The Power of Pattern

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INTERIORS AND INSPIRATION: A RESOURCE GUIDE

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In a sitting room, a hand-painted silk Prunus pattern from Fromental gives a Louis XVI chaise longue a verdant and playful touch. Interior design by Roman and Williams.

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Serene whites and shades of gray look extra chic layered with the wallpaper pattern Hampton Garden by Gracie. Interior design by Mary McDonald.

Opposite: The tangerine drapery of Chinois Palace by Mary McDonald for Schumacher uplifts and accentuates the orange walls, lending the furniture in the room both warmth and timelessness.

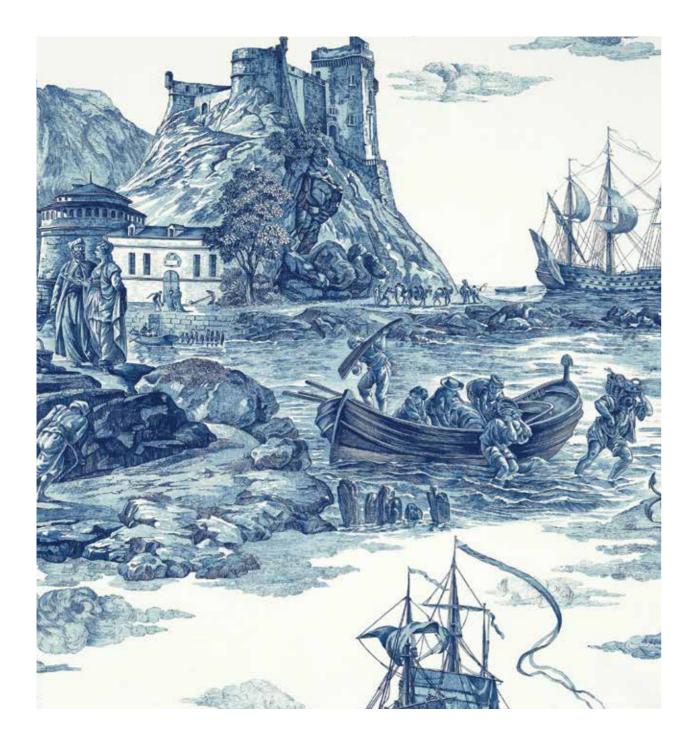




Pattern can be counted on to be as lively and colorful an accessory as fresh flowers or a collection of china. Here the delicious Imperial Dragon in Coral and Turquoise from Thibaut proves why.

Opposite: The hand-painted Earlham pattern on emerald green-dyed silk from de Gournay is used in this dining room by designer Melissa Warner Rothblum. "I love how chinoiserie is classic and traditional yet can feel modern and fresh when paired with unexpected colors."





Marine Toile in Indigo from Schumacher

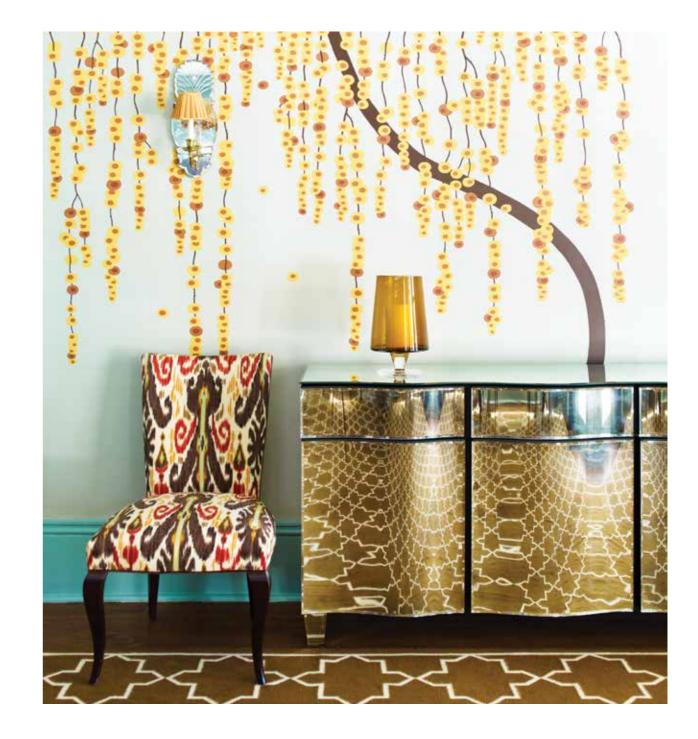
"I have always been a fan of the impact a toile pattern can create in a small space," says designer Robert Passal. "Juxtaposition was the key factor throughout this Miami home. While the home itself is quite contemporary I worked with materials that reflect the past to create visual interest and warmth. The toile is printed on grass cloth, which in itself creates contrast."





Designer Alessandra Branca infused a traditional damask pattern with a chic shot of color, then coated a bedroom in it while adding touches of chinoiserie. The result is pure glamour and unexpected modernity. The pattern is Anna Damask in Acid Green by Alessandra Branca for Schumacher.





