

25 BEAUTIFUL HOMES

STYLISH TRANSFORMATIONS

Sleek 1920s home | Converted post office | Listed farmhouse

BRIGHT IDEAS

Decorating with vibrant colour and pattern

SUMMER LIVING

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RESTORING A WINDMILL

'We brought a local landmark to life'



Insight

COLOURFUL WALL TREATMENTS

How to pack a punch with vibrant pattern, shades and texture as Julia Ballmaier did

Bold wall treatments, from large-scale patterned papers and daring graphics to textured materials, are a great way to add personality to a scheme. An eye for scale and a dash of confidence are all it takes to get the look.

Think big

Striking wall treatments are incredibly versatile, suiting modestly sized spaces, such as Julia Ballmaier's simply furnished apartment, as well as effectively anchoring grander rooms. The key is to be brave, while at the same time tempering the effect by introducing pared-back accessories and simple flooring. If you are unsure about papering an entire room, feature walls can work well, but pay close attention to their interplay with the rest of the space.

'Consider the scale of the design you have chosen,' advises interior designer Rosalind Wilson. 'A very bold feature wall might create an overly stark contrast to the rest of the walls and become too

isolated. It's a good idea to extract one colour from the feature paper and apply it to the surrounding walls.'

Mix it up

Opt for a scale, pattern and colour that you feel comfortable living with. If you are uncertain, try bolder designs in subtle colourways. Conversely, you could try small-scale patterns in vibrant hues.

'This year sees the return of nature-inspired wallpapers, such as large flamingos and tropical prints, as well as metallics,' says interior designer Kay Westmaas (studiowestmaas.com). 'If you are a little wary of going all-out, try using these treatments in smaller rooms, such as guest bathrooms, cloakrooms and children's bedrooms. Green is definitely having a moment and features in wallpapers by way of palms, abstracts, florals and leaves. If large-scale pattern is not your style, bear in mind that grasscloth wallpapers are a great way of adding texture – Phillip Jeffries has a range of wonderful options.'



PROFESSIONAL ADVICE



'Walls are the largest surface area in your home, so updating your wallpaper can make a very strong style statement. If you want to be bold with your choice, you need to

ensure the design is in some way a reflection of your personality and feels right for you.

Remember that smaller-scale wallpaper patterns work well in big rooms, but can sometimes overwhelm small spaces.

Larger-scale patterns work well in most rooms. Your pattern doesn't have to be intense to have impact – a simple crackle effect can change the mood of a room.

Darker tones such as navy will make larger rooms appear more intimate; lighter hues, such as greys, create the illusion of space.

Add interest with textured wallcoverings like grasscloth, cork or paper-backed silks, which can look ultra-sophisticated.

Don't be afraid to combine different patterns for an eclectic feel. Mix classic designs such as stripes or grasscloth with exotic styles like ikats and kilims. But avoid making the space look too busy by choosing patterns in colours that complement each other.

Animal motifs are on trend right now, and fine art-inspired wallpaper is having a moment, with life-size art murals proving popular. But don't blindly follow trends – only choose a style if you really love it.'

MARTIN WALLER, ANDREW MARTIN

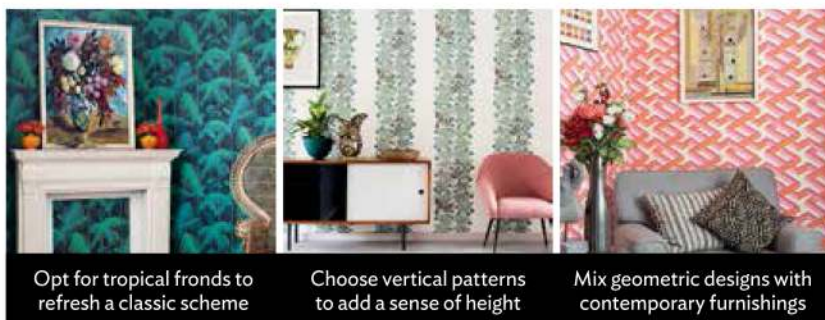
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A go-to wallpaper supplier with a vast range of inspiring patterned options, including an exotic new range of African-inspired designs.



Opt for tropical fronds to refresh a classic scheme

Choose vertical patterns to add a sense of height

Mix geometric designs with contemporary furnishings

EXPERT EYE *'Wallpaper brings drama and life to a scheme, adding real impact. Large-scale patterns look great, but it's important to balance them with the fabrics and furnishings in the room as a whole, so as not to create a space where elements fight for attention'*

ROSELIND WILSON, ROSELINDWILSONDESIGN.COM