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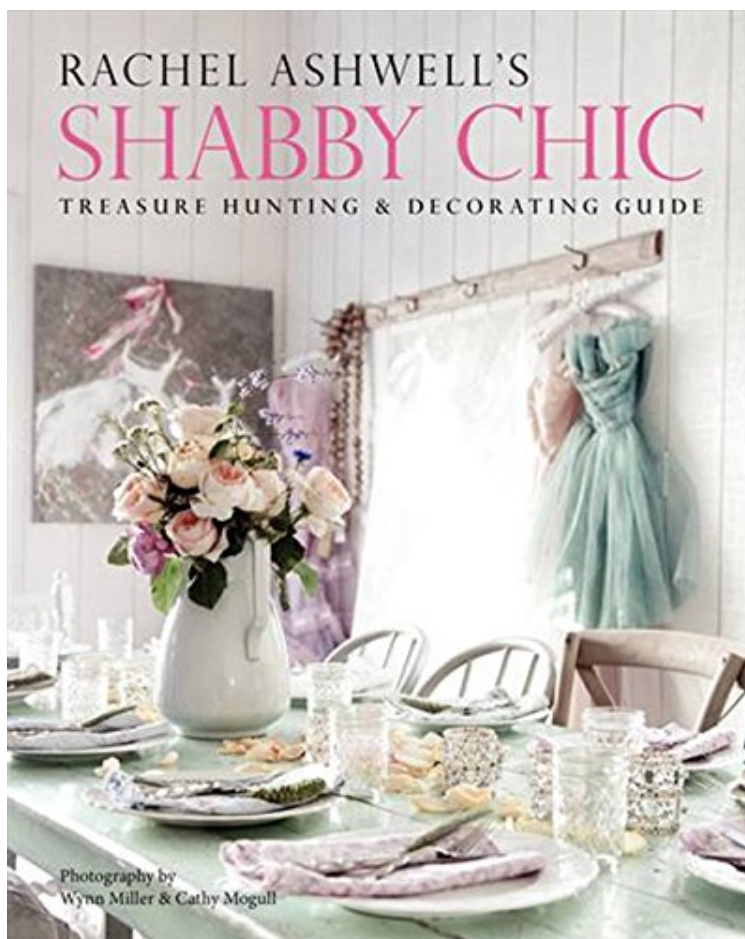
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[Library ebook] Rachel Ashwell's Shabby Chic Treasure Hunting and Decorating Guide

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Rachel Ashwell : Rachel Ashwell's Shabby Chic Treasure Hunting and Decorating Guide before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Rachel Ashwell's Shabby Chic Treasure Hunting and Decorating Guide:

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It helps the healthiness both of body and soul to live among beautiful things. William Morris, 1882
Shabby Chic the rich, practical, and time-worn style created by one of the world's top designers, Rachel Ashwell, mixes new and gently used items to create original, refined designs. In Rachel Ashwell's *Shabby Chic Treasure Hunting Decorating Guide*, Rachel takes you on a tour of flea markets and secondhand shops to give you a behind-the-scenes look at her process for finding vintage treasures—materials, furniture, and decorations—so that you can design a Shabby Chic home. As Rachel reveals, the Shabby Chic principles—comfort, function, and beauty—mixed with a dash of imagination and courage, and an understanding of how to spot a fabulous buy, will allow you to create a home that is beautiful, comfortable, and inviting. A place where children's dinners are served on mix-and-match antique plates at a table covered with lace from a renovated curtain set. A space where fresh flowers stand in antique jugs, complementing furniture covered in soft white denim. This gorgeous volume will teach you how to recognize beauty in often overlooked places. The photographs and step-by-step guidance featured inside make it easy, fun, and affordable to create the kind of breathtaking, practical home you've always dreamed of.

.com By now most readers even marginally interested in home decorating are familiar with the democratic principles of decorating elaborated in Rachel Ashwell's first book, *Shabby Chic*: namely, that well-made vintage furniture and home accessories can add a cozy grandeur to your home, even if the paint's a little thin or the fabric a bit faded. In her second book, Rachel Ashwell's *Shabby Chic Treasure Hunting Decorating Guide*, Ashwell shares her processes, from a stall-by-stall description of a flea market trip to pictures of her design boards scattered with photos, fabric swatches, and paint chips. Ashwell doesn't skimp on details: she tells how to decide on a fair bargaining price at flea markets, how to clean old items without harming them, and (step by step) how one ugly glass-fronted cabinet topped with old linoleum and mismatched shelf paper became an attractive, roomy storage piece that houses her daughter's books, dolls, and bedding. This is a friendly, intimate book in which Ashwell shares pictures of her own home and those of her friends—some of whom live in roomy beach houses and some of whom live in 450-square-foot cottages, and all of whom use the main Shabby Chic concepts of comfort, function, and beauty in deciding which objects to share their space with. Fans of the original *Shabby Chic* will find this follow-up every bit as useful, attractive, and accessible. From Booklist
Who is Rachel Ashwell—and why should we care? Not really a Martha Stewart clone, she is the owner and quasi-originator of a line of home furnishings that recalls the aesthetic sensibilities of genteel nobility, the kind of clean but slightly neglected homes and interiors associated with a decline in income. In an intensely personal narrative, she invites readers to flea markets, to examine the old and unusual, and to tour her home (and those of four others), and all photographic wanderings are accompanied by gentle, almost subconscious instructions. An oversized round table, whitewashed and with cutoff legs, becomes a comfortable coffee table in a seaside cottage. Carefully scrubbed and washed, old Christmas mercury ornaments shine like silver in garden settings. Even a stained linen cloth and a pink sari have new lives. Barbara Jacobs "...Rachel Ashwell [is] the founder of the Shabby Chic home-decor empire and the queen of secondhand stylishness...." -- Mary Daniels, *Chicago Tribune*
"Rachel Ashwell's *Shabby Chic*" is a treasure-hunter's dream guide...." -- Africa Ragland, *Palm Beach Post*
"Exquisitely photographed and richly detailed, this is the essential, step-by-step guide to finding the treasures of a lifetime...." -- Bay News
"When she merged English country style with L.A. ease, Rachel Ashwell didn't realize she was unleashing a phenomenon." -- Hamish Bowles, *Vogue Style*
"...Rachel Ashwell [is] the founder of the Shabby Chic home-decor empire and the queen of secondhand stylishness...." -- Mary Daniels, *Chicago Tribune*