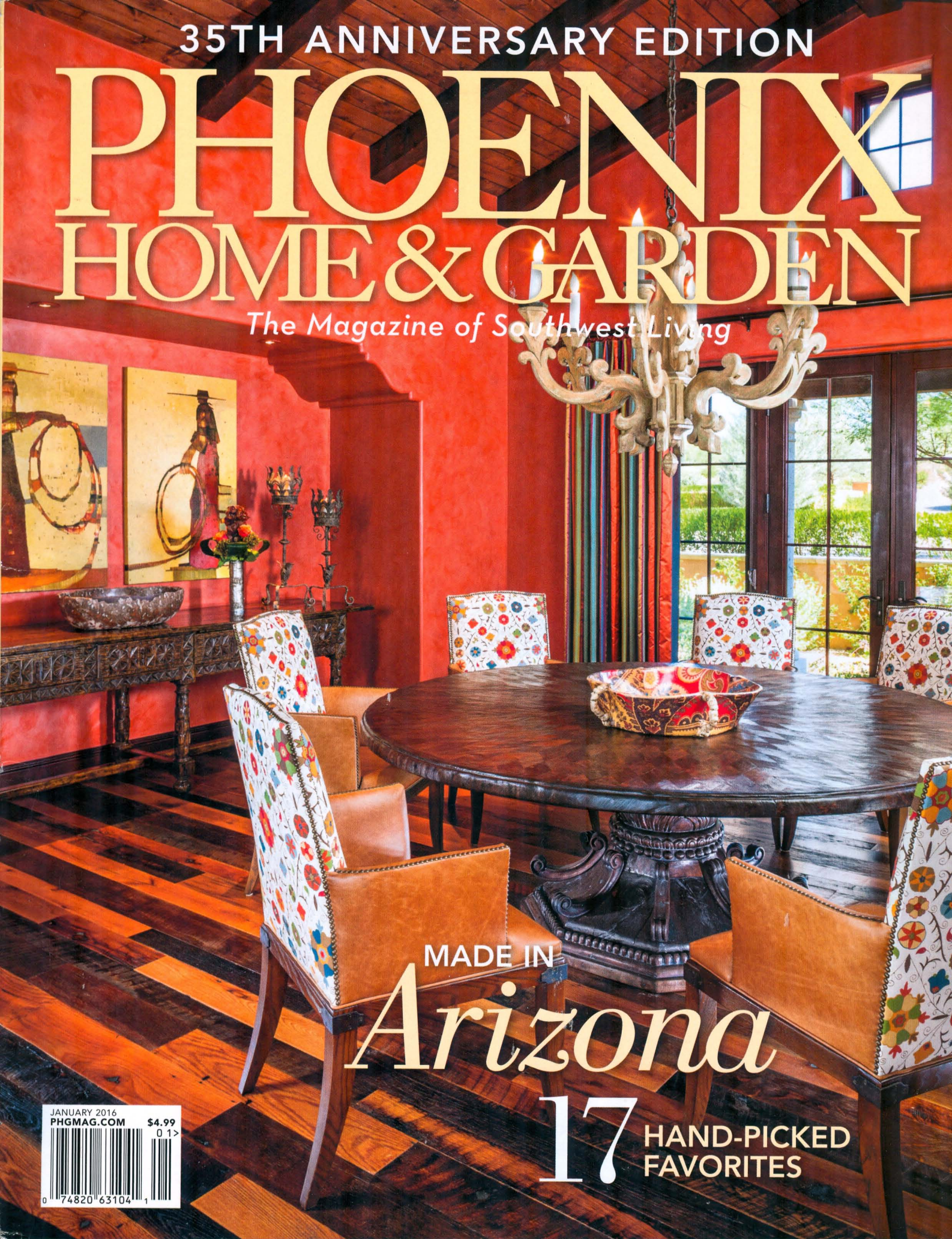


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House of Jewels

Choose the right hardware to imbue your home with individual style

BY SHAWNDREA CORBIN

The secret to many beautiful scenes is found in the details, and the home is no exception. Like a great pair of earrings, cabinet and door knobs, pulls and levers add the final flourish to any room, with up-to-date options providing unique materials, finishes and styles to match your personal taste. From clean, contemporary lines and innovative textures to clever mix-and-match pairings, a plethora of characterful options abound for the Southwest home.

