

SPECIAL  
ISSUE

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# House Beautiful

## EXPRESS YOURSELF!

*take your rooms from  
simple to sensational*

**COLORS  
YOU MUST TRY**

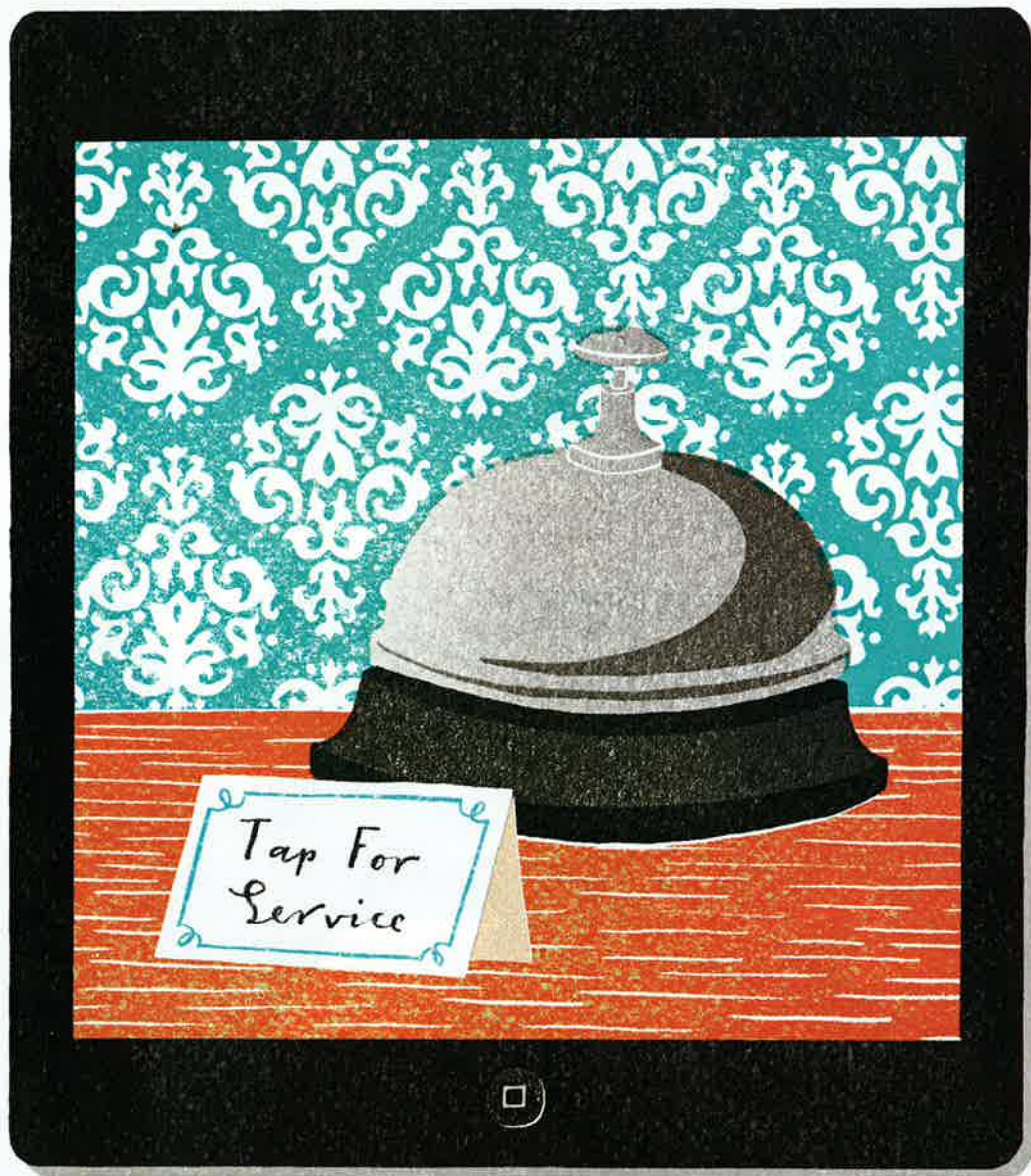
**FIND YOUR  
PERFECT  
ROOM SCENT**

**GIFTS THAT  
GIVE BACK**

WE LOVE  
THIS IDEA!  
*see page 100*

STYLE GURU  
**CHARLOTTE MOSS**  
*on the Art of Living*

These innovative websites and apps make everyday domestic chores easier.



## KEEPING HOUSE

You like things *just so* in your home, but find it difficult to keep them that way. Enter **House Pad**, a brand-new app developed by Michael Bruno, founder of the website 1stdibs, to help him manage his two residences. The app lets you take notes about what needs to get done and holds them in a queue until they're dealt with. Family members, the housekeeper, a gardener can log into the app (it tallies hours worked too) and see the list. Store and share images of rooms, closets, and surfaces with comments about how you want things arranged—where the linens go, how to set the table for a party. The app has English and Spanish versions, with more on the way, and can translate instructions into dozens of languages.

Even if you don't have hired help, House Pad is a useful tool for teaching children how to put away toys and keep their rooms clean. Older kids (or your husband) can be given a list of weekly chores, with images and notes about how to properly execute them—*just so*.  
Free; [housepadapp.com](http://housepadapp.com).

## TO THE RESCUE

### THE ASSISTANT

Need a hand? **TaskRabbit** finds you one. Explain the task (anything from shopping to packing), name your price, and receive a list of vetted helpers, then pay online once the job is finished. Available in 14 U.S. cities. [taskrabbit.com](http://taskrabbit.com).

### THE CHAUFFEUR

Forget hailing a cab. The **Uber** app uses your phone's GPS to connect you with the nearest available ride, and the fare is automatically billed to your on-file credit card. Currently available in 21 U.S. cities. [uber.com](http://uber.com).

### THE PERSONAL SHOPPER

**TheFind** scours more than half a million online merchants when you enter a search term, notes your favorite stores, and even tracks shipping. Also available as an app for mobile devices. [thefind.com](http://thefind.com).

### THE STYLIST

Instead of splurging on special outfits, why not rent them? Choose a designer dress on **Rent the Runway**, and it will be shipped to you for the date you need it. Rates include a return envelope and dry cleaning. [renttherunway.com](http://renttherunway.com).

### THE CHEF

Wow your guests with a restaurant-worthy meal—made by an actual chef. On **Kitchit**, you can find a food pro for your party and then sit back and enjoy as the chef shops, cooks, and cleans your kitchen. In four U.S. cities. [kitchit.com](http://kitchit.com).

### THE ORGANIZER

Always misplacing your wallet or losing keys? Attach a button-size **Tile** to any object, and you can find it via iPad or iPhone. The app shows where you left the tagged item, or beeps if you're within 150 feet of it. From \$19; [thetileapp.com](http://thetileapp.com).