



Show Your True Stripes

If your home decor is looking a bit tired and drab, West Elm (page 20) can perk it up. The popular store has partnered with a renowned American fashion designer to create the Steven Alan Stripes for West Elm collection. It's filled with **eye-catching pieces handcrafted by artisans from around the world**—Nicaraguan vases, Haitian furniture, and Indian bedding and rugs—resulting in a sophisticated style that feels simultaneously modern and centuries old. A quick home makeover, just in time for spring.

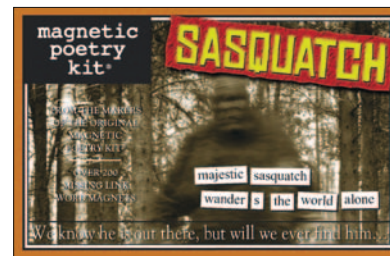


Perfect Polish

It doesn't require a bottom coat, doesn't chip and doesn't deteriorate over time. In other words, it's the holy grail of nail polish. Sounds too good to be true? VINYLUX Weekly Polish lives up to the promise in its name. Apply the colour coat first, then the innovative top coat, which becomes more durable with exposure to natural light, and you're red-carpet ready for a week. Find it at local spas and salons (page 22).

Let's Make A Deal

Want to set your own sale prices? This is the website for you. Garmentory (www.garmentory.com) lists items at full price, and you make an offer—which could be accepted or rejected. Through **partnerships with boutiques and designers across North America** (though most are in Vancouver), Garmentory offers an array of clothing, shoes and jewellery. Consider it a **bonanza for frugal fashionistas** who like the thrill of an online bargain hunt.



Living Legend?

Sasquatch, Bigfoot, Yeti—for more than a century, cryptozoologists have been chasing this large, hairy, smelly, ape-like creature rumoured to have superhuman strength. The best place to look? Harrison Hot Springs, a 90-minute drive from Vancouver. **If the mysterious mythical creature ignites your literary sensibilities**, pick up a Sasquatch Magnetic Poetry Kit (www.magneticpoetry.com) and use the more than 200 themed magnetic word tiles to channel your inner Shakespeare or Elizabeth Barrett Browning.



CREATURE FEATURE

Most parents can admit that their usually well-behaved offspring are capable of acting like little animals at times. Now Converse (www.converse.com) wants to dress kids like animals, too—but in the cutest way possible. Their Chuck Taylor All Star Creature shoes give kids **adorably ferocious feet**. The low-top shoes have a Velcro flap, perfect for tiny fingers to manage, while the high-tops sport laces for more grown-up kids. We're all in favour of outfitting kids in animal designs as

Get Doodling

"Design some rain boots and an umbrella to keep you dry from Vancouver's rain." "Draw a pod of orcas in an awkward family photo." These are just a couple of the whimsical prompts found in *Canada Doodles* by Megan Radford (Gibbs Smith, \$9.99), a new book that **sneaks fun facts about Canada into all the ideas for budding artists**. The *Doodles* series has already tackled cities such as New York, Los Angeles and Boston, but those places simply can't compete with the quirkiness of Canada: "Banff National Park features wildlife overpasses above the highway. Draw a pack of moose driving convertibles across one." Inspiration, indeed. At local bookstores (page 14).

