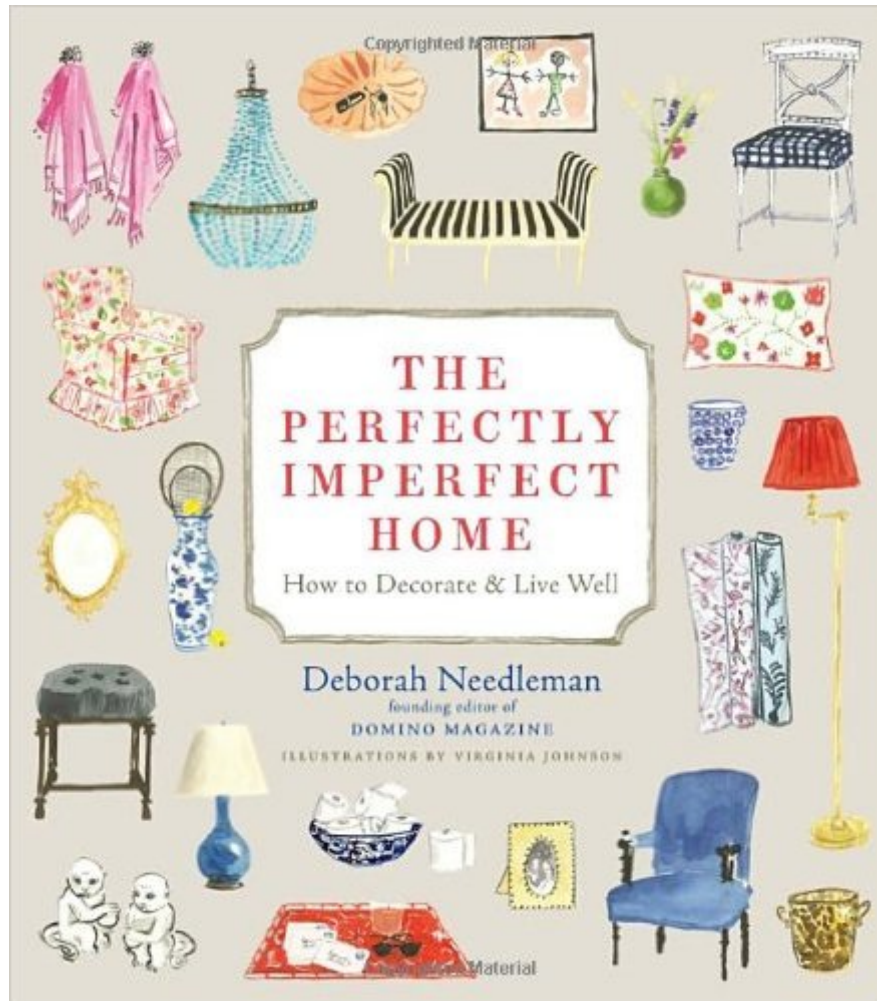


The book was found

# The Perfectly Imperfect Home: How To Decorate And Live Well



## Synopsis

Style is a luxury, and luxury is simply what makes you happy. Over the years, founding editor in chief of domino magazine Deborah Needleman has seen all kinds of rooms, with all kinds of furnishings. Her conclusion: It's not hard to create a relaxed, stylish, and comfortable home. Just a few well-considered items can completely change the feel of your space, and *The Perfectly Imperfect Home* reveals them all. Ranging from classics such as "A Really Good Sofa" and "Pretty Table Settings" to unusual surprises like "A Bit of Quirk" and "Cozifications," the essential elements of style are treated in witty and wonderfully useful little essays. You'll learn what to look for, whether you are at a flea market or a fancy boutique or just mining what you already own. Celebrated artist Virginia Johnson's original watercolor illustrations bring the items and the inspiring rooms of world-famous tastemakers to vibrant life. Styling tips and simple how-tos show you techniques to put it all together to create, say, a beautifully made bed (the fast way and the fancy way), an inviting reading nook, or an effortlessly chic display of pictures. According to Deborah, the point of decorating is to create the background for the best life you can have, with all its joys and imperfections. This book will show you how. Deborah Needleman is the editor in chief of *WSJ. Magazine* and creator of the Off Duty section of *The Wall Street Journal*. She was the founding editor in chief of domino magazine and coauthor of domino: the book of decorating. Virginia Johnson's illustrations have appeared in books by Kate Spade and on textiles carried in more than one hundred stores, including Barneys, Liberty of London, and Net-A-Porter. [perfectlyimperfect.com](http://perfectlyimperfect.com)

## Book Information

Hardcover: 256 pages

Publisher: Potter Style; 1 edition (November 1, 2011)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 9780307720139

