



artisan: tracy sanborn

When multimedia artist Tracy Sanborn of Villa Hills, Kentucky, yanked up the dusty old carpet from her hardwood stairs and looked at the risers, she saw a series of blank canvases. So she created an art form to adorn them, launching her own company, One Step Beyond. Inspired by everything from grapevines to antique quilts, Sanborn's riser line is now roughly 100 motifs strong. Each pattern is sketched on paper and fed to a machine that carves it into a 3/4-inch-thick sheet of maple. From there, the pieces are cut to fit and glued or nailed to customers' stairs. Standard 14-unit sets run from \$600 for do-it-yourself stock patterns to \$3,000 for custom-installed designs. 859-426-9400, decorativestairs.com. —Judi Ketteler