

10 ways to add colour to your bedroom

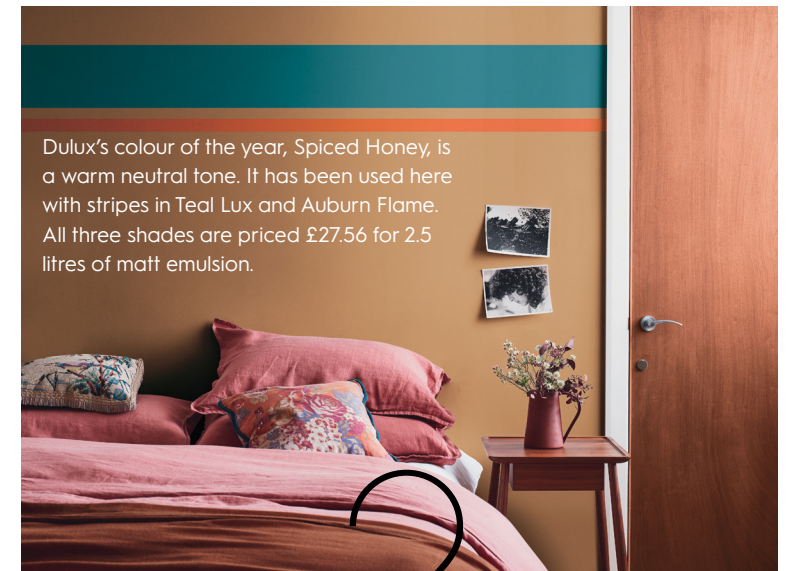
Do you want to refresh your scheme but are unsure where to start? Fear not – we've rounded up our top design ideas for a brighter and bolder décor



Words: Yvette Murrell

Wow with wallpaper

Patterned wallpaper is a great way to instantly create a cosy and colourful atmosphere in a bedroom. "Dark, moody tones offer a sense of luxury that white walls cannot and work perfectly when paired with soft pastels," says Carley Bean, head of design at Cole & Son. As a space for relaxation, the bedroom should feel like a retreat from the outside world – so think about the colours or motifs that resonate most with you. "Using your favourite shade to decorate ensures it speaks to you and, as a result, your bedroom will be a place of calm and personal contentment," adds Carley. We're seeing lots of botanical motifs in wallpaper at the moment. To make your space feel grander, move away from the feature wall idea and instead apply panels directly behind your bed to create the illusion of a headboard.



Hare and Mustard Jar matt emulsion, £14 for 2.5 litres, and Scrumptious feature wall matt emulsion, from £14 for 2.5 litres, Crown.

Play around with paint

This season is all about complementing different accents with one another. "It can be a challenge to commit to one shade on your walls, so a good solution is to choose a versatile neutral palette as a backdrop," recommends Marianne Shillingford, creative director at Dulux. "Then add accents in stripes or blocks." The good thing about this method is that it's easy to repaint these smaller sections to refresh the look without having to decorate all over again.



Go for a bold bedroom chair

An item that tends to serve as a decorative piece more than an actual seat, you should pick a bright and bold design to make it a focal point in your bedroom. The current trend is for velvet upholstery – and for good reason, too, as the material will really enrich your chosen colour thanks to its sumptuously tactile feel.

← Le Cocktail velvet chair in green, blue, and pink, £425, Oliver Bonas.



Noble Aztec Rug, from £48.99, Carpetright.

Mix and match your floorcoverings

We tend to keep things neutral underfoot, often focusing on the material and its comfort level instead, but Anna Del Molino from Carpetright sees floorcoverings as another opportunity to inject personality into a bedroom. “Adding a new rug is one of the easiest ways to incorporate colour and pattern without a large investment,” she explains. “Rugs are particularly well suited to wood flooring, as they not only add another level of comfort but can also help to warm the décor by contrasting the natural look.”

→ Geometric collection Inigo rug in Amber, from £180 per sq m, Grosvenor Wilton.



Set the mood with lighting

We all know different bulbs in your standard lighting can contribute to the warmth or coolness in your bedroom – but there is a lot more fun to be had with fittings. Find a neon light with motivational or amusing lettering that resonates with you and use it as a focal point. Similarly, playing around with funky lampshades for your bedside lights will bring character into the room, too.

↑ Lemur Silhouette lampshade in Egg Yolk Yellow; Palm Jungle wallpaper lampshade with gold lining; Wild Leopard print wallpaper lampshade with Neon Orange lining, all £40 - £180, Love Frankie.

→ Party Illuminations Love neon light, £65, Talking Tables.



Incorporate artwork

There’s no better way of bringing your own personality into a new interior scheme than with handpicked prints. Find an accent colour within the image – whether it be a personal photo or a piece of art – that matches the rest of your bedroom to help the picture blend in nicely.

← Extra-large Gran Canaria print by Tommy Clarke in a bespoke maple box frame, £1910, Lumitrix.

↑ Frida Kahlo poster print by Posters by Design, £38, Amazon Handmade.





Be brave with your bed design

What’s a bedroom without a bed? As an investment piece, it can be tempting to play it safe with a neutral shade – but really, it’s the crux of your scheme, so bold tones will look great. “Deeper colours create an intimate, snug feel so I’d go for a rich indigo upholstery,” says Adam Black from Button & Sprung. “Then, introduce pattern and texture by layering linens in graphic prints as finishing touches.”

↑ Komorebi bed in, from £924 for a double, and matching footstool, £549, Room to Sleep.

