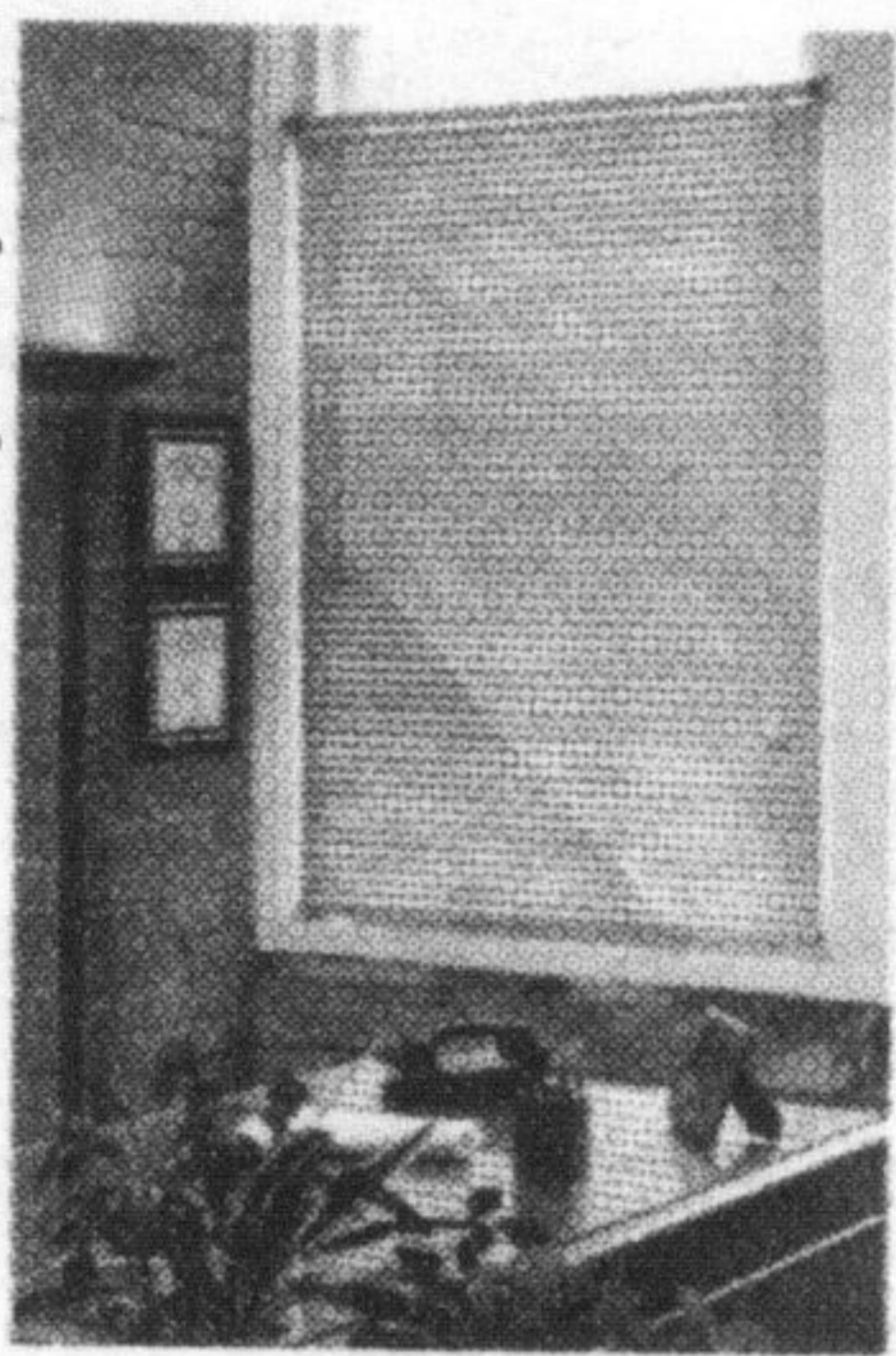
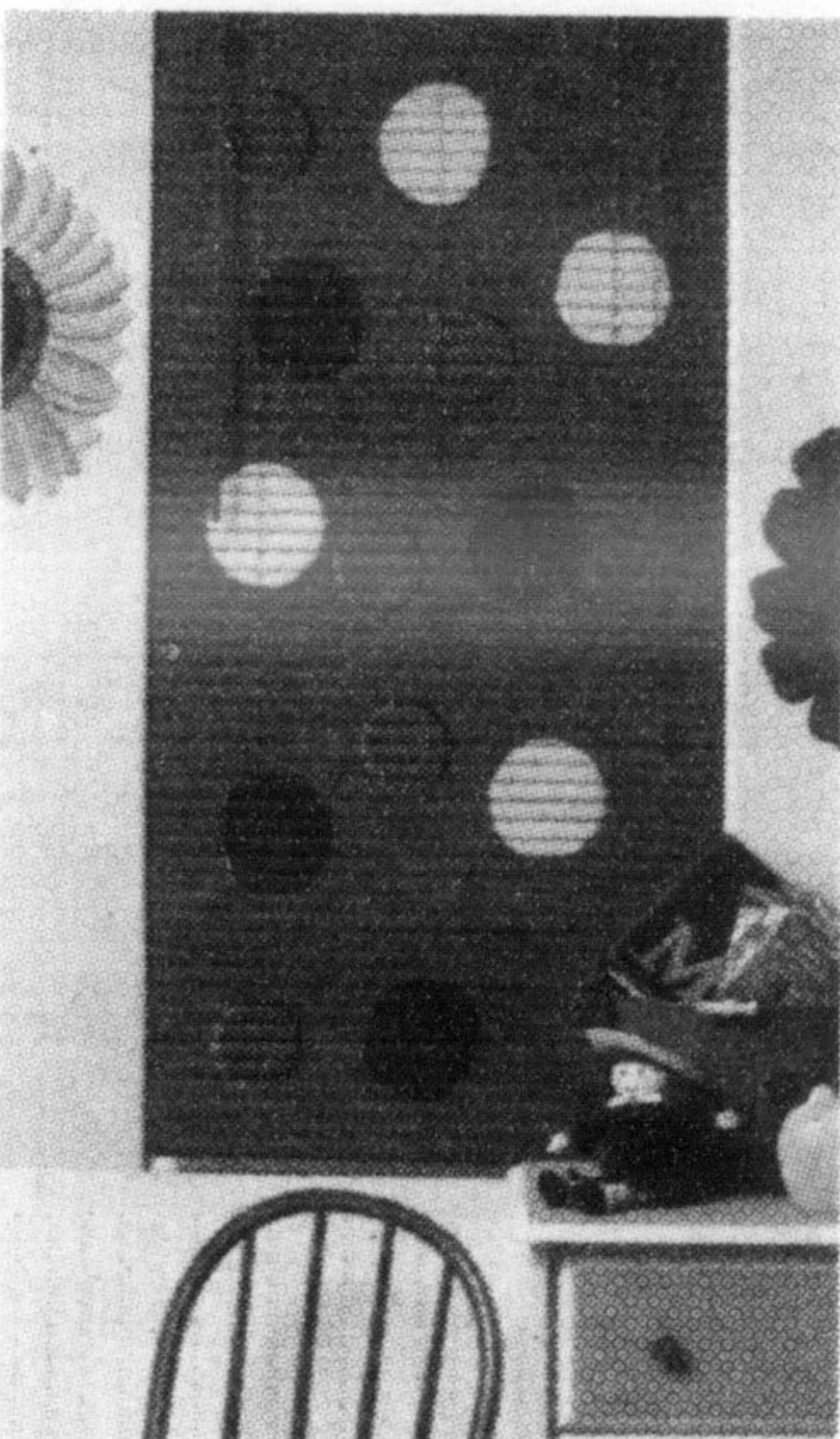