ISBN-13: 978-0307720139

ASIN: 0307720136

Product Dimensions: 8.3 x 1.2 x 9.3 inches

Shipping Weight: 2 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars See all reviews (110 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #42,698 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #5 in Books > Arts & Photography > Architecture > Decoration & Ornament #5 in Books > Arts & Photography > Decorative Arts &

## Customer Reviews

The Perfectly Imperfect Home: How to Decorate and Live Well by Deborah Needleman is a terrific resource for home decorators. Needleman writes that the point of decorating is to "create the background for the best life you can live." As a designer myself, I fully agree with this sentiment. This book is the opposite of what a staged home would be like...(staging is when one creates a home to appeal to all and depersonalizes it.) According to Needleman, one does not decorate simply to have a home look good...one decorates to feel comfortable, to fit one's lifestyle--functionality, and to feel good in. "Decorating improves one's life!" She claims. The reader is asked to decide what you want your home to do--what functions should it serve? Next, how does your home make you feel? With this information, you are guided in furniture and styling to make your home work best for you. The goal is to make your home personal and comfortable and highly functional. She writes: "Luxury is simply what makes you happy." The remainder of the book is divided into sections with many tips on how to make a functional, personal and comfortable home. Within each of the following chapters, these are discussed: \* Lighting \* The entry way \* Areas for conversation \* "A bit of quirk"--personalizing your space to reflect you \* "Spots for books, drinks, and feet" \* "Cozifications" \* Bedroom \* Bathroom \* "Glamifications"--wallpaper, objects \* "Dinners with friends"--making entertaining special with pretty objects and functional with a well stocked pantry \* Personal stuff \* Smells--adding flowers, scented things \* History--adding antiques, crafts Altogether, I highly recommend this book.

From the title, I was expecting this book to be a refreshing look at the obsession with perfection that so many of us have toward our homes, and a reminder that no, we don't have to be perfect all the time, and neither do our living spaces. Maybe with some awareness that not everyone has the time or money to make their homes look fantastic, and some basic advice for making things look good without spending all your time and energy on decorating. Sadly, it seems to be filled with just as much this-is-what-you-MUST-do advice as other home decorating books. A few pages in, I was already overwhelmed with rules and extremely specific "advice" I know I'll never be able to afford to follow. I should be symmetrical, but not TOO symmetrical. I should fill my home with beautiful things, but also add "a bit of ugly." I need Egyptian cotton sheets that were made in Italy, and if I'm unlucky enough not to have my own "in-house laundress," I can "treat" myself to getting them professionally

washed and ironed. Ironed! Life is far too short to waste time ironing sheets. It's pretty obvious that this, like so many other decorating books, is written for people with much more money than I will probably ever have. Did you know that ottomans are "a personal matter between me and my upholsterer"? I can't even imagine saying the words "my upholsterer" with no sense of irony. I suppose the words "founding editor of Domino magazine" on the cover should have tipped me off. The watercolor illustrations by Virginia Johnson are gorgeous, and I like that they're drawn and painted rather than photographed. It makes this book unique, and also lets your imagination fill in the details rather than thinking "okay, I have to have THIS chair and THIS wallpaper," etc.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

The Perfectly Imperfect Home: How to Decorate and Live Well Perfectly Imperfect: Character Sketches from the New Testament Perfectly Ridiculous: A Universally Misunderstood Novel (Perfectly Dateless) Home Quick Makeovers Top Tips: Learn How to Design, Decorate, and Furnish Your Ideal Home The Perfectly Behaved Gentleman: Sage advice for the well-rounded man Shipping Container Homes: 51 Hacks, Ideas, Tips & Tricks to Organize and Decorate Your Tiny House or Shipping Container Home Upcycling: 31 Crafts to Decorate Your Living Space & Refresh Your Home (3rd Edition) Past Imperfect: Facts, Fictions, Fraud American History from Bancroft and Parkman to Ambrose, Bellesiles, Ellis, and Goodwin Broken and Blessed - Women's Bible Study Participant Book: How God Used One Imperfect Family to Change the World The Gifts of Imperfect Parenting: Raising Children with Courage, Compassion, and Connection Complications: A Surgeon's Notes on an Imperfect Science Becoming Agile: ...in an imperfect world Imperfect Union: A Father's Search for His Son in the Aftermath of the Battle of Gettysburg Imperfect Justice: Prosecuting Casey Anthony Artisan Pizza: To Make Perfectly At Home Decorate for a Party: Stylish and Simple Ideas for Meaningful Gatherings Doodle Dolls: Over 300 Outfits to Design and Decorate The Inspired Room Coloring Book: Creative Spaces to Decorate as You Dream Sage Living: Decorate for the Life You Want Brilliant Biscuits: Fun-to-decorate Biscuits for All Occasions

[Dmca](#)