

Design notes

News • Shopping • Inspiration

Words: Lindsay Blair and Yvette Murrell



Shaker style

Functional, sophisticated, timeless: that's what deVOL's Real Shaker kitchens are all about. We love the gorgeous blues – Damask and Pantry Blue – used here, complemented by white Silestone worktops and wooden flooring for a contemporary feel. And with 10 paint colours, nine worktop materials, plus a huge selection of sinks, taps and handles available to choose from in the range, you can create the look that's just right for your home. Prices start from £12,000.

devolkitchens.co.uk

Brand low-down: Roca

Known for...

Its wide collection of bathroom design essentials, including WCs, basins, baths and brassware. Roca's mainstream ranges are a popular choice for renovators and developers, so you'll likely spot the brand's blue sticker transfer atop sanitaryware in bathrooms across the UK and mainland Europe.

The story...

Celebrating 100 years in the business, Roca began in 1917 by making domestic cast-iron radiators at its Gavà plant in Barcelona, Spain. This soon turned to bathroom wares, when designers realised they could use the same manufacturing skills to create boilers as well as baths, vitreous china and taps. Having seen major success in its native Spain, the family-owned brand spread across Europe – including the UK in 2002 – and became one of the main suppliers to housing and hotels. Now, as well as baths and ceramic sanitaryware, Roca produces wall and floor tiles, taps, showers, and shower trays.

Shop...

Go to uk.roca.com and use your postcode to find your nearest retailer. While you're there, browse the full collections and save your favourite pieces to a moodboard. If you're in London, take a trip to the Roca Gallery in Chelsea to see the latest installations. The building in itself was designed by Zaha Hadid Architects, so it's worth a closer look.

Don't miss...

The top-end Armani Roca collection – a collaboration between the fashion house and the bathroom manufacturer, and the most upmarket ranges. Each piece is created with well-being and ultimate comfort in mind, with sophisticated finishes including gold-coloured taps and basins, wall and floor coatings and accessories, plus spa baths and showers. Don't miss the latest smart shower WCs and vanity units with built-in Bluetooth speakers, either.

Follow...

@Roca_UK

uk.roca.com



Above: Wall-hung furniture with a back painted glass countertop and upper and lower drawers, from £3000; countertop washbasin, from £960; deck-mounted three-hole basin mixer with central swivel spout and pop-up waste, from £660, all from the Baia collection by Armani Roca.

Left: Inspira In-Wash smart WC, £2399.



Design icon

The Scandinavian interior archives are not slowing down when it comes to items that look as good in our homes today as they did decades ago. Danish architect Hans Bølling's long-admired tray table, first created in 1963 in response to the need for a small, portable and easy-to-assemble side table, encapsulates his design philosophy of honest and versatile furniture. The tray can be removed and the H frame stand folds away neatly – a simple but clever Danish classic. Now made in a range of woods and colours and available at Brdr Krüger (where it's been sold since its launch) and Skandium in the UK, the table costs £455.

skandium.com



Leather lighting

Embrace the industrial influences trend with Puik's (pronounced pa-owk) beautiful yet rustic Lloyd pendant light. Made from soft, buttery leather it's as pleasing to touch as it is to look at. Each shade is made using traditional leather working techniques, which involve submerging and heating the material until it becomes flexible enough to mould into shape before being air dried. Created by Dutch design duo Nieuwe Heren, the Lloyd is available in natural or black and costs £185 for a 25 x 24cm light.

puikdesign.com

3 of the best...

colourful baths



Serpentine cast-iron bath in Paint & Paper Library's Deep Water Green matt emulsion, £3390, Drummonds.
drummonds.co.uk



Hanover cast-iron bath in red, £1573, Aston Matthews.
astonmatthews.co.uk



Origine single-ended bath, £2299, The Albion Bath Company.
albionbath.co.uk

Top
2018
trend



Perfect match

Italian appliance manufacturer Steel has introduced kitchen units that colour-match its cooking appliances in the Ascot and Genesis ranges – so you can now coordinate your cooker, sink units and storage to create a stunning kitchen with a sleek, unified look. Choose from black, cream, or burgundy as well as classic stainless steel and add optional chrome, nickel, bronze or brass trims. Exclusively sold through Bradshaw Luxury, prices are available on application, but you can expect to pay from around £1402 for an Ascot 70cm-wide worktop cabinet (shown).

bradshawluxury.co.uk



Savvy swap

Want parquet flooring but not keen on the higher price point? Amtico's latest Spacia range could be the answer. The luxury vinyl tiles and planks look like the real deal, are soft underfoot and available in more than 29 styles. Our favourite? The White Ash, shown here in a herringbone pattern, priced around £39.99 per sq m.

