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INTERIOR DESIGN



MAHALLATI
INTERIOR DESIGN

*8 Interior Design Trends
We're Excited About
Right Now*

*These Paint Trends
Are Everywhere
This Spring*

*We're Spying These
4 Spring Decor
Trends Everywhere*

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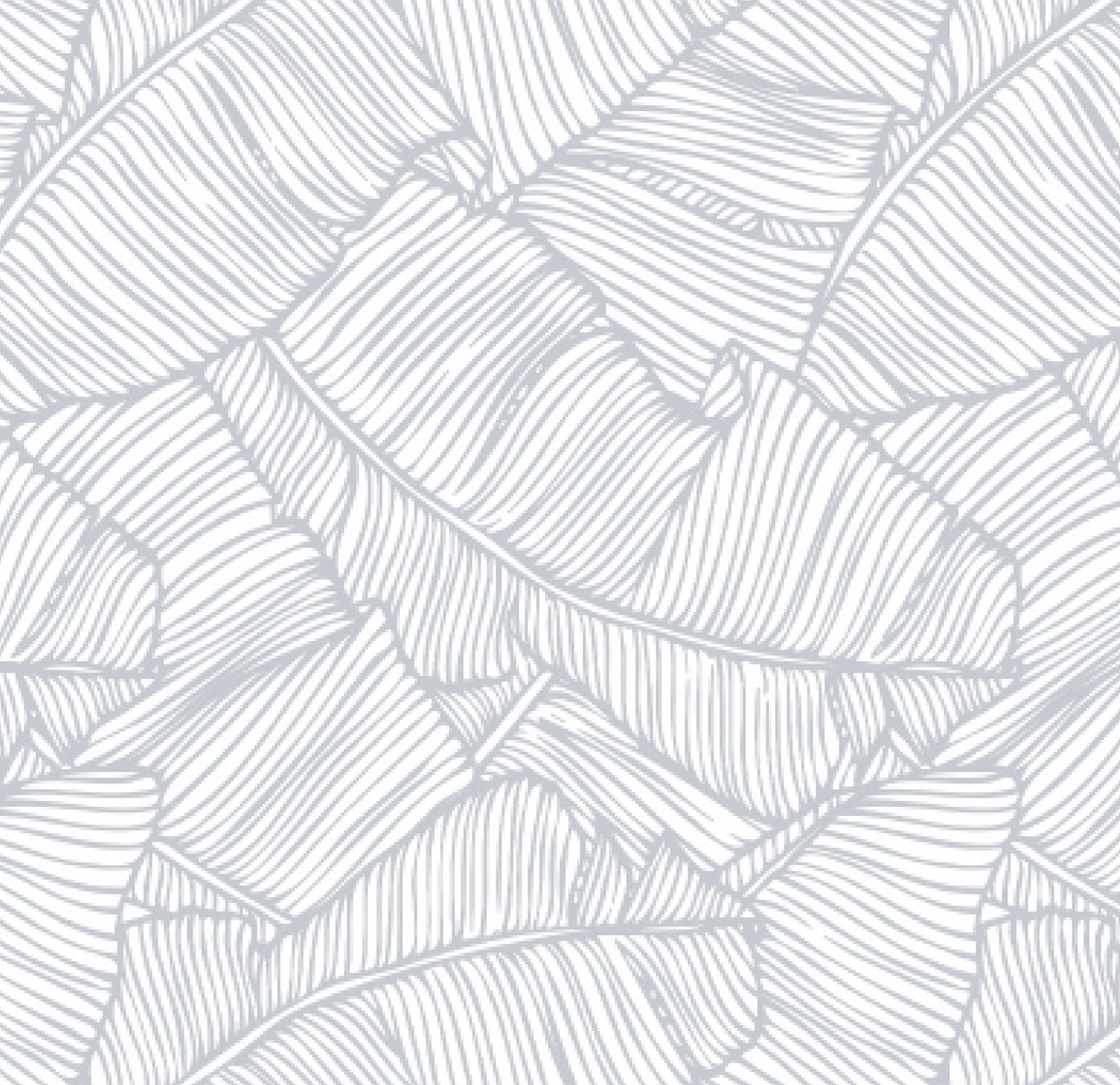


