

# Dark & dramatic

As winter draws closer, few things are better than spending time in a cosy, atmospheric corner of your home. But how do you get this on-trend look right in a space and create style as well as impact? Try our top design ideas...

Words: Yvette Murrell

## 1 Play with panelling

Painting your walls navy or deep purple is an obvious starting point for making a room look dark and moody. You can make the finished result appear much more interesting by adding a little extra detail – such as decorative wall panelling or cornice moulding. Affix panels to the wall before painting the area in the same block colour. Accessories shown here are from Star by Julien Macdonald, including a frame, £18; box, £35; tall tealight holder, £28 for a pair; short tealight holders, £35 for a set of three; and vases, ranging from £18 to £35, all available from Debenhams.

[debenhams.com](http://debenhams.com)

## 2 Add glamour

Gleaming golds and rich green hues simply ooze sophistication. We love how the same shade of green has been layered throughout this space, from the walls to the bedding, with a few gold items, such as the bedside table, shining through. Our favourite? The Freema fringed wall lamp, priced £155 from Out There Interiors.

[outthereinteriors.com](http://outthereinteriors.com)



## 3 Make a statement

Let your furniture do the talking. Despite its tagline, this trend doesn't necessarily mean everything has to be dark in order to be dramatic. This Eton loveseat, from £1549, in Tobacco velvet with brass legs, stands out for all the right reasons when placed in front of an almost-black backdrop. Shown here with the Avenue velvet cushion by One Nine Eight Five, £85, from Heal's.

[heals.com](http://heals.com)



## 4 Go for gold

For ultimate opulence, it's hard to resist this Harmonie Bath with Prestige décor by THG x Ateliers Gohard. By keeping everything else in your bathroom dark and simple, this tub will make a really dramatic statement. A decadent piece, the bathtub is priced £16,178. Beluga three-hole wall-mounted mixer, from £1460.

[london.thg-paris.com](http://london.thg-paris.com)



## 5 Commit to it

If you love the dramatic look, why not invest in it for your kitchen? Quartz worktops are extremely durable, heat-resistant, and easy to keep clean so will last for years to come. The Mirama Bronze surface from Radianz is an almost-black quartz composite with rich bronze-coloured flecks that catch the light to create a dazzling effect. Priced from £280 per sq m. Go all out with dark cabinetry and slate-look tiles too.

[radianzquartzeuropa.com](http://radianzquartzeuropa.com)





### Keep things simple

Next125's modular sideboard, around £1562.27 from InHouse, works well for open-plan living with a more minimalist style. Available in three heights and four widths, options include a lowered tray, pull-out shelving, and handleless fronts in satin or matt velvet lacquer, laminate, and veneer finishes. The wooden inlay on top warms up the black exterior.

[inhouse-kitchens.co.uk](http://inhouse-kitchens.co.uk)



### Layer up

Combining different textures and materials can make for a sumptuous bedroom setting. Velvets, satins, rich cottons, and blended fabrics in various dark shades create a really rich feel – particularly with a mix of cushions, throws, and thick duvets on a bed. Here, Argos Home's Evangeline double bed, £259, is matched with a contemporary patterned Jacquard duvet set, £32 for a double-size, and velvet throw, £32. Also pictured are the Argos Home Bliss Ex Lux 170 x 110cm rug in Emerald, £70, and smoked-top side table, £7999.

[argos.co.uk](http://argos.co.uk)



### Accentuate art

Who doesn't love a feature wall? Here, the deep colours used on the mural by Surface View have been mirrored in the furniture to create a united scheme. Sofa.com's Harper two-and-a-half seater, upholstered in Deep Turquoise cotton matt velvet, £1500, has an Art Deco shape. Shown with the Harper footstool, £550, in Dusty Rose. The matching House scatter cushion, £65, and Lowry large rug in Petrol, £700, complete the look.

KBB



### Work with wood

You don't need to start from scratch when it comes to creating a new look, even if the change is a big one. If you have wooden cabinetry in your kitchen, you can revive it by painting it again but in a darker shade. Take this scheme by Devol: a vintage wooden island has been painted in Pantry Blue, a deep inky tone. This is balanced out by the Iroko wood worktops around the side of the kitchen, as well as the copper sink and island worktop. All appliances are built in behind Shaker cabinetry to keep the colour palette consistent and industrial style lighting has been hung low for a moody look. Devol kitchens start from £12,000.

[devolkitchens.co.uk](http://devolkitchens.co.uk)

