

**Jasmine Guinness, model
and toyshop owner**
Present: a vintage rocking
horse given by her husband

Playing in her grandparents' 12th-century castle, a young Jasmine Guinness dreamed of one day being a jockey. "I'd sit on the rocking horse my dad had been given as a child," she recalls. Now sitting beside her own rocking horse, 25 years later, she hopes her two boys will one day play with it. "I just hope they don't trash it like I did my father's."

Jasmine's search to find a vintage rocking horse of her own proved almost impossible. "I was very picky. They are quite rare to

find in such a good state, so I just kept on looking," she says. Her moment came when a woman came into her toyshop, Honeyjam (honeyjam.co.uk), in Portobello Road, West London, offering to sell some vintage toys. Jasmine's eye immediately fell on a rocking horse similar to the one she had played with as child. "I told my husband how excited I was about it that night, and he bought it for me as a surprise."

Guinness extols the virtues of "make do and mend", and this gift with such a sense of history was all the more special because she knew it had been loved. "It's second-hand, but I can share a bit of that playful joy every time I look at it."

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