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**WHAT'S
INSIDE?**

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8 INTERIOR DESIGN TRENDS WE'RE EXCITED ABOUT RIGHT NOW



Milan Design Week was back in full force this year, with luminaries from the interiors, architecture, and fashion worlds convening to get a sneak peak at all things new and noteworthy. Lines stretched down city blocks for hyped exhibits, restaurants in the Via Brera design district hummed with crowds, and foot traffic ballooned at the sprawling Salone del Mobile fairgrounds just outside of town. The reason, of course, is always good design, but some of the crowds can also be attributed to the fact that 2023 marks the first time that Milan Design Week has returned to its regularly scheduled April timing since 2019.

Naturally, team ELLE DECOR was on the ground scouring the city for design debuts, fashion moments, and trends. From the emerging designers found at Alcovia to the massive showrooms that line the streets of Via Durini, we scoured the corners of Milan to find the most prevailing trends that both the fairgrounds and the city have to offer. Expect these to appear soon in a living room near you....



Gal Gaon's Macaron chairs at Nilufar Gallery.
Filippo Pincolini

1

SQUISH IS THE NEW BLOB

This year's edition of Milan Design Week wanted visitors to sit down, get comfortable, and stay a while. The oversize, plump seat that looks too cozy to not plop down in was just about everywhere and signals a continued push toward inviting silhouettes. We loved the soft, curvaceousness of the new Macaron armchairs by Israeli designer Gal Gaon at Nilufar Gallery, which embody the plush lines of this trend. Cassina similarly prioritized this look with its Moncloud sofa by creative director Patricia Urquiola; its soft-as-a-cloud cushions are even made with recycled PET. Fendi Casa unveiled its own squishy seats at its flagship store, most notably with the Blow Up modular sofa by Controvento. Comfort, it seems, will always reign supreme.

2

OUTDOOR JUST GOT TECHNICOLOR

If 2020 marks the year that everyone embraced outdoor living, then 2023 is the year that painted said outdoors blue, yellow, pink, and just about every technicolor hue in between. Outdoor furniture, long a category defined by neutral hues and the occasional pop of green, has finally embraced all that pastels and vibrants can offer. Perhaps the best example of this was at Roche Bobois, where artist Joana Vasconcelos unveiled a new indoor/outdoor edition of her famous BomBom chairs. Inspired by sunsets in her native Portugal, Vasconcelos's collection transformed the brand's showroom off Via Durini into a veritable Candyland of kaleidoscopic hues and paired the various colorful rugs, sofas, and tables with an equally topsy-turvy textile artwork hanging above. Meanwhile at the fairgrounds, Flexform added a dash of these pastels to its outdoor offerings via its Supermax Outdoor lounge chair. Dedon dipped its toes even further into the world of color by developing a new, color-shifting fiber for its sofas and lounge seating that combines contrasting hues like purple and orange.



Joana Vasconcelos unveiled a new indoor/outdoor edition of her famous BomBom chairs for Roche Bobois.
Baptiste Le Quiniou



Buccellati's collab with landscape designer Lily Kwong.
Silvia Rivoltella

3

MOSS-CORE

Those who were tuned in to *The Last of Us* series will recognize this trend, which sees design not just take cues from nature (hello, mushroom craze!) but become swallowed up by it, à la the mossy, postapocalyptic buildings from the hit HBO show. One example we're still thinking about was Buccellati's exhibit, which saw the jewelry brand's accessories nestled in a bed of carnivorous plants curated by landscape designer Lily Kwong. Here, Venus fly traps and pitcher plants combined with bright red Rosso Maraviglia vases in a captivating show that put the beauty and power of nature at the forefront. These moments continued at *Alcova*, where Forma Rosa paired its ceramics with IRL flora and fauna, and Rinck incorporated undulating vine motifs into its designs. Keep an eye out for this trend in textiles, rugs, and soft furnishings.