amtico.com



Through the cracks

Broken tiles aren't what you'd normally want to see in a bathroom, but Ann Sacks's latest collection is something of a surprising masterpiece. Craze, available exclusively from West One Bathrooms, is a range of porcelain tiles finished with a glass-like glaze that looks cracked when finished, inspired by the look of ancient ruins. Available in a combination of white, black and grey shades, priced from £314 per sq m.

westonebathrooms.com

But first, coffee... ▶

Make getting out of bed on those cold, dark winter mornings that bit easier by knowing a freshly brewed cup of coffee is ready and waiting. Smarter has launched the second-generation of its Wi-Fi-connected design, Smarter Coffee. It can be programmed to start at specific times and set to make different strengths, temperatures and quantities. Controlled via your smartphone or smart home hub, Smarter Coffee also uses geo-caching to know you're about to arrive home – so a cuppa will be ready when you're just through the door. It is priced £179.99.

smarter.am



Designer to watch

Who?

Bethany Luscombe, a recent graduate in product and furniture design from Kingston University and winner of the 100% Design 2017 New Designers Award.

What?

The design she was noticed for addresses the changing way we use our home. In times when space comes at a premium and TV dinners are a way to chill out after a busy day, Bethany's Llai sofa system (above) combines a table and seat and can be separated into a chaise-style bed.

Why?

With a passion for designing products with practicality at their core, Bethany's ethos is to create furniture celebrating life's simple pleasures (like the TV dinner!) with paired-back styles that are perfectly at home in a modern setting. She also likes to experiment with modular pieces for even better usability.

Where?

Learn more about Bethany's work and the Llai system at bethanyluscombe.com.

Look out for...

After a whirlwind year, she is looking at building on the award-winning success of Llai and continue to create innovative, multi-functional designs.

Her style in three words...

Meticulous. Functional. Simple.

bethanyluscombe.com

Wonderwalls

Look out for a brand new wallcovering collection, created by textile designer Imogen Heath for mural specialist Surface View. Soon to launch online, the much-anticipated collection features 12 stunning designs to choose from, with prices starting from £65 per sq m.

surfaceview.com



Above: Evergreen Indigo wall mural



Above: Allegro Canvas wall mural

Did you know?

Feature walls, wooden beams and fluffy rugs are among the nation's favourite home design trends. Animal prints are among the least liked: two out of three of people are saying no to wildlife motifs – that's according to a new Axa Insurance survey. Are you partial to a leopard or zebra print?



Click here... Blanc Cerise

If you love linens, be sure to check out latest online arrival Blanc Cerise. Popular in France, with stockists including Paris's famed Galeries Lafayette, the bedding, towels, and accessories brand has launched in the UK. You'll find simple but classic pieces for the bedroom and bathroom in a range of bright colours – a quick and easy way to refresh your design schemes.

blanc-cerise.com

- 1** Gourmet Complicity marsala red duvet cover with white contrasting piping, £75 for a double.
- 2** Softness Velvet saffron two-tone velvet and linen cushion, £25.60.
- 3** A range of towels, priced from £6.60



60 seconds with...

Kate Butler



It's going to be a busy start to the year for Habitat's brand-new head of product design. But Kate kindly took time out to chat with *KBB's* editor Ruth Bell to introduce both her own style and Habitat's spring/summer 2018 trends collection

Which is the most important room in your home?

My family and I practically live in our kitchen 24/7! It's an open-plan, informal space with wrap-around emerald green tiles, a big walnut-topped kitchen island, dining table and sofa area. I love the space's open-plan layout because it means friends and family are all together, rather than being in separate rooms, when we're entertaining.

What's your home style?

We've spent the last year renovating and opted for simple black floorboards and white walls as the unifying base throughout. I'd say the common theme in each room is 'eclecticism'. My work for Habitat in the design studio has meant I've collected a huge amount of ceramics, textiles, objet and basketware from travelling to different countries, so I have a lot of styles which I've mixed together. I tend to have most of these on display, but the monochrome décor has meant that the space can take this mix of designs and colour.

What piece of furniture is no room complete without?

Never underestimate really good shelving! Shelving is incredibly important for making most use of space and height within a room, breaking up walls, zoning different areas and allowing you to show off more of your personality and actually enjoy your own possessions, rather than hiding them away.



KBB
exclusive



What can you tell us about the new season trends for Habitat?

