CREATIVE SHELLING

BY CHRIS FRANCIN
VENICE GULF COAST LIVING MAGAZINE

Creating new coastal design ideas and enjoying the gifts nature has to offer is a wonderful way to express your creativity. Shelling for those treasures can be a fun and relaxing way to spend some of your time at the beach. There are many ways to showcase your finds, and we have selected a few ideas that can take your shell collection to another level. Here are some beautiful ways to display your coastal bounty, and to memorialize the special moments you spent at the shore...



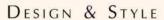
Place your coastal-themed artwork or photography on a shelf or mantel. Spread some sand in front of the frame and arrange a few seashells on the sand.

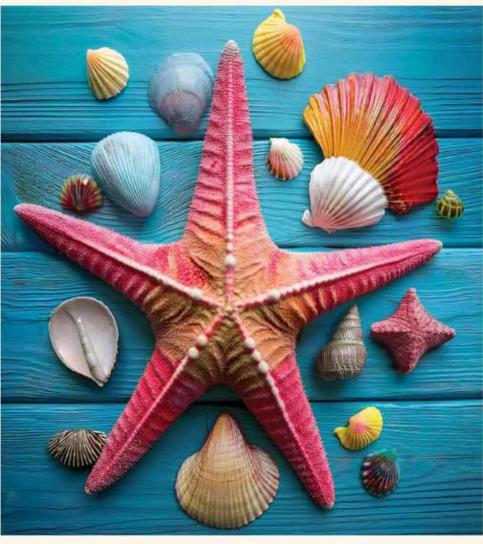


Create a beautiful centerpiece by laying out some palm leaves on the table topped with an acrylic box or large shallow glass bowl filled with seashells as well as sea glass and/or glass stones.



Select a unique box and fill it with special bath soaps and shells of different sizes and shapes.





Showcase part of your collection by hot gluing decorative elements from the seashore onto painted wood to hang near the entrance way.

Create and display a mosaic of seashells, stones and starfish to add a coastal aesthetic to your indoor or outdoor space.



String or hot glue seashells and beads to create a coastal wind chime that dances in the breeze!



Seashells are beautiful and interesting with their unique shapes, colors and patterns. Besides being able to showcase your seashells within the home, collecting them can be a fun and creative activity, and a way to learn about marine life and the natural world. Walking the beach and discovering nature's treasures is a wonderful family activity and finding a rare or unusual shell can be thrilling!