

# Latina

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TO PRODUCE  
A FEMALE  
SUPERSTAR?

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COME  
BETWEEN  
YOU AND  
YOUR  
MAN

**THINK  
YOU  
KNOW  
LATIN  
FOOD?**  
BE AMAZED  
P. 96

HER NEW LIFE: POWER PLAYER  
IN POLITICS, HOLLYWOOD AND LOVE

EVA  
LONGORIA

Latina.com NOVEMBER 2012  
SCAN FOR SPECIAL OFFER



# THE GOOD LIFE

1.	2. X	3. 7pm dinner X	4.	5.	6. ●
8. 	9.	10. ●	11.	12. jim's b'day	13.
	16.	17. 9am yoga	18. 	19. PAY BILLS	20.
22.	23. dance	24.	25.	26.	27.
29. ●	30.	31.	week		TO BUY. -bread -milk -cheese

## WORKKIT

WHETHER YOU RUN A SMALL BUSINESS FROM HOME OR NEED A DEDICATED AREA TO PAY THE BILLS, HERE'S HOW TO TURN A SPARE ROOM INTO A FUNCTIONAL YET STYLISH OFFICE.

By Martin Amado



Get organized with a well-designed bookcase.

### Customize Your Space

Nowadays a home office is as necessary as a kitchen or bathroom. If you have a spare room, assign each wall a specific task: you'll need a desk for working, shelves for storage and a seating area for reading and relaxing or receiving clients. I'm a big fan of modular office systems that allow you to configure many different layouts in the space for a custom, built-in look. Create your own on a budget by buying long tabletops and using two file cabinets or individually sold screw-on legs as a base.

### Go for Character

If you're looking to personalize the room with your own artistic flair, avoid bland office furniture. Instead, look for a desk with a bit more character at secondhand and antique shops. Placing an upholstered or tufted chair with more ornate details behind the

desk will only enhance the sophistication. The goal is to find pieces that give your home office a sense of style. For example, consider using leaning-ladder bookcases or floating shelves for their architectural aesthetic.

### Clear Clutter

Keeping things tidy is a big challenge for many, but it helps with productivity. If you are using a spare bedroom as a home office, convert the closet into storage central. Closet-organizing systems are available in different wood finishes and



**BINS**  
The Macbeth Collection, \$25 each, [themacbethcollection.com](http://themacbethcollection.com)

have ample shelving and drawers for papers, office supplies and books. Another idea is to remove the closet doors altogether and use standard bookcases within the dimensions of the opening to create the look of a built-in wall unit. You can enhance the exposed backs of the bookcases with mirrors, contact paper or fabric for a designer look. Clutter can then be concealed in pretty boxes and bins on the shelves or behind café curtains hung from tension rods on the bottom half of the bookcase.

### Let the Walls Talk

Cover a wall with cork tiles or fabric panels that allow you to pin ideas, images or anything else that relates to your work or passions. Use wallpaper to create an accent wall or use a stencil as a graphic element and add phrases or words around the room. Typography is a hot

Pin up inspiration on a corkboard.

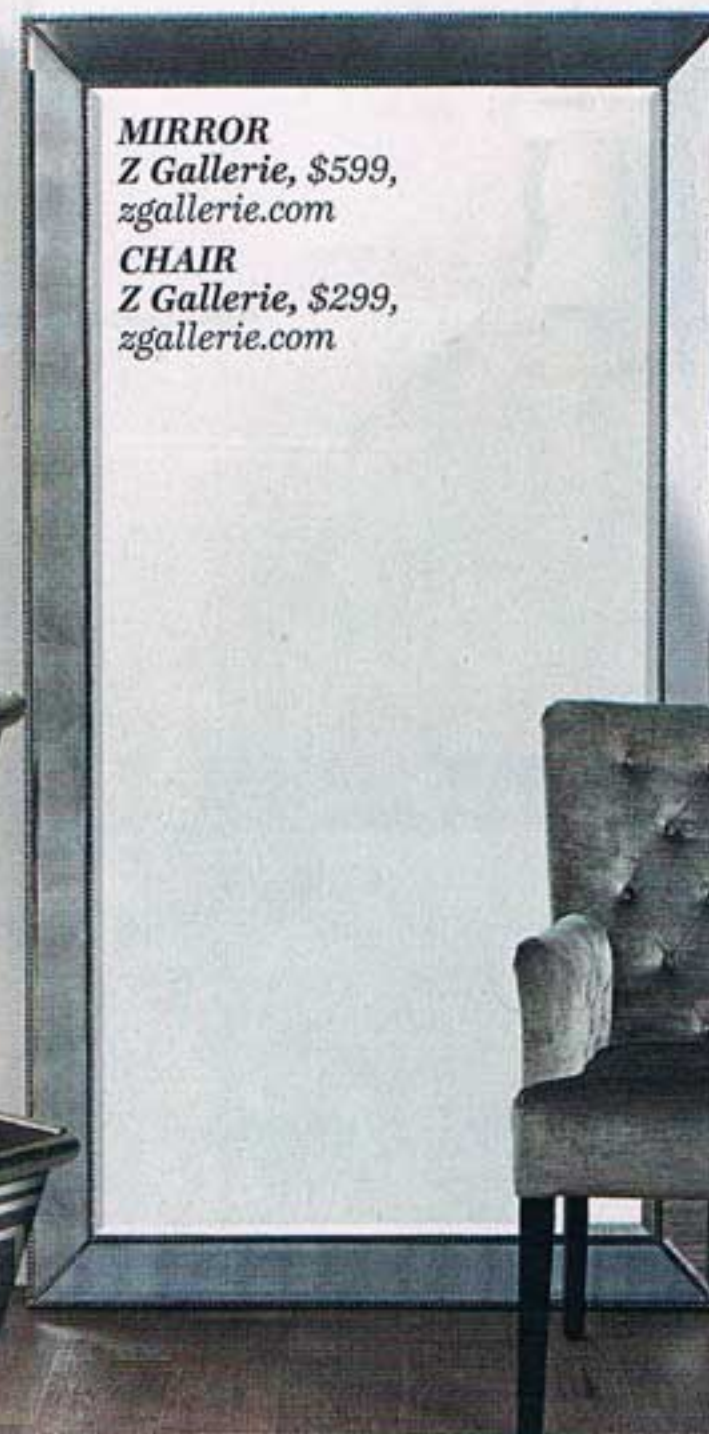


design trend and we're seeing it in artwork, pillows and furniture.

### Get Creative

Add finishing touches by hanging a beautiful chandelier and tucking a comfy chair and ottoman in a corner. Fill the space with artwork and decorative items that feed your soul and creativity. From a vintage dress form to glam floor-length mirrors, anything goes. Remember, this room can also be used for painting, scrapbooking, photography or another hobby—it doesn't have to be all about work.

*Martin Amado is a Cuban American interior designer, lifestyle expert, contributing writer and television expert on the subject of home decor.*



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