

The

ENGLISH HOME



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Celebrating the essence of English style

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MAKING BRITAIN

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inspired by hues of land & sea

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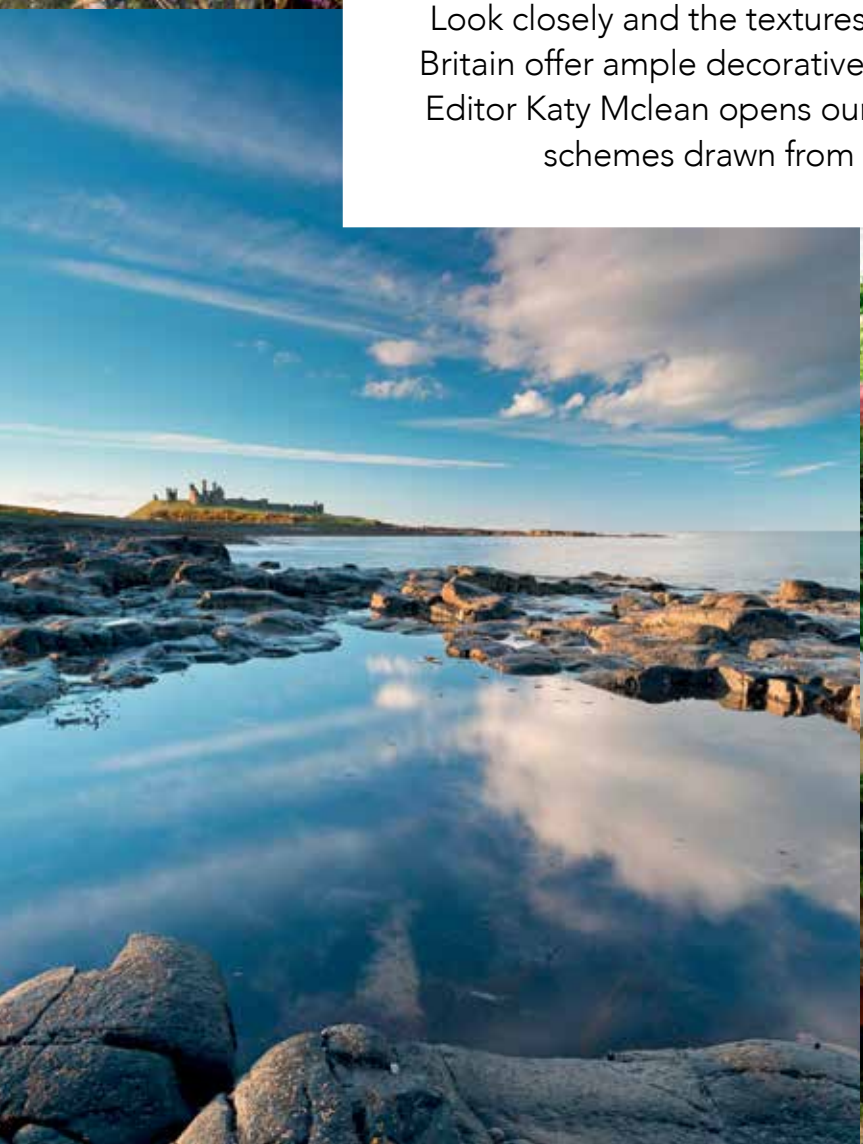
FROM SIR TERENCE CONRAN & SIR PAUL SMITH TO THE MOST EXCITING NEW TALENTS IN DESIGN





COLOURSCAPES

Look closely and the textures and colours of nature across Britain offer ample decorative inspiration. Here, Decorating Editor Katy Mclean opens our eyes to four beautiful colour schemes drawn from evocative landscapes





Moorland magic



Chalk Violet, £39.50 for 2.5l Matt Emulsion, Fired Earth

From purple-heather-strewn hillsides to grassy green moors and the ever-changing hues of the heart-lifting huge expanses of sky, the wild landscapes of Britain's moorlands provide plenty of colour inspiration.

