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## A Beautiful Mess Happy Handmade Home: Painting, Crafting, and Decorating a Cheerful, More Inspiring Space

*Elsie Larson, Emma Chapman*

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#165111 in Books Larson Elsie 2014-08-26 2014-08-26 Original language: English PDF # 1 10.07 x .75 x 8.111, .0 #File Name: 0770434053240 pages A Beautiful Mess Happy Handmade Home Painting Crafting and Decorating a Cheerful More Inspiring Space | File size: 47.Mb

**Elsie Larson, Emma Chapman : A Beautiful Mess Happy Handmade Home: Painting, Crafting, and Decorating a Cheerful, More Inspiring Space** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised A Beautiful Mess Happy Handmade Home: Painting, Crafting, and Decorating a Cheerful, More Inspiring Space:

113 of 118 people found the following review helpful. Sadly, disappointed By Nikki WI am a long time reader and fan of the A Beautiful Mess blog, and the other ventures that Elsie and Emma have taken on throughout the years. I have purchased their apps, and online crash courses and e-courses, and frequently find inspiration and projects on their blog that I have completed for my own home. This book is beautifully laid out, the pictures are gorgeous, but sadly I found

the content majorly lacking, repetitive within the book itself, and there were several projects that were not "new" (if you are a frequent reader to their blog). For me, it was not worth the money. I was looking forward to this book, and respected the girls for keeping projects "hush hush" on the blog, so that regular readers would find new content and projects in the book--in reality, I don't think that happened. I am majorly disappointed, and will try to return the book. This book seems appropriate for an 18-22 year old headed to college, or renting their first apartment; not a 30-something first-time home buyer looking to decorate their first home. 175 of 185 people found the following review helpful. A beautiful mess indeed! By M.S. Happy Handmade Home is a fairly thick paperback book that features around 75 home-related craft projects. There's a section for each area of the home: living rooms, kitchens, dining rooms, bedrooms, playrooms, studio spaces, outdoor spaces and small spaces. The projects and interiors shown are bright and cheerful. I love the authors' casual approach that celebrates charming imperfections. However, I think the high number of projects is partly responsible for the low quality of individual pieces. This would have been a better book with half the projects and twice the instruction. A lot of the projects are of that special breed you only find in DIY books. I am not going to nail coffee filters to pallet strips and call it a headboard. Or decorate my china with a Sharpie, or duct tape aztec patterns on my fridge. When I spend the effort making something, I want it to be... well, nice. I was thinking messy along the lines of those tags on Anthropologie stuff that tell you that your silk pillows may have natural variation because they were woven by hermits on some tiny island in Micronesia. Not 'preschoolers decorated my living room' messy. The writing style is encouraging, but I wouldn't call this book beginner-friendly. For example, the Quotable Wall Art project includes directions like 'purchase or cut pieces of thin wood' and 'stain the wood'. It doesn't tell you what tools you'd need or how to go about staining wood if you've never done it before. The Painted Dresser project says to clean and lightly sand the surfaces, prime and paint. That's it: no in-progress photos or tips on making the project successful beyond 'don't stress yourself out about the perfect color.' The Cross Stitch Stool doesn't actually give you a cross stitch pattern, it just says to make your own design. This project did have a supply list and left off embroidery thread. And does anybody follow the recipe or drink instructions in DIY books? The cover promises 'painting, crafting and decorating'... I wasn't expecting recipes for cookies and martinis, though alcohol may explain the floor lamp 'makeover' on page 143, which features black paint glopped on with a wine cork. Still, this book does have a charming energy to it. There are some nice tips for decorating on a budget, like making random dining room chairs match by painting them a vibrant color. But on the whole, it's one of those vanity blog books that is mainly a snapshot of the authors' lifestyle and interests. They seem like lovely people, but I was hoping for more out of this book. 33 of 35 people found the following review helpful. Only worth buying by absolute beginners. By schve This book is for someone who has never decorated a room in her whole life. Anyone, who has at least bought some furniture or completed even an itsy-bitsy DIY project knows more. The authors seem nice, but they end up filling the book with platitudes and commonplaces. The DIY projects are way too simple, a pinterest search would give you more original ideas. I was really disappointed by what the book offers.

Step inside the world of Elsie and Emma, the sisters behind the decor blog A Beautiful Mess. With tiny budgets and a crafty, can-do attitude, they overhauled each room in their first homes with DIY projects using family photos, vibrant fabrics, flea-market finds, and affordable furniture. Now, you can learn how to paint, craft, and decorate your way to a happy, bright space with distinct personality. In the same upbeat spirit and modern style found on their blog, you'll find fresh, all-new projects including: An inspired geometric-pattern coffee table made of balsa wood A hand-lettered statement wall featuring your favorite quote A quick and easy electrical tape update for your refrigerator A set of beautifully designed serving dishes And more! Packed with bonus styling tips from hanging the perfect gallery wall to making mismatched furniture work, Happy Handmade Home is design inspiration for personalizing your own space.

About the Author ELSIE LARSON and EMMA CHAPMAN are sisters and the founders of A Beautiful Mess (abeautifulmess.com), one of the largest DIY style blogs in the world. In addition to their website, they created the #1 bestselling app for photos, A Beautiful Mess, and are the authors of A Beautiful Mess Photo Idea Book. Elsie and Emma live in southern Missouri with their husbands and many dogs.