

the **cottage** *journal* *Autumn* ISSUE

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Creative SOLUTIONS

This rustic mountain cottage proves that the most challenging situations can result in the most beautiful of outcomes.

As an interior designer, Katie Payne Confer of That Girl Katie Design Studio knows how to tackle a challenging project. But when she and her husband moved from San Francisco, California, to a mountain home in Jackson, Wyoming, they were faced with the challenge of turning the space into the perfect home for their family. "There were just weird angles and . . . some odd things that didn't make sense," Katie says, noting that the basement was in particularly bad shape.

But adding square footage and reworking the flow of the layout wasn't the only obstacle that needed to be overcome. Originally brown cedar, the home's exterior had been painted yellow, and it was nearly too much for Katie. "We almost didn't buy the house," she says.

In the end, the Confers decided to paint the exterior brown rather than letting the ruined cedar deter them, and Katie now considers the dilemma just another puzzle in the process of designing a home.