4

LIGHTING TO-GO

This year's Salone de Mobile saw the return of EuroLuce, a biennial lighting fair that showcases all things new and noteworthy in illumination. Our biggest takeaway? That many brands now want you to take lamps with you rather than leave them tethered to a desk or side table. One of our favorite examples of this was at Ginori 1735, where designer Luca Nichetto collaborated with the glassblowers at Barovier & Toso to create a portable light that resembles a group of stylish perfume bottles. Elsewhere, British designer Tom Dixon rendered his popular Melt and Bell silhouettes in miniature, take-it-with-you forms. Italian design house Porada got in on it too with Ekerö Move, a small wood lamp that can be paired with the matching Ekerö Night nightstand. What's pushing this trend? Some of it likely comes from the move toward indoor-outdoor living, as portable lamps can be carried inside and out with ease—plus, there's an undeniable versatility to these playful designs.



Ginori's sweet perfume bottle-inspired lighting.
Ginori 1735



Lucia Massari's Toppings chandelier was the icing on the Muranocake.
Nilufar Gallery

5

MURANO GLOWS UP

It's no secret that the world of Murano glassblowers can be a closed-off one. This time around, in Milan, there seemed to be more designers than ever breaking into the space, a move that means the arrival of fresh, contemporary pieces made with the passed-down techniques of the Venetian island's finest artisans. One standout exhibit was Barbini Specchi Veneziani's at Alcova, which showcased traditional Venetian glass designs alongside those by emerging designers, like Lucia Massari's whimsical Taste Composte mirrors. Massari's playful experimentation with Italian glass continued at Nilufar Depot, where her confectionary Toppings chandeliers were on full display. Dolce & Gabbana's showcase, meanwhile, included new work from designer Bradley Bowers, whose enormous, chrysalislike Fiosa vase brought striking geometric forms to the world of Venetian glasswork. Finally, Sofia Zevi Gallery showcased works by Japanese designer Akira Hara, who works in Murano and pulls inspiration both from his native Hokkaido and Venice to create vessels with intricate patterns reminiscent of those found in textile design.

6

ALUMINUM IS THE NEW IT MATERIAL

Steel's lighter cousin was everywhere last week, in joints, jambs, and full-blown furnishings. At Alcova, aluminum loomed in a straightforward industrial table and stools by Belgian designer Arthur Vandergucht. His simple octagonal design for a table felt like something out of the Wachowski sisters' *Zion*. The only adornment was that which function necessitated—grommets along the edges of each leg and the sides of the table. Each stool was a table in miniature, rounding out the minimal set. And elsewhere, Kiki Goti unveiled her first collection of objects: sconces, candlesticks, mirrors, pendants, and a table, each with aluminum components. A modular mirror of her design can hang off the wall, theoretically ever expandable due to hooks and eyes on each individual mirror's top and bottom. Coated foam appendages in green and blue render the design playful. Her sconces, made entirely of aluminum are playful as well, like abstracted masks that glow from within. Offsite at Ordet gallery Ledongil Workshop, a Korean interior design firm, presented its first collection of functional objects. Tables with stainless steel bases were topped by aluminum plates coated in glass fiber giving the appearance almost of a light plastic.



Kiki Goti unveiled her first collection of objects, each of which featured aluminum
Ginori 1735



Rinck's faux-marble furnishings.

Rinck

7

TROMPE-L'ŒIL TOUCHES

Deception took on a decidedly chic air last week in Milan. At presentations throughout the city, brands played with trompe-l'oeil materials, drawing you in for a visual trick and treat. Rinck, the French cabinetmaker known for exceptional execution in just about everything, presented a precious collection of objects all with the subtly marbled surfaces. A towering umbrella stand and multifunctional console, for instance, appeared to be hewn from the rarest of slabs. But marble they were not. Instead these items were made of a composite, lightweight but still fabulously grand.

