

Chic Chairs

For a truly unique reception seating idea for your guests, collect a variety of wooden chairs with upholstered seats. These can often be scooped up for a few dollars each at Savers/Value Village, meaning it may be less expensive to buy your seating than rent from an events company. Remember, the chairs don't need to match – you'll “unite” them with paint and your fabric choice.



You will need:

From Savers/Value Village

- Wood chairs with various curvy backs
- Thrifted fabric of your choice to cover the seat

Other supplies

- White gloss spray paint
- Pliers
- Screwdriver
- Sponge
- Wood cleaner
- Sandpaper
- Staple gun
- 1" foam and quilt batting (if the seat foam cannot be used)



Directions:

1. Start by removing the upholstered seats (there are usually screws at each corner, underneath the seat, attaching it to the chair).
2. Thoroughly clean and sand the chairs lightly, in order to provide a smooth and even surface for the new paint.
3. Apply a few coats of glossy white paint. (Tip: Use spray paint to get into all of the small areas.)
4. While the chairs are drying, use pliers to remove the old staples on the bottom of the upholstered seats.
5. Remove the fabric covering; inspect the seat foam and decide if you want to replace, or if it can be re-used.
6. Cut the new fabric and quilt batting roughly 5" larger than the seat shape (adjust the measurement accordingly; just make sure the fabric can wrap around to the bottom).
7. To reupholster the seat:
 - a. Lay fabric right side down on your work surface
 - b. Place a layer of quilt batting on top of the fabric

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- c. Position the seat with the foam right side down in the middle of the fabric and batting.
- d. Pull the fabric in the middle of one side taut to the back of the seat, and use the staple gun to staple along the edge of the fabric.
- e. Repeat the same thing on the opposite side of the seat first, then on the other two sides. (Note: Don't be afraid to pull the fabric taut; the staples will hold it in place.)
- f. After all sides are stapled, continue pulling and stapling the fabric, carefully folding the corners neatly and tightly.
- g. When you're stapled all four sides down, trim fabric on the underside if necessary. Screw the seat back onto the chair, and admire how these formerly mismatched chairs suddenly look so perfect together!

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