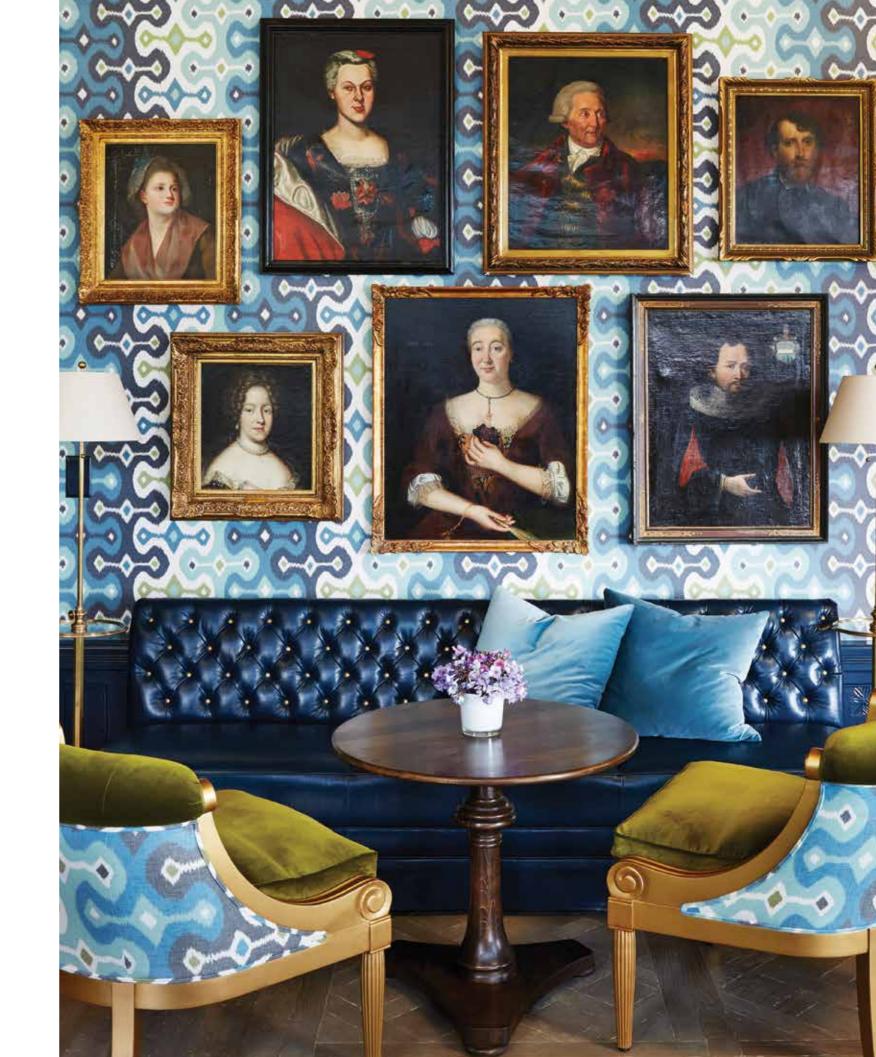
Ikat jibes so well with other patterns and often helps connect the more fanciful ones (such as Fromental's Willow on the walls) with the more serious ones (see the floor covering) in a small space. Interior design by Katie Ridder.

Opposite: In a large space ikat can hold its own, and alongside other patterns in its same colorway it can almost be used as a neutral. Interior design by Kirsten Kelli.



Darya Ikat in Sky by Martyn Lawrence Bullard for Schumacher

Martyn Lawrence Bullard uses his Darya Ikat for Schumacher both on the walls and the backs of chairs in this sitting area for an effect that feels both antiquated and modern, thanks to its contemporary and geometric pattern. It's the juxtaposition that makes the room zing. Old-world portraits never looked so fresh!





Crescent in Lake Cream from Kelly Wearstler

Kelly Wearstler's Crescent lends not just pattern to a bedroom but movement, thereby making the space feel larger than it is. And it's a great companion to modern furniture when you don't want to use something too traditional. Interior design by Sheldon Harte.







"Every room can use a wee bit of tartan!" is Scot Meacham Wood's mantra and here he layers his Meacham Tartan pattern as a foundation for other tartans to play against.

Opposite: "I practically use tartan as a neutral," says designer Scot Meacham Wood. "It mixes amazingly well with bold florals and modern geometrics." The sofa is in his Blackwatch Tartan with a custom Buchanan Tartan Pillow.



The Classic Stripe Wallpaper from Sheila Bridges has a refreshing formality to its unique colorway, reminding us that stripes needn't be relegated to just navy and white. Interior design by Sheila Bridges.





Acanthus Stripe in Turmeric by Celerie Kemble for Schumacher

A stripe doesn't necessarily mean two straight lines: it's the journey and shape that give extra distinction to any wall. Here it's Acanthus Stripe in Shadow by Celerie Kemble from Schumacher. Interior design by R. Cartwright Design.