As a design studio we travel to around 16 different countries, so a lot of inspiration comes from these journeys. The new season at Habitat covers a lot of design ideas, which we've then curated around a seasonal colour palette. One of my favourite looks is the Los Angeles trend, which takes 1970s Malibu as its inspiration. Within this look there's a cool mixing of natural rattans, hand-thrown ceramics, sheepskin, tan leathers, and unvarnished woods. Elsewhere, we continue to champion handmade products where you can see a craftsman has actually worked on a piece – think organic ceramics, hand-applied glazes and intricate embroidery techniques on textiles.

Do you have a favourite design story?

I love our range of figurative designs, which is inspired by art of the '50s and '60s. Our designer Martha Coates has re-interpreted the human form across a series of textiles and ceramics where she has taken facial elements, deconstructed these and then reassembled them in modern, abstract patterns. My favourite from this collection is the Eye cushion (right) – the eye motif is finely embroidered and the reverse of the cushion is a dusky pink, which elevates it and makes it really contemporary.

habitat.co.uk

1 Elmley rattan pendant, £90, Feliz table, £1200, Feliz chair, £130, Feliz bench, £495, and Fergusson rug, £250.

2 Nadia rattan bed, £550, Tema double duvet set, £120, Chicago cushion, £50, Portrait cushion, £40, Terrazzo table lamp, £80.

3 Coleman ceiling light, £70.

4 Eyes cushion (50x50cm), £60.

Trend alert: Tasteful tassels

Add fun and glamour to your spaces – go on, you know you want to touch them...



1 Tassel wall light, £565, Curious & Curious. curiousa.co.uk 2 Nappa wall mirror, £60, Oliver Bonas. oliverbonas.com 3 Oahu fringe pendant, £398, Anthropologie. anthropologie.com 4 Greysi Grandma pouf by Bloomingville, £430, Out There Interiors. outthereinteriors.com 5 Round woven storage basket with tassels, £45, Cuckooland. cuckooland.com 6 Bloomingville red cotton cushion, £39, Amara. amara.com



Playful palette

Adding an accent colour to your kitchen could make all the difference to otherwise plain cabinetry. A great example is Masterclass Kitchens's H-line Hampton range, which features a palette of vibrant shades – including the bright green Spring Meadow (shown) – that pops against the wooden units. Prices for a kitchen start from £7500.

masterclasskitchens.co.uk



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Round rugs

Break up straight lines and soften your floor with a shapely and stylish addition. We've selected our favourites of this season



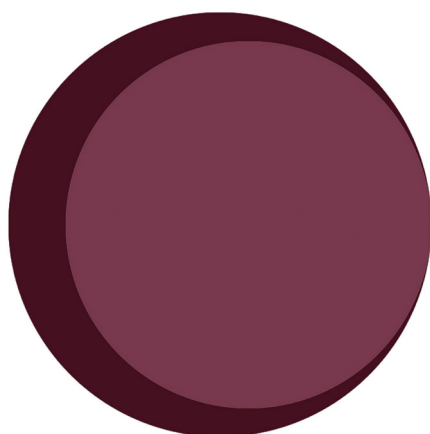
Dutchbone Round Pix rug with tassels,
£349, Cuckooland.
cuckooland.com



Mexican Star wool rug by Zandra Rhodes,
£350, Floor Story.
floorstory.co.uk



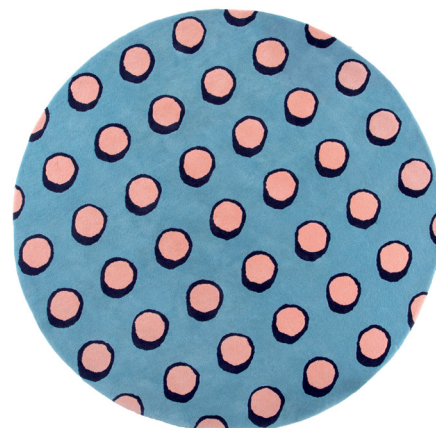
Vaserely circular wool rug in Chartreuse,
£349, Made.
made.com



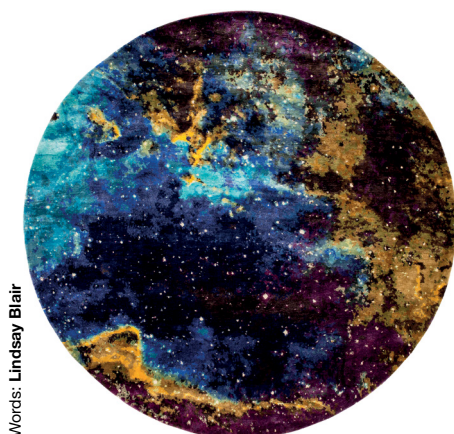
Marcus rug in Wine, £1150, Natuzzi.
natuzzi.co.uk



