

The

ENGLISH HOME



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CREATIVE BRITAIN

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DREAM HOMES

Elegant townhouse
Georgian-style new build
Cottage renovation

DECORATIVE LIGHTING

Jewellery for interiors

At home with
MONTY DON

PERIOD STYLE

Lady Mary's bedroom
Mrs Patmore's kitchen
Lord Grantham's study

COLOUR LOVE

The timeless allure of duck egg, aqua & teal



COLOUR CONFIDENCE

WITH
AQUA

Inspiration for using this enticing
shade that is not quite blue and
not quite green

Headboard and Roman blind, Lälland Stripe,
Smoke/Duck Egg/Hay (LAP-30-8-34), £60 a
metre; bedspread, Gypsy, Smoke (GYPSY-30),
£94 a metre; and Plain Linen, Smoke (PLAIN-30),
£52 a metre; wallpaper, Spotty Stripe, Smoke
(WSPOT-30), £56 a roll, all Vanessa Arbuthnott



Turquoise

Vibrant, bright and clean, these dazzling aqua tones bring fresh, crisp colour to a scheme



Full of vitality, bright aqua hues evoking gemstones such as turquoise, jade and aquamarine have a vibrancy without feeling brash. Echoing crystal-clear seas on a sunny day, these clean colours are inviting yet somehow also tranquil and calming. This mood can be heightened in a pairing with crisp whites or greys for a fresh, modern scheme. They also work well with a warmer palette of colours. Pinks work supremely well as a contrast, but blues, limes, yellows could also be combined to create a bright, zesty palette that is fun and invigorating.

Some turquoises can be more blue – such as Lakeland Paint's Gualala (right-hand swatch above). Others are more jade-like and green in tone such as Devanandha's Aqua (middle swatch above), from Francesca's Paints, whose founder Francesca Wezel explains that the vibrant shade is made from Phthalo Green pigment only. "That's the reason it is so fresh and tangy. It is deeply pigmented and it is a clean colour, contrary to duck egg."

Bright & playful

This rather vivid and lively turquoise (left) might seem an energetic choice to use as a block colour on walls, however, here, it provides a clean backdrop to the playful assortment of bright pastel and eclectic pattern ensemble. It is surprising how adding more colours, creating a seemingly mismatched palette, actually mellows its vigour and creates an uplifting and beautifully considered sitting room. The dark and light blues add a subtle richness, bringing forth the blue undertones of the turquoise. The zesty lime greens could seem incongruous in theory (the yellow-green seeming out of balance with the blue-green) yet here add punctuation in block colours on upholstery, cushions and the rug.

Accents of pink bring the whole scheme together, providing a contrast to all the other colours. Recurring in all the patterned fabric choices, they create a visual cohesion that calms the eye. More of each colour could be added, with painted furniture in pinks or blues, some more lime green in a footstool and a touch more teal in a lampshade, perhaps. For a similar paint colour try Edward Bulmer Natural Paint's Turquoise (left swatch above).

