

2018 DESIGN TRENDS

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SPRING COMES WITH THE IDEA OF REBIRTH, rejuvenation, renewal, resurrection and regrowth, and most people see it as a time of change. It is usually the time when we evaluate what we can do to rejuvenate our homes. With all the information available to us, finding inspiration is not a problem, it is deciphering what trends will last. We have itemized some of the trends we think are worth paying attention to.

RESPECT THE EARTH

Designers are considering ways to provide sustainability, conserve energy and water.

This consciousness is also spreading to clientele. People are questioning their choices of what it is they bring into their personal homes and spaces: What is the quality of

this object? What do I know about the impact on the environment of this material? Is there another choice that could be more eco-friendly and sustainable for the environment?

HEALTHY BEHAVIORS

The global shift has been to create spaces that promote wellness and healthy behaviors. We are asking the question: What can we do for ourselves in our homes that will keep us healthy, from the quality of our air, water, light, to enhancing our fitness, comfort, mindfulness and personal growth?

"HYGGE" IS HUGE

Hygge will still be very much on trend. It is a Danish way of



living and is described as living comfortably and a feeling of contentment and well-being. It is what you do to make the room relaxed and comfortable. The emphasis is more on what you like and less on how it matches other furniture. A space that is curated and not decorated.

Furniture will reflect the well-being of the individual; the emotional spirit of the people who live there will be reflected in all aspects of the design. The interior of homes in 2018 will be the external reflection of the hearts and minds of the owners. Everything will be rooted in meaning and the people that matter most.

LAY BACK AND RELAX

In new homes and apartments, formal dining rooms aren't the norm anymore. To maximize usable space, many people are converting the dining room into a library or media room. Homeowners and apartment dwellers are finding ways to create spaces designated for reading and watching TV.

HOME AUTOMATION

These devices can save you time, money and/or make

your life a little easier. Automated lighting, window coverings, security systems, media. Many of the devices and appliances within the home are set to work together, and can all be controlled from a simple, user-friendly interface.

CONNECTION

As a reaction to an increasingly technological world, natural disasters, and uncertainty in the political climate, there is a sense that we're reaching the threshold of our emotional capacity.

As a result, there is a desire for emotional connection. The way something feels in your hand, how you connect with the object will play an important role.

KEEP IT NATURAL

Natural wood surfaces vs. painted will be an upcoming design trend. Natural wood surfaces in every tone are becoming increasingly more popular and will be featured in all areas of the home such as- buffets, counter-tops, furniture, side tables, decorative bowls, kitchen islands and utilitarian pieces like lamps. Wood on walls as well as ceilings is now trending.

HAND MADE

Handmade ceramics dominate home accessories. In our tech-driven world, we all need handmade pieces in our lives! Expect to see these objects become even larger and more sculptural than before and in alluring, matte glazes.

TEXTURE AND WARMTH

Expect to see more fiber art, thicker upholstery fabrics, warmer paints and a complete rejection of stainless steel in favor of rose golds and copper. Mixing metals, texture, and sheen.

Rich colours. Warm grays and rich, earthy shades of camel, rust, tobacco, brown-blacks, red and burnt yellow creating a more decadent look.

Sinks will trend more to concrete, stone, copper and granite composite sinks trend to darker hues of gray, bronze or black.

VINTAGE REDISCOVERED

Say "goodbye" to Mid-century modern! There is a resurgence of living with antique furnishings but refashioned in a new way to suit modern lifestyles. The inspiration drawn from vintage pieces of furniture is to be noted almost everywhere. Inspiration in the usage of new materials, new technologies and aesthetics to rethink and give a new life to a time-proven design.

There is more interest in vintage-style fixtures, such as soft gold, aged copper and blackened bronze.

CAN'T SEE THE LIGHT!

The LED bulb has all but taken over the world of lighting. LED is so versatile that it can easily be hidden in all kinds of unexpected places. The trend will be to light a room without seeing the source.

CEILINGS WILL BE SEEN

Ignored for so long, ceilings are no longer forgotten. You will see creative moldings, coffered ceilings, wallpaper and wood of course!

LOW MAINTENANCE

The trend is to want the luxurious without the maintenance. Home exteriors, metals, fabrics and floors will be as low maintenance as possible.

CHINTZ OUT - IT'S IN!

Florals make a comeback. This popular print is getting a

revival and a bit of an update. Forget low-energy patterns and think over-sized blooms and botanical references in high-contrast colours such as black and white or teal and gold.

THE HOT FABRIC... VELVET

Velvet fabrics and textures weave their way into anything from sofas to pillows to curtains. Choose the colour that speaks to you anything goes as long as it is in velvet.

PATTERNED WALLCOVERINGS:

Wallpaper started to make its way back in 2015, though now it's here as one the largest trends in design. Look for dramatic paisley, over scaled florals, and abstract patterns.

COLOUR IS IN COMEBACK MODE:

White walls have their place, especially if the furniture and decor they are accented with contain bold, vibrant emerald, amethyst and indigo blue hues. Consumers are starting to hunger for colour once again.

While white kitchens are beautiful, timeless, and classic, the prediction is they have reached the peak of popularity. In 2018, look out for more colour, darker, moodier, dramatic kitchens.

COLOURS TO LOOK FOR:

- Barbie-like pink, the "Millennial Pink."
- Primary colours come back, especially red, yellow (Mustard) and blue (Ultramarine).
- Warm and earthy tones but becoming brighter, from Papaya orange to Burgundy red.
- Violet and Purple, Pantone announced the Colour of the Year 2018 Ultra Violet and dark turquoise – also used in combination for saturated colour elegance.
- Lots of Green, although the trend is sage, celery and avocado greens.
- Black, Blue and White are still very popular.

From nature and organic based design to the use of vibrant colours, luxurious Victorian era style, and warming up home spaces the unique mixes of metals, the design trend for 2018 is diverse. The common thread is the element of sophistication present in all aspects of design.

So, what conclusion can we arrive at from this information? Select the trend that most fits your personality and your lifestyle and it will most assuredly stand the test of time.

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