West Elm Ink round rug, £349, John Lewis.
johnlewis.co.uk



Pop Dotty small rug, £840, Deadgood.
deadgoodltd.co.uk



Words: Lindsay Blair

Spacecrafted Space 2 rug, £16,990, Jan Kath.
jankath.de



Jute natural circle rug, £59.99, Carpetright.
carpetright.co.uk



China Dragon wool rug by GAN, £2090, Woven.
woven.co.uk

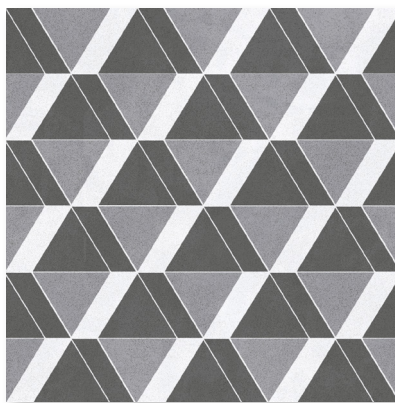
Tonal tiles

Want pattern in your bathroom? Keep things simple and with one of these subtle geometric styles which have just enough oomph to make you look twice



Editor's
pick**

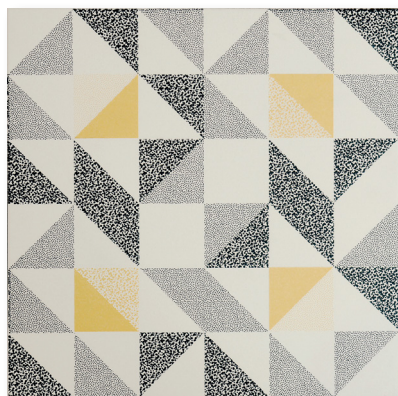
Andalucia porcelain tile, £24.99 per sq m,
Tile Mountain.
tilemountain.co.uk



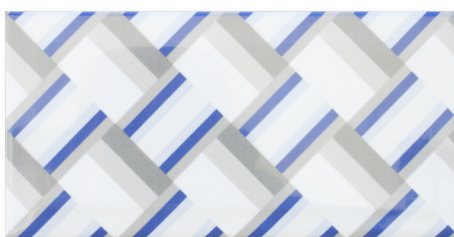
Ted Baker GeoTile, from £71 per sq m,
British Ceramic Tile.
britishceramictile.com



Minimar Curve hexagonal tile, £49 per sq m,
Beswick Stone.
beswickstone.co.uk



Odyssey Grande Saltram tile, £99.95,
Original Style.
originalstyle.com



Eclectic décor tile, £55 per
sq m, Fabresa.
fabresa.com



London Funk Wave tile, £45 per sq m,
The Baked Tile Company.
bakedtiles.co.uk



Fibre Geo Mix décor tile, £29.95 per sq m,
Walls and Floors.
wallsandfloors.co.uk



Parisienne Vincent tile, £78 per sq m,
Stone & Ceramic Warehouse.
sacw.co.uk



Garcia Diamond Neutrals tile by Guy Mitchell,
from £594 per sq m, Artisans of Devizes.
artisansofdevizes.com

Words: Yvette Murrell

Patterned plates

Impress your dinner guests with one of these decorative pieces – we'll take all nine, please



Love Who You Want Miss Harlequin plate by Christian Lacroix, £34, Amara.
amara.com



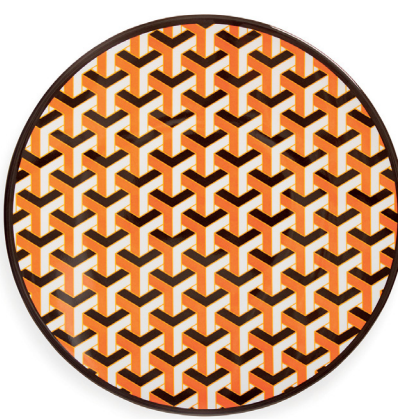
Seletti Studio Job Toilet paper Lipstick plate, £34.50, Smithers of Stamford.
smithersofstamford.com



Dapper Animal Jaguar plate by Rachel Kozlowski, £10, West Elm.
westelm.co.uk



Secret Garden plate, from £36, Rory Dobner.
rorydobner.com



Mykonos plate in orange, £12, Jonathan Adler.
westelm.co.uk



Wild Gorilla plate, £11.95, Red Candy.
redcandy.co.uk



Words: Yvette Murrell

Parrots plate by Yvonne Ellen, £16, John Lewis.
johnlewis.com



Alice plate, £28, Mrs Moore's Vintage Store.
mrs-moores-vintage-store.co.uk



Park Wildlife rabbit plate, £8, Cath Kidston.
cathkidston.com