→ Dahlia king-size bed frame in Navy, £795, and blanket box in Forest, £425, Button & Sprung.



Classic solid wood shutters in a custom colour, from £166 per sq m, California Shutters.



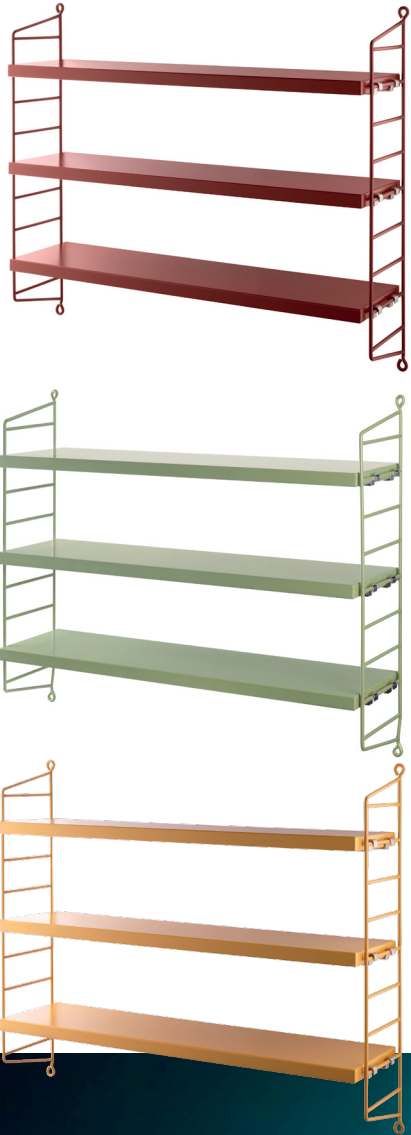
Stun with your window dressings

“Roller blinds and curtains are easy to replace and an effective way to update your look to reflect trends and changing tastes,” says Yvonne Keal of Hillarys. However, if you are looking to commit to something more permanent, shutters can offer a practical solution with a variety of colourful finishes. Bold hues will make a statement – but, equally, subtle pastels can still add an element of interest without overwhelming a room, says Chrissie Harper of California Shutters. “Whatever colour you choose, make sure the style meets your needs. Full-height or solid shutters work well with colour and create a simple, clean look that will give your whole room light when opened. Tier-on-tier and café-style designs are great when you want to balance privacy with letting light into the room,” she explains.

← Blackout roller blind in Cordova Peacock, from £108 including measuring and fitting, Hillarys.



From left: Paloma yellow throw, £40; Rafi small table lamp, £25; Bumble dressing table, £250; Hester dining chair, £95; Maluku small bamboo mirror, £65; Marley mirror with shelves, £95; Kin woven laundry basket, £100, all from Habitat.



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Introduce a variety of pieces

Freestanding furniture can add colour and flexibility into a scheme while giving you the choice to move items in and out as you please. Avoid a suite of furniture, to allow you the opportunity to create a more visually interesting and eclectic look by mixing and matching different pieces in bold finishes.

← String pocket shelving in burgundy, green, and mustard, £122, Skandium.

↓ Global Fusion stripe ottoman, £349, Myakka.



On Yvette's radar

1. Setting the scene
Mylands’ paints have been used on some of Britain’s biggest films. The most iconic have been curated into the Film, Television and Theatre collection – my inner child is very excited about the idea of painting my walls in Harry Potter purple (shade 019, if you’re interested).

2. Tech on trial
I’ve been trying out the Google Home Hub (£139).

Why I tried it:
I was hopeful it would help me out day-to-day.

What I thought:
I already use the Google Assistant on my phone, so it was easy to get used to and blended seamlessly in my home.



3: Warming tones
I’m a big fan of the ombré effect, so when I spotted Bisque’s Classic radiator in this new finish I was instantly drawn to it. It can be made to match paint shades from the likes of Farrow & Ball and Little Greene, price on application.

4. Fashion influences
I previewed Toast’s Spring/Summer 19 collections and really admired how the trends between the brand’s clothing and homeware complemented each other. After all, shouldn’t our interiors look as good as we do?



5. Lit up
Shapely lights such as these designed by Samuel Wilkinson for Beem are a glowing trend I’m predicting will be popular.



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Switch up your bedding

If you're indecisive, having a range of bed linen on seasonal rotation can keep things feeling and looking fresh. "You can quickly brighten a room simply by swapping out your existing bedding for something bolder," says Charlie Marshall, founder of Loaf. "Always opt for sets made of natural fibres such as cotton – they keep you cool in summer and warm in winter," he advises.

↑ Lazy bed linen in Tuscan Yellow, from £40 for a pair of pillowcases; Hugger bed, from £995 for a double; Classic scatter cushion, from £20 for a small design; Hot Shot side table, from £145, with Downtime brass table lamp, £95, all from Loaf.

↗ Lido bedding, £150 for a double-sized set of duvet and two pillowcases, Undercover.

← Flowerbed duvet cover set, £130 for a double; matching rectangle cushion, £30; silk pillowcase in Teal, £75; Plush velvet bedspread in Peacock, £199; Plush velvet round cushion in Halcyon Blue, £25; Monarch large square pillowcase, £25; and Monarch Lodge pillowcase set, £30, all Wallace Cotton. **KBB**



For stockists turn to p154 »



Truro floral printed bed linen set, from £100 for a double, Christy.