TOP LEFT-HAND CORNER Purple haze

Though purple can be a tricky colour to pull off in interiors, using the same colour on woodwork as the walls avoids a stark contrast to keep the overall scheme luscious and moody. Lilac above the picture rail softens the drama.

Walls up to picture rail, Grenache, £48.50 for 2.5l Pure Flat Emulsion; woodwork, Grenache, £66.50 for 2.5l Architects' Eggshell; walls above picture rail, Lady Char's Lilac, £53.50 for 2.5l Architects' Matt, all Paint & Paper Library



Meadow Violet, £43 for 2.5l Active Emulsion, Sanderson

MIDDLE ROW FAR LEFT Highland fling

A scheme inspired by a gorgeous Scottish highland would not be complete without a touch of tartan. This fabric includes all the pertinent hues – from vibrant heather and gorse green to sunbleached grass and skies of blue.

Kilnsey in Rhodolite, £55.95 a metre, Elemental Collection, Moon



Magical Malachite, £25.20 for 2.5l Premium Blend v700, Valspar at B&Q

MIDDLE ROW LEFT Dramatic palette

Take time to look at nature and how it majestically combines colours in unexpected ways, and translate them into a new decorating scheme. Pulling out dominant and subtle shades and playing with physical swatches will ensure the right balance of each colour.

Selection of fabrics and paints from Sanderson



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Brinjal, £45 for 2.5l Estate Emulsion, Farrow & Ball

BOTTOM LEFT-HAND CORNER Cloudy scene

Sometimes the most dramatic skies can be filled with the subtlest of colours. Here, these cushions evoke the greys of a brewing storm, tinged with the softest pinks created by a fading sun.

Bespoke cushions (top to bottom): Buffalo in Wild, £254 a metre; Karoo in Ivory, £230 a metre; Shukka in Swan, £216 a metre, all de Le Cuona



Navy Blue, £45 for 2.5l Emulsion, Edward Bulmer Natural Paint

BOTTOM ROW FAR LEFT Natural textures

A sumptuous wool bouclé, Iona's soft pebbly texture and variety of beautiful colourways are inspired by the island after which the collection is named.

Iona, available in eight colourways, £188 a metre, Fox Linton

BOTTOM ROW MIDDLE Plaid all over

Using accents of purple in cushions and throws can add highland charm, particularly in a tartan or plaid. This one is designed and woven in Wales.

Rhosdir, Heathland, from £140 for a throw (140cm x 180cm), Melin Tregwynt

BOTTOM ROW LEFT Colour block

A simple but effective way to update in the kitchen is to paint the island in a feature colour.

Bespoke Classic Kitchen, £POA, Mark Wilkinson ▶



Cotswolds calm



Yellow Ground, £45 for 2.5l Estate Emulsion, Farrow & Ball



Mouse Grey, £46 for 2.5l Matt Emulsion, Atelier Ellis



Green Olive, £47.30 for 2.5l Eco Chalky Emulsion, Francesca's Paints



Old Gold, £12.50 for 2.5l Matt Emulsion, Coloured Emulsion Collection, Crown



Little Rascal, £40 for 2.5l Flat Matt Emulsion, Claypaint Tinted Colours Collection, Earthborn

Capture the warmth of fields of corn, mellow stone cottages, lichen and moss, ancient timbers and the soft earth tones on undulating tilled farmland for a soothing colour scheme to set a perfectly calm yet inviting backdrop to the everyday.