Elsewhere, terrazzo—a material made from stone and marble scraps—got a new twist, courtesy, Touch Wood, a duo based in Japan and the Netherlands. Instead of the typical stone flecks, Sho Ota and Yuma Kano developed a terrazzo using wood chips, beautifully deploying the material in stools, shelves, and tables. And N/A, another design partnership between Natalia Triantafylli and Andrew Scott, 3D-printed clay mirrors, vessels, and light fixtures based on scans of the IRL objects, resulting in works that still hold the suggestion of clay but with a decidedly digital sheen.

8

TEXTILES GET A NEW TWIST

Warps and wefts were reconsidered last week from a production standpoint and with sustainability in mind. A new, young designer based in Berlin, Goran Sidjimovski, presented a collection of home textiles knit in a wide array of colors under the name BOI. Waste guides Sidjimovski's work more than visuals do: The items are produced using dead stock yarns, organic cotton, and recycled polyester. Each product is knit directly into its final shape and form, resulting in less than 1 percent waste from the studio. Those leftovers are then bundled up and sewn into seat cushions—perhaps the most intriguing object in the presentation.

For Alcova, Atelier LUMA constructed an inviting wool tent where a working felt machine invited you to consider alternate uses for the underloved textile. The studio also presented delectable floor pillows woven from palm leaves—perfect for any beachside escape, with more thought injected into them than immediately meets the eye. Purely frivolous design wasn't ignored though. In Alcova's Budapest pavilion, a "Frozen Textile" chair was presented by Demeter Fogarasi with a burlap-adjacent material floating confusingly in space. To create the chair, several layers of a jute-based biocomposite developed with Meshlin Composites were heat-pressed together to form a stronger material, which is then draped over a metal frame devoid of a solid seat or back, and "frozen" in a comfortable, sittable form. The resulting form is inviting, fanciful, and more comfortable than expected.



Goran Sidjimovski presented a collection of home textiles knitted from dead-stock yarns and recycled polyester.

Ginori 1735



As we wave goodbye to the winter blues, homeowners and decorators are eagerly anticipating the fresh new looks that spring will bring. For some, embracing the seasonal shift can be as easy as assembling a bouquet of flowers or adding some new accessories to the mix. But for those who are really looking for a change, a fresh coat of paint is the color equivalent to spring cleaning. Though applying it may require some extra time and elbow grease, the right shade can seemingly transform your space overnight. (Or however long it takes for your paint to dry.)

Oftentimes, spring and pastel colors go together like primer and a brush roller—but there’s more to this season than blushes and sky blues. “Consumers have grown more confident in their taste after spending much time at home in lockdown,” explains Gemma Riberti, WGSN’s head of interiors. “Color becomes the paramount way to update a space without major investments or renovations.

THESE PAINT TRENDS ARE EVERYWHERE THIS SPRING

With the rainbow renaissance in full swing, versatile neutrals and bold, can’t-look-away colors are fair game this season. The catch, Riberti says, is that many people are giving their preferred palette a tonal spin. “It’s about layering the same color in two different intensities or saturation,” she adds.

So many options, so little space—so where to begin? After all, choosing one color from all of the swatches is by no means easy. Though beauty lies in the eye of the beholder, Riberti is sharing the top hues to keep an eye on. From lights to brights, there’s bound to be shade you’ll love—this spring and beyond.



Stephen Kent Johnson

1 EARTHY GREENS

We have to respectfully disagree with you, Kermit: It's never been easier to be green than this spring. When the shelter-in-place order went into effect in 2020, biophilic tones like browns and greens mimicked the connection with the great outdoors that so many people desperately craved. Fast-forward three years and verdant tones have become a mainstay in many homes. But this season, we're not just talking about any old green. Specifically, "Mossy, verdigris, and lichen greens in particular are coming to the fore," Riberti explains.

"What is interesting is seeing them being treated as neutrals," she continues. "Layering the green walls and furnishings with plants, for instance; [the color is] also ideal for cabinetry."

