enjoy chapters on “The Early American Pantry,” “The Farmhouse Pantry” and “The Victorian Pantry.” Those with a taste for retro style will appreciate “The Twentieth-Century Pantry,” while readers with larger homes or more modern sensibilities will like “The Great Estate Pantry” and “The Modern Pantry.”

Features include an intriguing history of each time period; the uses and functions of the pantry; new and vintage images of kitchens, pantries, Hoosier-style cabinets and more. Each chapter also provides information for how to achieve a specific look: “Display early collections of woodenware, tinware and crockery” for an Early American pantry or “display canned goods with decorative labels and jarred preserves to add color” for a Victorian pantry.

So go ahead—let *The Pantry* help turn your dream of having the perfectly organized kitchen into reality. You won’t be disappointed.

The Pantry: Its History and Modern Uses by Catherine Seiberling Pond, published by Gibbs Smith, © 2007; gibbs-smith.com.



ROMANTICS, TAKE HEART. Jessica McClintock, the reigning queen of romantic design and home décor, opens her home in the pages of *Simply Romantic Decorating* to share her thoughts on the romantic lifestyle. Between the book's stunning photography and Jessica's lovely personal anecdotes, readers will learn how to embrace romance in their homes and



lives in three sections: "Setting the Stage for Romantic Style," "Designed for Romantic Living" and "Romantic Projects." Sharing her experiences and insights, Jessica covers ground to include everything from the historical styles of romance to accessories, furnishings, collecting and the garden. In short, she leaves no romantic stone unturned.

Both novice and experienced crafters will enjoy the romantic projects, which include painting and glazing walls and moldings, stenciling a floor, creating pretty pillows and making a floor-to-ceiling lace swag, among others.

From cover to cover, *Simply Romantic Decorating* illustrates all that is wonderful about true romantic living.



Jessica McClintock's *Simply Romantic Decorating* by Jessica McClintock with Karen Kelly, published by Rodale Books, © 2007; rodale.com.