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1 This locally designed timber coatrack. The "dots" slide in and out as required, allowing awkward objects to hang flat. It's quirky and practical. **Dottie coatrack** \$425, from Autumn Products, autumnproducts.com.au

2 Dress dummies are a great way to display clothing or jewellery. These mannequins are made from water hyacinth, which is harvested to prevent it from growing out of control. They also provide work for local communities. **Twiggy Tallor Mannequins** \$275 each, from Eco Chic, eco chic.com.au

3 These Turkish wooden bowls were originally used as dough trays but make unusual fruit bowls or serving dishes. Each is just a little different in size and shape. **Antique wooden bowls** from \$65, from Garden Life, gardenlife.com.au

4 Designed as a welcome mat, these doormats are made from hemp and come in a single size for standard doors or double size for French doors. **Sahara weave double mat** \$150 (50cm x 140cm), from Armadillo & Co, armadillo-co.com

5 Protection for young plants but from eco-friendly split bamboo, outdoors in. **Bamboo plant** In Earth, heaveninearth.com.au

Basic beauty »

After years of living with slick modernist interiors, the new decade has heralded a return to... the cave. Resident trends forecaster for *Decoration + Design*, Genty Marshall, says designers and homeowners are embracing the rustic, the handmade and the unfinished with renewed zeal.

"It is almost getting back to a caveman aesthetic," she says. "People are interested in how things are made from nothing and there is more interest in old crafts like hand dyeing."

This is part of a shift towards more responsible consumerism, protecting the planet and taking into account the full production process.

"It is not just about using something organic

that you might have bought from the US," Genty says. "People are understanding the importance of buying locally, where they have an idea of how the product is manufactured."

This has been reflected in the growing interest in old crafts, as well as a new confidence to use found objects from nature or making something yourself. Aesthetically, the result is a stronger interest in products that connect to the outdoors.

Timber left in its natural state, more textured fabrics such as tweeds and sustainably harvested materials all based around a neutral earthy palette are playing out strongly to create a warm and welcoming modern "cave".

Robyn Willis



2 These beautiful glass and wicker demijohns were once used in the wine fermenting process and are still used in some countries for serving Chianti. **Wicker demijohns** from \$99 each, from *Al Fresco Emporium*, alfrescoemporium.com.au



1 This eco-friendly moulded plywood magazine and book rack was designed in the 1930s but it still makes a modern statement. Made of birch, its surprisingly versatile design is the perfect spot for living room accessories such as TV remotes and newspaper sections. **Penguin Donkey magazine rack** designed by Egon Riss from *Isokon Plus*, \$1510, from *Anibou*, anibou.com.au



3 All is not what it seems with this locally designed timber coat rack. The "dots" slide in and out as required, allowing awkward objects to hang flat. It's quirky and practical. **Dottie coat rack** \$425, from *Autumn Products*, autumnproducts.com.au

Tweeds are making a comeback so grab a tactile throw rug and find the best spot on the lounge. This all-cotton throw rug and cushion are machine washable.

Tweed throw rug \$79.95, and **cushion** \$39.95, from *Aura* by *Tracie Ellis*, aurahome.com.au



Dress dummies are a great way to display clothing or jewellery. These mannequins are made from water hyacinth, which is harvested to prevent it from growing out of control. They also provide work for local communities.

Twiggy Tailor Mannequins \$275 each, from *Eco Chic*, ecochic.com.au

These Turkish wooden bowls were originally used as dough trays but make unusual fruit bowls or serving dishes. Each is just a little different in size and shape.

Antique wooden bowls from \$65, from *Garden Life*, gardenlife.com.au



These cloches are meant to provide protection for young plants but look just as good in the house. Made from eco-friendly split bamboo, they are the perfect way to bring the outdoors in. **Bamboo plant cloches** from \$33 each, from *Heaven in Earth*, heaveninearth.com.au



Designed as a welcome mat, these doormats are made from hemp and come in a single size for standard doors or double size for French doors. **Sahara weave double mat** \$150 (50cm x 140cm), from *Armadillo & Co.*, armadillo-co.com