Mini-Blinds made even better



You can use spray paint to be kind to the environment by repurposing plastic and transform vinyl mini-blinds from bland and uninspired to home décor highlights. When paint and colour are used to create simple geometric designs on mini-blinds, they interact with sunlight for an endless variety of subtle visual effects.

An easy-to-use, one-step spray paint for this project is Krylon Fusion for Plastic. It can be used on wood, metal, wicker, hard vinyl and a wide range of plastic surfaces including ABS, PVC, polypropylene, poly-



ethylene, fiberglass and rubber. Use it for all kinds of projects in and around the home, from sprucing up faded plastic patio furniture to freshening up plastic fences, mailboxes, shutters, planters and storage containers.

Use a reverse-spraying process (background last) to create geometric designs on mini-blinds. Draw figures on almost any sticky-backed, removable adhesive paper and cut them out. Before you paint, hang the blinds with S-hooks in a protected area, covering surrounding areas with newspaper or drop cloths.

Before applying the geometric shapes to the blinds, begin spray painting the first area you want to paint with your chosen colour. After the paint dries for one hour, apply an adhesive geometric shape over the colour. It will serve as a reverse stencil. Leave it in

place. Repeat this process until all your coloured areas, except the background, have been painted. With the clear, geometric reverse stencils in place, apply the background colour.

Let the paint dry completely for 24 hours then gently remove the adhesive shapes. Allow the blinds to dry completely for five to seven days before hanging to allow the paint to fully cure to assure adhesion. As you adjust the blinds, enjoy the play of the light and shadow on your geometric pattern.

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Materials

- Krylon Fusion for Plastic in selected contrasting colours
- Vinyl mini-blinds sized for your windows, with hardware
- Sticky-backed, removable adhesive paper
- Drop cloths or newspaper
- Screwdriver or other tools necessary for hanging blinds

Repurpose plastic for extended use

The three R's of green living – Reduce, Reuse, Recycle – offer endless opportunity for creativity. Take plastic, for example. A recent study showed that around 80 per cent of all Canadians have access to plastic bottle recycling, however only 36 per cent of these bottles make it back into the recycling stream. About one-third of all plastic waste in Canada results from residential use.

But recycling doesn't have to be a chore. Rather than retiring household items such as plastic bottles to the landfill, you can give them and other items such as plastic pots, patio furniture and toys a new lease on life with paint for plastic. And you can have fun doing it, using your favorite colours to brighten up home and outdoor



living areas.

Unlike in the past, when paint beaded up on plastic surfaces and made a mess, today's new paints for plastic provide excellent adhesion and are available in a variety of colours and textures. Krylon, for example, offers Fusion for Plastic spray

paint in a broad range of colours ranging from popular outdoor siding shades to an assortment of popular home décor colours, bold brights, and even shimmering metallics.

Textured and hammered finishes expand your creative options so when you're done, your plastic surface doesn't even have to look like, well – plastic.

If a girl's outgrown her playhouse, use a boy's favorite colours to transform the hand-me-down into a custom clubhouse. Plastic bottles can become lovely luminaries. Vinyl blinds are a canvas for self-expression. The potential is limitless. For more ideas and inspiration, visit www.krylon.com.

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