TOP ROW RIGHT Colours of the country

Capture the tones of stone nestled against rolling hills and woodland in wonderfully textured fabrics. Kumana replicates the luxury of woven silk but in practical yarns, whilst the slubby weave of Tangalle has a wonderful drape making it eminently suitable for curtains. *Fabrics (clockwise from top): Tangalle, Driftwood; Tangalle, Stone; Kumana, Lichen; Tangalle, Straw; Kumana, Waterfall; Tangalle, Dove, all £40 a metre, Designers Guild*

TOP ROW MIDDLE Dreamy green

Sage green is a great choice for a restful, beautiful kitchen. Take inspiration from the Cotswold Hills and pair with tiles in a mellow cream with a hint of yellow. *Regency Cream Half Tile, £99.95 a square metre, Original Style*

TOP ROW FAR RIGHT Set in stone

A scheme inspired by country colours works well with patterns that have a natural theme. This soft grey colourway, highlighted with bursts of yellow, melds two stony hues. *Brooke House, Cinder, £94.50 a roll, Little Greene*

MIDDLE FAR RIGHT Tonal harmony

Creating a moodboard allows for easy experimenting with different patterns. Keeping to a tonal theme throughout enables stripes to sit alongside ditsy flowers and bold paisleys. A few plain but textured weaves are essential elements. *Patterned fabrics (from left): Pomeroy Paisley, Straw, £27.50 a metre; Millie, Lemon, £27.50 a metre, and all other fabrics, Ian Sanderson*

BOTTOM ROW LEFT Fields of gold

This relatively large-scale gorgeous trellis design is full of intricate details, however, the muted golden tone makes it easy on the eye and calming over a large expanse. *Pure Trellis, Gold, £59 a roll, Morris & Co*

BOTTOM ROW MIDDLE Not so plain

Harlequin's Prism Plain collection is full of sumptuous plains to complement its more complex designs as well as those by Morris & Co, Sanderson and Zoffany. Although subtle, they have a two-tone weave that catches the light in a natural, alluring way. *Background fabric: Atom, Pearl, £35 a metre; other fabrics (from top): Fission, White Cotton; Fission, Shrew, both £35 a metre, Harlequin* ▶



PHOTOGRAPHS: PRES VILLAGE SCENE; © ZOONAR GMBH/ALAMY; (HARLEQUIN) © ANDY GORE; (TREES) © LOOP IMAGES LTD/ALAMY



Coastal breeze

Where land and sky meet, a mercurial colour palette vacillating between blues, greys, greens, golds, sand and bleached woods offers a wide horizon of decorative possibilities far beyond nautical hues.



Deep Ocean, £75 for 3.79l (1US gallon) Aura Matte, Benjamin Moore

TOP ROW FAR LEFT The big blue
Infinite shades of blue from the ocean never cease to inspire and entice. It is a colour that is eminently usable and works well in all sorts of patterns. This collection of papers has a gently textured quality.
Selection of wallpapers, from £155 a roll, Thibaut



Lulworth Blue, £45 for 2.5l Estate Emulsion, Farrow & Ball

TOP ROW LEFT Floral arrangement
Though the palette is coastal inspired, it does not mean a nautical theme has to be adhered to. Blues look lovely on floral designs, the gentle colour allowing for confident use of large-scale pattern.
Folk Floral, denim blue, £9.99 a roll, Arthouse



Stone Pale Cool, £43.50 for 2.5l Absolute Matt Emulsion, Little Greene

MIDDLE FAR LEFT Perfect pairing
Navy and sea blues combine perfectly with sandy tones – as one would expect. A neutral beige provides a gentle contrast than crisp whites for a softer, modern partnership.
Selection of fabrics from the Heritage Collection, Clarke & Clarke



Sand V, £48.50 for 2.5l Pure Flat Emulsion, Paint & Paper Library

MIDDLE LEFT Dip your toes
Add a splash of blue with a well-chosen accessory. Rather than obvious cushions, a feature piece of upholstery such as a footstool or armchair is a smarter way to introduce a new colour to an established scheme.
Buffet Plain Stool, available in a range of fabrics, seen here in Sahara Brushed Cotton in Aquamarine, £620, Darlings of Chelsea