CLEAN AND SIMPLE

Today's casual lifestyles call for straightforward, functional design, which is easy to translate into hardware. The door lever, for instance, has seen a renaissance over its knob counterpart due to its linear silhouette and ease of use. One good example is the classically elegant Estate Lever by Baldwin Hardware. Its shoehorn-shaped handle fits naturally in the palm of your hand. With 20 finish options, it's also adaptable for a variety of interiors.



The Zanzibar Faux Leather Wrapped Pull measures 8.5"L and comes in a variety of color options. Part of a series including knobs, switchplates and more, it's also available with authentic leather. \$36 (atlashomewares.com)

SAVVY SHOPPER

Styles of the past are being reinterpreted in sleek modern ways as well, as seen in popular transitional designs. "Midcentury modern continues to be a prominent trend in hardware, and we are also starting to see a resurgence of Art Deco and geometric forms," says PJ Rosch, brand manager for Baldwin Hardware. "We are taking these styles and making them fresh again through current sensibilities."

Zimran Cadle, door hardware specialist for Central Arizona Supply, weighs in on the popu-

larity of transitional hardware in Arizona homes. "With all of the remodels and new houses going up in the Valley, people are really being drawn to hardware that goes with contemporary architecture," he says. "The transitional style can also give an older home an instant, but not jarring, update." Classic styles in modern finishes like polished chrome and brushed nickel straddle the line between contemporary and traditional.

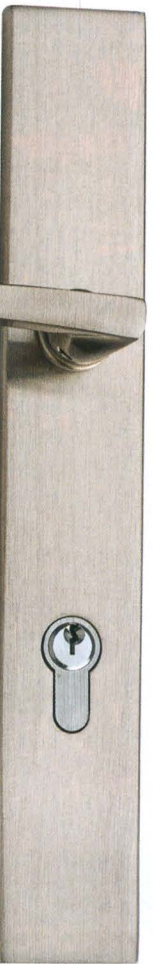


ABOVE: The Facette Knob and Pulls from Keeler bring dimension to cabinets. The largest pull is 9.5"L by 0.5"D. Prices range from \$13 to \$69. (shop.ferguson.com)



RIGHT: For additional comfort in the hand, the new Santa Monica European Mortise door lever from Baldwin Hardware is slightly curved. Choose from 19 finishes and custom sizes to fit most any door. Prices vary. (centralazsupply.com)

BELOW: From the Parker Collection, this double towel bar exemplifies modern simplicity. Available in brushed nickel and polished chrome, it is 23.5"L by 4"D. \$175 (atlashomewares.com)



LEFT: Featuring an interesting split design, the Valora Pull has a matte finish that softens its look. It measures 5.8"L. \$24. (shop.ferguson.com)

ONE OF A KIND

A shift toward highly personalized homes has created a demand for artisanal hardware—something David Tyler of Atlas Homewares calls jewelry for cabinets. “The luxury handmade hardware we are seeing today has this great depth of field and, when set with high-quality plating, takes on this gorgeous three-dimensional look,” he says.

The company’s new Steam Punk collection, for instance, is inspired by the popular literary genre, blending old-time character with 21st-century performance. The hardware series resembles pipework in a range of finishes. Exposed pipes of a hair salon inspired the firm’s CEO to conceive the collection.

Hardware designers are also aligning with trends in home furnishings. The new Tressé collection from Keeler, for instance, features a tufted motif that repeats today’s tufted-backed upholstery. “People are beginning to accent certain parts of their kitchens or bathrooms with fun or unusual hardware,” adds Tyler. “They might put blingy pieces on a special cabinet or on another piece of furniture that they want to stand out.”



