

**Full Circle**

Hit your target of a perfect beach day with this **pom-pommed towel** (a.k.a. summer in terry-cloth form). Its shape means you can rotate your body instead of your towel as the sun does its thing. (bando.com)



**Ready, Set, Glue!**  
On *Making It*, NBC's new competition series (July 31), contestants crochet and papier-mâché their way through weekly DIY challenges with the hope of being crowned **Master Maker**. Your hosts: craft-loving Amy Poehler and Nick Offerman. Who knew?

**Small Prints**  
Once upon a time, a kiosk dreamed of delivering something more exciting than tickets. Then one day her wish came true: She became a Short Edition dispenser, **printing free stories and poems** on receipt-like strips. Today 30-plus machines are living happily ever after all across the land. (short-edition.com for locations)

**Scents of Adventure**  
Embrace the outdoors indoors with candles **inspired by 13 national parks** (a blend including vetiver and pine for Yellowstone, sea salt and wood for Acadia). Next-best thing to a campfire. (goodandwellsupplyco.com)

# The Gratitude Meter

BY Melissa Goldberg

Five things we're smiling about this month!

**Natural Resource**

If you can't tell a Japanese cherry tree from a dogwood, it may be time to find Seek. The free app uses image recognition technology to **identify more than 20,000 wild species** of plants, animals, and insects when you photograph them. We give it two green thumbs up.

CREATURE COMFORTS

## RAISING THE RUFF

Modern design has gone to the dogs, with canine casitas that protect your pet from the elements without sacrificing the element of style. Here, three houses fit for a Cavalier King Charles spaniel. —M.G.



Designer Dog Houses has four spiffy styles—including the Hillside Contemporary with cedar siding and the Coastal Cottage (above) with rubber roofing. (designer-dog-houses.com)

Easy-to-clean tile floors? Check. Wireless speakers? Yep. A personalized license plate that reads BAD 2 THE BONE? You bet. The miniature customizable campers from Straight Line Designs are souped-up non-road warriors. (straightlinedesigns.com)



If you're sans backyard, check out Modular Dog. Its specialty: wooden towers meant for indoor use, with a compact vertical design and adjustable legs, in case your floor is slightly warped. (modulardog.com)

PHOTOS: (CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT) BANDO.COM; (CLOCKWISE FROM TOP RIGHT) STRAIGHT LINE DESIGNS; (CLOCKWISE FROM TOP CENTER) SHORT EDITION; (CLOCKWISE FROM TOP RIGHT) GOOD AND WELL SUPPLY CO.