

This Old House

**Fresh
color
ideas**

**Find your paint
personality**

DIY rolling grill cart
Two-cook kitchen reno
Stone retaining walls
Easy furniture makeovers
Keep basements mold-free

Not-so-basic black accents

Ready to try out the growing trend of black finishes on plumbing fixtures, lighting, hardware, and the like? Kitchens and baths are good places to start. Here, we hunted up some old-house-friendly options. —K.W.



CLASSIC BARSTOOL Extra-long legs and a weathered finish that reveals hints of gold underneath distinguish this steel version of the Navy chair. *Fairmount 30" Bar Stool*, \$220 for two; wayfair.com



SINGLE-HOLE FAUCET

A shepherd's crook spout and curvy white handle give this powder-coated brass faucet a Victorian vibe. *Glittran faucet*, \$119; ikea.com



SHAPELY PENDANT A flat black finish helps this fixture's sleek mid-century-inspired silhouette look sharp, while its bronze-tone interior gives off a soft, warm glow. *Eurofase 7½" Mini Pendant*, \$96; lampsplus.com



DIAMOND TILE

Herringbone, wave, and floral designs add texture to these porcelain wall and floor tiles. White grout makes the shapes pop. *Merola Tile Rhombus Black*, about \$13 per square foot; homedepot.com



GLASS DOORKNOB Add polish to a powder room or another special space with a gem-like octagonal knob in black glass. *Grandeur Hardware Lyon knob and Georgetown rosette*, \$120; myknobs.com

Easy way to extract a stripped screw

Too much torque can strip a fastener clean in seconds, but this fix is just as quick. Grab a rubber band, and gently stretch it over the screwhead. Using an appropriate screwdriver (going up a size can help), apply steady pressure and turn. The rubber band helps by both filling in the missing parts of the screwhead and providing a nonslip surface for the driver to grab on to.

