

# *The* ENGLISH HOME



*Celebrating the essence of English style*

February 2019 | Issue 168 | £4.40 | UK Edition

## FRESH BEGINNINGS

Converted barn, Sussex farmhouse, London terrace

### RETHINKING ECO CHIC

Antique furniture  
Vintage textiles  
Natural materials  
Reclaimed buys

### MADE TO MEASURE INTERIORS

Commissioning bespoke  
pieces for unique rooms

### BATHROOM DESIGN

Adding colour & character

## INSPIRED BY NATURE

Soothing colours, tactile textures, botanical motifs





Colourful tones  
This elegant furniture by Nina  
Campbell adds a lightness of  
touch to a scheme.  
Gatsby sofa, £3,960; Massenet  
console table, £1,440, both  
Nina Campbell.  
Gerome coffee table, £1,735;  
Tini IV side table, £440, both  
Nina Campbell for Oomph;  
curtains in Nemours, £135  
a metre, Nina Campbell at  
Osborne & Little

# HOME Comforts

Soft tones and gently contrasting patterns create  
a fresh and inviting feel in the home this month





#### CLOCKWISE FROM LEFT

##### Nature's bounty

Botanical forms and soft colourways are key to Sanderson's Elysian fabric and wallpaper collection. Clever use of scale and proportion lend levity and charm. *Warwick wallpaper*, £69 a roll, *Samphrey fabric*, £89 a metre, both *Elysian collection*, Sanderson

##### New life


The gentle colourways of the new Andalucia range of rugs by Weaver Green are a delight, both for the senses and for the planet. Made from 100 per cent recycled plastic bottles, they are handwoven to provide a soft cotton feel underfoot. *Paloma Rug*, from £130, *Andalucia collection*, Weaver Green

##### Form & function

Showcasing contemporary touches and a classic finish, this vanity basin blends practicality with glamour. *Taw Double Vanity in Verde Guatemala marble with an antique brushed brass finish*, from £4,548 (single), and £7,182 (double), Drummonds







# *Awash* WITH COLOUR

Create a bathroom scheme in confident hues to add interest and a feeling of enveloping comfort





**T**hough bathroom decor often lends itself to muted tones and a pared-back palette, a bold use of colour in this most indulgent of spaces affords an opportunity to create a characterful feel and an individual look. “Strong colours make powerful design statements,” says James Lentaigne, creative director of luxury bathroom manufacturer Drummonds.

#### SPACE & ORIENTATION

Of course, far from being a contemporary trend, the confident use of colour has historic precedent. “It’s often surprising to find out just how much our antecedents loved bold, sometimes brash, colours in bathrooms,” says Lentaigne. Complementing the period of a home is not the sole benefit of creating a saturated colourscape in the room, however.

The traditional white suite accompanied by brassware in cool metallic tones and a scheme featuring neutral walls and flooring can create an atmosphere that tends to chilliness. The orientation of the space, moreover, can contribute to this cold effect. For instance, the light in a north-facing room can draw out the cooler tones in a pale colour scheme. Even a west-facing orientation can prove disadvantageous to a room that receives most use during the morning hours as the light is cooler than it is in the afternoon.

Bold colour can be successfully employed as a warming device in a bathroom that is cool in appearance. Meanwhile, spaces negatively affected by orientation can be softened in atmosphere by ►

**OPPOSITE** An uplifting mood is created here with coral wallpaper and a Roman blind in a co-ordinating fabric. Wallpaper, *Turini Dots*, £90 a roll; blind, *Dhara Strip in Orange*, £84 a metre; both Paramount collection, Thibaut

**ABOVE** Adding colour in the form of wallpaper adds a cossetting mood. Lowther vanity basin suite with *Arabescato Marble*, £7,980, Drummonds; Hand-painted *Anemones in Light* wallpaper, from £1,200 a panel, Kate Moss for de Gournay

**RIGHT** A gentle way of introducing different hues to a bathroom scheme is with an accent colour on a bath exterior. *Verdigris copper bateau bath with white enamel interior*, £6,687.60, William Holland







the avoidance of pale hues with grey or green bases, and the adoption of a more colourful palette.

#### CREATING AN AMBIENCE

Colour can also evoke a change in the mood of the room. The selection of hues associated with the hot side of the colour wheel can bring a welcome energy to a bathroom used largely for morning preparations. Softer, pastel variations allow a warmer, more soothing note to permeate the room, bringing a somewhat gentler appearance.

