


wHAT IS FASHION-FORWARD FURNITURE WEARING THIS SEASON? A SUMMERY COLLECTION of couture slipcovers that instantly conceal winter upholstery under a wardrobe change of cotton or linen. Slipcovers, which can be as lively as a party dress or as simple as a sheath, make dark rooms feel lighter and protect delicate furnishings. The secret is to flatter the frame of the furniture and select fabrics that suit your decorating scheme and budget. For this classic silhouette, Carl Dellatore of D \& F Workroom created nine slipcovers in three skirt lengths, sticking to a palette of leafy greens. "Slipcovers offer the easiest opportunity to take a decorating risk and can be changed in an instant," says Dellatore. "The slipcover of the moment is well trimmed and beautifully tailored. The look is chic, not shabby."

Thomasville's Alice B. side chair.

Nya Nordiska's Kappa-Check in color 44 olive, through Randolph \& Hein; 75\% cotton, 25\% viscose; 55"w.
To give this classic check an edge, we dressed it in a skirt with deep corner pleats and sexy corset lacing. The back, seat, and skirt sections of the slipcover were made with two inverted pleats down the center. We stitched down each pleat to make a flap and inserted a grommet on every other check. Crisp white grosgrain ribbon was used for lacing.

## "The slipcover of the moment is well trimmed and beautifully tailored" <br> 

Marvic Textiles' Toile de Chine \#6208-2 in green, through Roger Arlington; 100\% cotton; 55"w.
We placed the largest motif of this elegant Chinese toile in the center of the seat panel. The sizable repeat allowed us to place each additional motif strategically and design a simple slipcover to show off the detailed drawings. The long skirt has kick pleats at each corner; covered buttons secure six bows to the seat and back.

Nina Campbell's Manchu \#NCF3403/02 through Osborne \& Little; $\mathbf{1 0 0 \%}$ linen; $\mathbf{5 5}$ "w. A modern take on a Chinese toile inspired us to create a minimal slipcover: short skirt, clean lines, contemporary details. Each corner has two brass grommets with brown grosgrain ribbon ties. We inverted the ties and hid the ends under the hem to keep the look tailored. Note the expert pattern matching at the seat edges.


## (8i8) Nuts \& Bolts

- Why use slipcovers? To change the look seasonally, protect fine furniture, or just for fun. - A simply shaped piece offers the largest number of possibilities for slipcover details.
- If you plan to wash your slipcovers, prewash the fabric before cutting the pattern: twice in hot water, twice in the dryer. Commercial firms also perform this service.
- Fabrics that work best for slipcovers are natural fibers: sturdy but lightweight cottons, linens, and wools. Easy-to-clean is the rule.


## Clarence House's Promenade Hindoue

 \#33861-1; 62\% linen, 38\% cotton; 53"w. A flirty pleated skirt is the perfect treatment for this amusing Indian-inspired stripe. We used the green panel for the face of the pleats and the white panel for the interior. The small red-and-white stripes along the back, seat, and pleats match the front of the slipcover.
## Galbraith \& Paul's Sweet Pea in

 celadon; $\mathbf{1 0 0 \%}$ linen; $\mathbf{5 4}^{\prime \prime} \mathbf{w}$. We loved the loose, romantic quality of this linen vine print. To capture that mood in a slipcover, we added a mid-calf skirt, gathered only at the corners, and trimmed it with a $4^{\prime \prime}$ wide band of blue cotton canvas. The same blue cotton outlines the seat.