Velvet Blue, £46 for 2.5l Elite Emulsion, Zoffany

BOTTOM ROW FAR LEFT A different take
These tiles would be a lovely choice for a bathroom. The blue and sandy stone colours and weather-beaten edges lend a nod towards coastal style, but the floral theme steers the look away from cliché.
Tuscany Flower Decor Multi (20cm x 20 m), £48 a square metre; Tuscany Blue (20cm x 20cm), from £36.00 a square metre, The Baked Tile Company

BOTTOM ROW MIDDLE Water colours
Layer different shades of blue for a varied scheme. From darkest navy to the palest sky blue, this is a colour that creates a harmony when used in different strengths.
Scatter cushions, £25 each, Loaf

BOTTOM ROW LEFT Seashore shells
Bring a subtle hint of the coast with this rug emulating delicate shells nestled in sandy shores. The hand-knotted wool and art-silk rug can be ordered in any size.
Shells, £535 a square metre, Amy Kent



P86 (THIBAUT) © KIP DAWKINS; (BEACH) © EMMA FINCHALAN.

Cottage garden

Picture a quintessentially English country garden – replete with blowsy roses and frothy flowers in the borders, and lettuces and herbs in the vegetable patch – and the prettiest palette is immediately brought to life.



Soft Lime, £18 for 2.5l Matt Coloured Emulsion, Crown



Tiger Rose, £42 for 2.5l Low Sheen Emulsion, Konig Colours



Palmerston Pink, £46, for 2.5l Marble Matt Emulsion, Mylands



Green Almond, £43 for 2.5l Active Emulsion, Sanderson



Daydream Believer, £25.20 for 2.5l Premium Blend v700, Valspar at B&Q

TOP ROW FAR RIGHT True to life

A floral and pastel-themed scheme could easily become rather saccharine, so considering the scale of pattern is important to keep the look sophisticated. The large scale of the tulips, poppies, hellebores and foliage, which are also photographically depicted, offer a smart counterpoint to the pink sofa. *Springtime wallpaper, £75 for 3 x 3.3 metre panels, Woodchip & Magnolia*

TOP ROW MIDDLE Meadow blooms

This design has more of a wild meadow influence with flowers from cow parsley to primroses, no wonder it has also attracted little dancing butterflies – originally designed in 1956 the colours echo a bold vintage vibe that would make for a glorious, fun guest bedroom. *Wallpaper, Aurora 1790, £72 a roll, Boråstapeter Scandinavian Designers II at Cloudberry Living*

TOP ROW RIGHT Colours of confetti

The romantic pastel tones used to dress this table would work well for a celebratory lunch or even an al fresco dinner, dining amongst the flowers that have inspired the palette.

Tableware, cutlery and glasses, all Amara; linens, stylist's own; for similar pretty floral fabrics try Bluebell Gray, Sanderson and Designers Guild

BOTTOM ROW FAR RIGHT Butterflies, birds and bees

John Derian's découpage-inspired designs for Designers Guild offer a more refined approach to floral pattern. The botanical drawings and illustrations of native birds and insects on a pale green backdrop are a quirky choice – we think it would be fabulous in a downstairs loo. *Flora & Fauna wallpaper, £65 a roll, Designers Guild*

BOTTOM ROW MIDDLE Deckchair stripes

To avoid too many floral patterns, stripes are perfect for bringing variety and a touch of smartness, yet also still feel ever so pretty. Candy and citrus colours combine on this flat-woven rug to inject colour underfoot. *Stone Soup cotton rug, from £38 (61cm x 91cm), Dash & Albert*

BOTTOM ROW RIGHT Pretty in pink

Break with tradition and choose an uplifting hue for a front door in pink, raspberry or coral, which contrast perfectly with golden stone, tone in with red brick and add warmth to slate. A charming bumblebee door knocker adds the final note of character.

Plants, all from Dobbies; for a similar paint try Nancy's Blushes, £60 for 2.5l Full Gloss, Farrow & Ball ■



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