The visually arresting nature of bold colours can also influence the ambience of the room, making it feel more cocooning, and create a comfortable atmosphere that might be equally treasured on dark mornings or for relaxed evening bathing accompanied by low lighting.

Creating a more intimate environment may also be desirable if a bathroom's generous proportions make it feel impersonal. In such instances, dramatic colour could be considered for the ceiling as well as the walls to visually alter the dimensions of the room. If the bathroom is more compact, the belief of avoiding strong or bright colours in relatively small spaces does not pertain. "Traditionally, bathrooms and cloakrooms have always lent themselves to a real wow factor," says Lentaigne.

#### PALETTE SELECTION

A palette for a bathroom may be suggested by the age of a property, with particular colours associated with their respective periods. "Victorian and Georgian-inspired colour charts or wallpaper designs will give



**TOP** The vivid green-hued tiles used in this project by interior design studio Barlow & Barlow are offset by modern brass fittings.

**ABOVE** Pink walls make a pleasing backdrop to patterned fabrics and polished wood.  
*Cuisse de Nympe Emue*, from £45 for 2.5l Emulsion, Edward Bulmer Natural Paint

**ABOVE RIGHT** This multicoloured porcelain basin combines colourful tones with an Asian-influenced design. *Yasmin basin*, £850, The London Basin Company





huge inspiration," says Lentaigne. Nevertheless, bathroom colour certainly need not be limited to the palette typical of an era. Lentaigne suggests selecting shades with personal resonance and enduring appeal, irrespective of the period of a property, for this oft-used room.

In creating a bold design, the walls, floors and outside of a freestanding bath all offer a canvas for colour, and so, too, do soft furnishings and accessories such as towels. Adding the most daring colour to walls or a bath's exterior makes any future desire to change the colour scheme quicker to achieve. Elements such as floor and wall tiles are more permanent features but could equally be part of a vivid palette.

The suite itself might even be the vehicle for bringing colour to a bathroom. The Water Monopoly's Rockwell collection comes in a range of colours, such as blue, green, lilac and yellow, and as well as baths, basins and lavatories, includes coloured taps, bath feet and accessories should a more gentle introduction with just a few accents of colour be desirable.

Should the choice of colours to use on the walls and floors with a coloured suite be a conundrum, Justin Homewood, founder of The Water Monopoly has the answer. "Earlier this year we collaborated with Farrow & Ball," he explains. "Its client colourist chose a number of Farrow & Ball's paint colours to go with each of the Rockwell colours, resulting in some wonderful combinations. For example, matching the Rockwell yellow (Sherbet) with Stiffkey Blue, Mouse's Back and Brinjal. The Rockwell blue (Powder) was paired with Blue Gray, Pink Ground and Chappell Green."

#### GENTLE INTRODUCTION

Colour for walls may be introduced through tiling in matt or gloss finishes, with the latter offering the possibility of improving light reflection in schemes where dramatic tones are preferred. Both larger metro-style tiles or intricate mosaics might be considered to dado height around a bath, combined with a painted wall above. Extending tiling to full height within a zone of the room or more extensively can also work.

Wood panelling to half height can also provide a vehicle through which bold colour can be added to walls. For those schemes where block colours throughout are not desired, wallpaper with a colour ground that continues the hue of the panelling can prove a successful pairing – as it can with mid-to large-format tiles.

Painted cabinetry is a further prospective site for colour within a bathroom scheme, either extending a hue from painted walls or, for a more eye-catching effect, increasing the palette of shades in the room.

Both upholstery and soft furnishings can help in creating a colour-filled bathroom scheme. For instance, patterned designs for a Roman blind or floor-length curtains could echo a paint colour used for the exterior of a freestanding bath, or bring in an accent shade to the room design, whilst upholstered seating offers equal potential.

#### WINDOWS & FLOORS

Windows in positions that do not permit them to be easily dressed with fabric may be finished with shutters. This creates the opportunity to inject bold

**ABOVE LEFT** Dark tones can work equally as well as bright tones to create a cosy atmosphere. *Brinjal*, £45 for 2.5l, Farrow & Ball

**ABOVE RIGHT** The elegant white of this marble washstand provides a smart counterpoint to chic tiling. *Moderna washstand with white marble top*, from £7,499.95; *Hanley tiles*, £POA; *Augustus wall mirror*, £1,560; *Leila wall light with gathered shade*, £421.85, all Balineum