

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

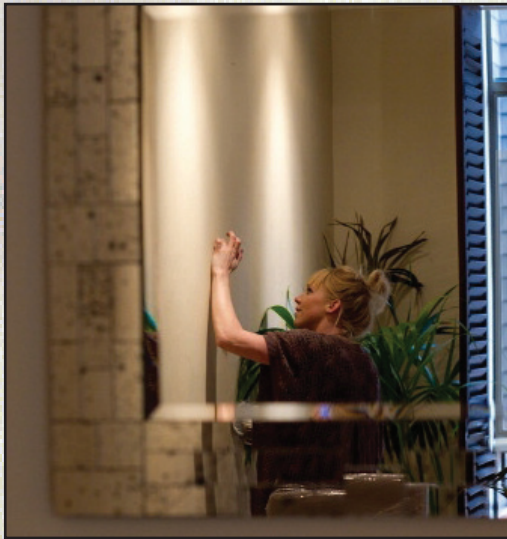


Photo: David Paul Morris/Bloomberg via Getty Images
Wall Street Journal and Associated Press

Katy Darcy, a home stager for Bella Casa Home Staging, removes screws from the wall of a recently sold condo in San Francisco, California, U.S., on Thursday, Dec. 29, 2011. The number of Americans signing contracts to buy previously owned homes rose more than forecast in November as falling prices and low borrowing costs boosted demand.



Photo: David Paul Morris/Bloomberg via Getty Images
Wall Street Journal and Associated Press

Eva Holbrook, a home stager for Bella Casa Home Staging, adjusts a pillow at a condo for sale in San Francisco, CA.