2 TERRA-COTTA REDS

Speaking of the color wheel's outdoorsy offerings, the muted reds that naturally occur in the wild shouldn't be discounted. "Russet reds, rust, terra-cotta, amber, burnt sienna, and the like are important," Riberti explains. "They have an artisanal and sunbaked quality that warms up interiors year-round and works across materials both hard and soft."

When it comes to interior design, red might elicit visions of Big's accent wall in *Sex and the City*. Fortunately, this season's volcanic tones are considerably less saturated, making it possible for them to fit in a variety of rooms.

"An amber glow is key to this color group, infusing interiors with sunlight," Riberti adds. "Walls in hospitality and residential projects alike are clad in this tactile terra-cotta pigment, daring this color [to be used] as a kitchen backsplash or in the entryway as well as warming up north-facing rooms."

Though softer reds might seem like a design dark horse, they've been on the industry's radar for quite some time. In fact, Benjamin Moore and Sherwin-Williams named Raspberry Blush and Redend Point as their 2023 Colors of the Year, respectively.



Simon Watson

3

LIGHT BLUE

Equal parts calming and cool, blue has been a consistent power-player on the color wheel. But as spring emerges, expect to see a surge of sky, powder, and whisper-soft blues. Though the deep, notoriously dramatic navy has historically been an obvious choice, Riberti argues that “tranquil blues are also very important to the conversation.” She explains, “We are seeing this quality of blue across a broad spectrum of applications, from displays and beautiful walls and floors to decorative items and furniture.”

Fittingly enough, Chairish predicted that a cornflower color called French Blue would be trending in 2023. As the brand says, “It’s a sophisticated but often subtle way to make a color statement without shouting.” With the ability to transcend time and trend, lighter blues can be treated as neutrals. While sprinkling in various shades of lapis and cobalt can put blue front and center, this trendy tone will look particularly good with warm woods, pinks, and hints of burgundy, Riberti says.



Eric Piasecki



Kirk Davis Swinehart

4

LILAC

Spring might be perpetually synonymous with light, airy pastels, but Riberti says this tried-and-true palette will look different this year. “Overall, pastels are moving away from candy sugary hues and taking on a more nuanced, more refined direction,” she explains. This season, trade in traditional blushes and soft yellows for a head-turning lilac. Of course, you’re not the only one who feels the lavender haze creeping up on you: WGSN dubbed Digital Lavender as its 2023 Color of the Year—and for good reason.

“It’s a sensorial shade that connects to holistic well-being and digital optimism,” the trend forecasting company previously told ELLE DECOR. “This shade poses that much-needed cautious optimism and escapism that people are craving post-pandemic, and even in times of budget crunch, it is imaginative and creative but also speaks of hope and balance.” Purple is a downright regal choice for wall paint—as seen in this studio apartment designed by William Cullum—but Riberti says it’s also an in-demand option for window treatments and ombré tiles.



Noe DeWitt

5

TEXTURAL BLACK

Though spring and deeper tones may seem at odds with each other, this season is swinging the pendulum toward the dark side. While deep reds and aubergines are trending, Riberti says black is “widely present.” But since black is a drastic shade, it’s important to think strategically about how it fits in your home.

“It is quite dramatic as an effect, so it needs to be used considerately,” she adds. “Nonetheless, dark and textural materials are an important direction at recent shows, especially on wood.”

Instead of coating your floors or walls with an inky black, a touch of noir will feel a tad fresher on wainscoting or window trims.

6

FIERY ORANGES

Calling all maximalists: Spring is encouraging you to fully embrace your bold streak. “There is definitely a lot more demand for bolder hues, even in paint,” Riberti shares, citing lime green, fuchsia, and fiery oranges as the ones to watch.

Though there will always be space for neutrals, uplifting brights offer something different: a moment for celebration. “There’s that need for joyfulness and unapologetic exuberance that is driving the rise of energetic brights,” Riberti adds. “The growing confidence in self-expression via color translates into a seemingly eclectic yet considerate mixing and matching of different levels in fresh plays on highs and lows.”

