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# Woman's Day<sup>®</sup>

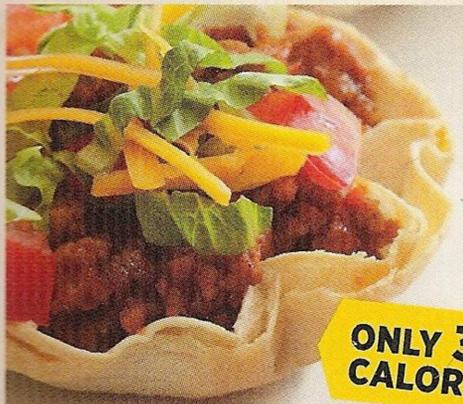
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## Sheltering Space

A group of L.A. designers turns the no-frills rooms in a local shelter into spirit-lifting havens for women and kids who are down on their luck.

BY AYN-MONIQUE KLAHRE



**i**n early 2011, interior designer Vanessa de Vargas ([turquoise-la.com](http://turquoise-la.com)) and design consultant Vanessa Kogevinas ([vanessakogevinas.com](http://vanessakogevinas.com)) came up with a unique idea for a good deed: to make over a residence at Los Angeles' Good Shepherd Center for Homeless Women & Children where women live for up to two years as they move from homelessness to self-sufficiency. Within six months, 30 local designers had transformed one room apiece, working nights and weekends and using donated furnishings to complete the makeovers. "We wanted to inspire these women to move beyond the hardships they've suffered," says de Vargas. Here's a look at some of the character-rich spaces they created, plus some tricks of the trade that could work in your home.



THE LOOK

*easy elegance*

“I wanted this room to be an oasis, a place that gives a sense of calm.”

KRISTINE KAMENSTEIN, DESIGNER, [JACKSONPAIGE.COM](http://JACKSONPAIGE.COM)