

# RECYCLE, REFURBISH, REUSE

*Old artifacts find new life*



Old stained-glass windows that were used in churches now can be installed in residential settings.

**L**ike a cat with nine lives, a piece of architectural bounty can exist again.

Take an elaborately patterned wrought-iron grate. Or perhaps some tidbit in terra cotta, say a sinuous vase that graced a pedestal or a carved face that embellished a wall.

Stripped or salvaged from old buildings, these are the parts that had presence.

Whether a fragment or an entire furnishing, they're too good to retire to the junk pile.

A bronze gate that bordered an elevator cage stands on its own to become a screen or room divider, while cast-iron grilles paired off and forged into bases become coffee tables or consoles. Pilasters and columns can adorn new walls, while terra-cotta stat-



Cast-iron balusters from the Kansas City Livestock Exchange form the base of a table.



The prospects are almost endless for this wrought-iron grille, manufactured about 1880.

ues and slabs can grace other gardens.

And all sorts of novel uses can be found for commercial cast-offs.

A dental cabinet can house jewelry or a bank table can function as a desk or a dining-room table.

But finally, these beauties are valued today for more than their artistry or appearances.

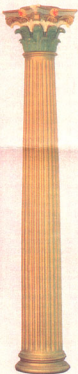
The worth of the raw material used to craft them, however humble they may be, and the workmanship that went into them, are now respected as well.

The era of three new "R's"—recycle, refurbish and reuse—may change the way we look at our environments forever.

—Lisa Skolnik  
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A vintage dental cabinet, covered with a coat of glossy blue paint, is ready to leave the office forever.



The plaster column, with polychrome capitals and Masonic motifs, is sure to give character to any home.



Above: This Art Deco bronze grille was once an elevator door at Marshall Field's in Evanston.

Left: A mermaid pilaster for a Roman-style bathroom?