In this Woodstock, New York, home, design firm White Webb packed on the pigment with floor-to-ceiling brights. However, if you’re new to statement shades, Riberti says painting your cabinets or doors are suitable starting steps.



Read McKendree

WE'RE SPYING THESE 6 SPRING DECOR TRENDS EVERYWHERE

In the world of interior design, a change of season is as good an excuse as any to revamp a kitchen, living room, or bedroom. The shift from winter to spring is easily one of the most anticipated in the decor calendar, too, as throw blankets and slippers can be swapped out for a poolside chaise or hanging chair. Naturally, any updates to your home should be on-trend, so we've rounded up seven of the prevailing themes spotted in homes over the past few months. From the White Lotus effect on interior design to all the trendy new glassware to bring to the front porch, these are this season's hottest new decor trends you'll want to implement in just about every room, both indoors and out.



1

HERITAGE FABRICS

Looking to reupholster a sofa or chaise? Your fabric of choice may be a blast from the past, as textile houses are looking to their archives more than ever this season. Pierre Frey embodied this trend in a big way, celebrating the 200th anniversary of Maison Braquenie with a collection drawing upon more than 40 archival documents and patterns. The French brand even took over a castle in Normandy to celebrate the occasion, decorating its storied walls with jacquards, embroideries, and juicy patterns—some slightly tweaked from their original designs, others nearly identical. Cowtan & Tout's latest also brings back old classics, such as Palmerston, which is based on a 20th-century floral block print, and Houghton Hall, which pulls inspiration from the Arts and Crafts movement.



Philippe Garcia



Courtesy Of Kelly Wearstler Gallery

2

IT-GIRL GLASSWARE

One of 2022's most buzzed-about accessories was an unlikely one: a sky-blue glass purse from Coperni's fall runway show. While not perhaps the most practical—especially for the accident-prone—the collaboration with models turned glassblowers Heven got the fashion week set talking about all things glassware again. Cue Bella Hadid glassblowing on her Instagram and a new season of the Canadian reality competition show *Blown Away*, and you've got a larger-than-ever audience for chic, playful tumblers and coupes. The design world has responded with its own wave of glassware It girls—no sign of a Hadid collection or collaboration yet—including Sophie Lou Jacobsen, Grace Whiteside, and, in April, Lauren Santo Domingo via her new post at Tiffany & Co. Oh, and there's plenty of new candy-colored bags from Heven to shop, too, if you've got your heart set on getting the Doja Cat look.



Courtesy Of Ottolenghi

3

CLUB MED

The White Lotus's jaw-dropping second season averaged about 10 million viewers per episode, so if folks weren't fantasizing about an Italian riviera escape before, they certainly are now. Expect demand for the sun-kissed Mediterranean to carry over to interiors too as temperatures start to warm. Some of our favorite design finds that evoke both the shores of Sicily and the rolling hills of Tuscany include chef Yotam Ottolenghi's playful new vases for Serax, as well as painterly plates and scarves from Idda Studio. Those looking for even more escapism can swath their walls in de Gournay's sky-blue embroidered paper, dubbed Amami Waves, which features under-the-sea motifs from top to bottom. No surprise: The Italian word Amami translates to "love me."

4

TIMBER TOUCHES

Spring brings more time outdoors surrounded by grass, flowers, and (of course) trees. It's inevitable that wood furniture is back in a big way, then, often in chunky, sculptural silhouettes rather than sinuous, upholstered ones. This more au naturale look puts wood grain and texture on full display, like in designer Vince Skelly's new work, a series of redwood pieces shown at the Claremont Lewis Museum of Art through April 23. It's a look that, naturally, can transition from indoors to outdoors with ease: Skagerak's just-launched Plank collection places large slats of teak wood front and center, and De La Espada's 98.6°F line takes a similarly stripped-back approach with its straightforward European oak designs.



Photography By Raymond Molinar

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