

Food/Arts/Entertainment/Shopping/Property

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CELEBRATING THE BEST OF THE CITY

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Blooming wonderful HOME INTERIORS



NIS FOR NEUTRAL

Felicity Chuter at East of Home is enjoying a more modern, neutral, utilitarian look in her own home; she's moved away from anything that isn't both useful and beautiful at the same time. "There is a move towards a cleaner aesthetic," she says. "The huge popularity of 'shabby chic' in previous years has now made way for an interest in function and form."

When it comes to colour, John Law at Woodhouse & Law is thankful to see a shift away from grey as the most popular neutral, to a softer, warmer palette featuring barely-there pinks and mints.

OIS FOR OVERSIZED

Caroline at No. Twelve says large-scale framed florals or botanical art can transport us into the garden without having to step foot outside, and Felicity Chuter at East of Home says oversized photographic prints, no matter their subject, can be an impactful, fresh form of art to add to the home.

PIS FOR PATTERN

Charlie at Silcox's biggest advice is to keep strong patterns to a minimum. "Placing them all over your soft furnishings can go wrong very quickly," he says. "Keep them on occasional pieces like chairs, cushions and artwork. This way, you can elevate the room with texture and not commit to something that's very hard to replace."

On the other hand, Jo Berryman's best advice is to display bold prints with conviction. "I like to be bold with my references and scale-play," she says. "Such as imposing graphic patterns in small spaces and tiny embellishments in grand ones."

BRASS AND
GOLD WORK
PERFECTLY
IN GEORGIAN
PROPERTIES

QIS FOR QUIRKY

If you want to add a dash of the unusual to your rooms, Michelle at Verve Living suggests pom-poms on cushions, and feathers on curtains. And Jo Berryman says that an applied finish can add a unique dimension to any space. "We've used Ombre and faux shagreen paint-effects on walls, or mohair-clad panels in a cinema room for acoustics," she says.

RIS FOR RUGS

According to Ann-Marie at Rossiters, rugs are having a major moment, and not just as floor decoration but as works of art to be displayed above beds or on staircases.

SIS FOR SPECIFICS

Interior design, as far as Emily Giles, interior design lead at SRA Architects on Charlotte Street, Bath, sees it, is an art and a science.

"We enjoy creating beautiful spaces," she says. "When we work with our clients, we go through a careful process to understand their specific aspirations when it comes to the design of their interior space. Listening and learning shapes our approach, and we feel it's important to understand a client's needs for a space before we go about determining what materials and layouts will be most suitable."

Design at this level, she says, goes beyond trends and colours, but focuses on how spaces can and will be used. "Interior designs must be imaginative and appropriate, but must also withstand scrutiny and be something to be proud of in the long-term," she says.

TIS FOR TEXTURE

Natural materials are going to be at the forefront for spring, with a focus on marble, rattan, concrete and natural stone, reckons Sarah at Etos of Bath. "This season is all about bringing the outside in with earthy influences," she says. "Natural materials are perfect when combined with pastel colours, keeping them grounded and fresh."

Amanda at Leekes says that contrasting textures are still on trend, and Caroline at No. Twelve agrees that a mixture of materials – such as the luxurious feel of velvet on a sofa, paired with stripped floors – can produce interest. >