



Story Builders for Holmes County

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DIY Haven

While the do-it-yourself trend has grown with the rise of “weekend warriors,” volunteer tourism and others seeking an authentic experience, the Amish way of life is do-it-yourself. This has led to the region’s growth as a starting point for people who want to take on a home project, small or large.

In Holmes County, DIY can mean several things. The most obvious is home remodeling. Cabinets, flooring, furniture, renovations and new personal structures like barns--the selection and impressive quality create a significant draw.

DIY also relates the antique shoppers, looking to turn an old door into a recycled coffee table. With festivals dedicated to antiques and retail resources, Amish Country is a favorite for people looking to turn something old into something new.

Finally, DIY is also a way of learning lifestyle practices, such as canning and making clothing. Workshops are now being offered to teach visitors how the Amish do what they have been doing for centuries.

Where: Remodeling supply and idea stores are located throughout the area, with Keim Lumber in Charm as one of the largest. Millersburg is a hotspot for antiques, and there are antique malls in Berlin and Walnut Creek.

When: All seasons.

Suggested interviews: Micah Yoder at Keim Lumber. Glenda Ervin at Lehman’s.

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