New from Zen Design, the Diamond Wall Soap Dispenser adds a touch of sleek yet subtle glam to the bathroom. 4"W by 4.75"H by 5"D. \$250 (wayfair.com)



The Couture Pull pairs a vintage bronze finish with a punched-out pattern. It measures 3"L by 1.15"H. \$16 (centralazsupply.com)

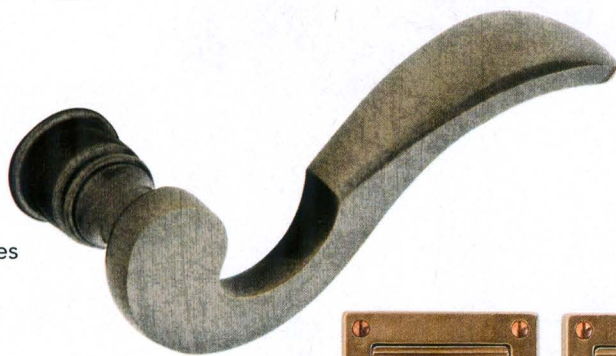
The Steam Punk pull in vintage brass is a playful nod to industrial style. 3.78"L by 1.18"D. \$14 (atlashomewares.com)



Mimicking tufted upholstery, the Tressé series of knobs and pulls adds eye-catching detail to the home. Prices range from \$10 to \$53. (shop.ferguson.com)

SAVVY SHOPPER

The 5152 Estate Lever features a classic outline with a clean, unadorned aesthetic. The 4"L lever comes in 20 finishes. Prices vary from \$57 to \$142. (centralazsupply.com)



TOPS AND BOTTOMS

Hardware takes on another level of interest with the growing trend of mixing and matching materials and placement within the home. The endless possibilities of finishes and styles are able to coexist in any setting.

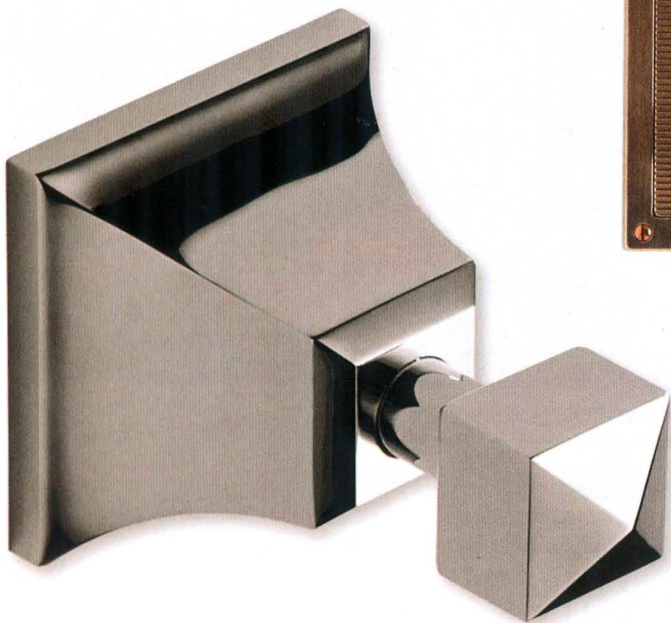
"We're seeing hardware with different finishes being used in the same home," notes Tyler. "It works as long as the pieces have a similar style or shape. For instance, the knobs may be different on the upper cabinets versus the lower ones in a kitchen."

Rosch adds that new hardware featuring mixed materials also makes it easier to create a truly unique look. "I've seen crystal, porcelain and even leather being infused into today's hardware designs," he says. "It's about choosing what is beautiful, timeless and classic." ■

See Sources.



Make a statement with the Flute Entry Set from the Roger Thomas Collection. With fluted detailing inspired by ancient Corinthian columns, each plate is 18"L by 3.5"W. \$2,689 (rockymountainhardware.com)



A classic, faceted design and polished chrome finish make the Gratitude Bath Collection's Robe Hook pretty and functional. 2" square by 2.75"D. \$45 (atlashomewares.com)



The Paris Entry Set features shapely quatrefoil-style door knobs with smooth facings. Shown here in a silicone bronze brushed finish, the set measures 9.25"H by 2.5"W. Prices range from \$288 to \$1,158. (rockymountainhardware.com)