

BY KRISSA ROSSBUND



a tour in textiles

Every corner of the planet has stamped its mark on ornamental fabrics. Europe's contributions satisfy lovers of intricate patterns with **French toile** and pretty **English florals**. And there's an intuitive connection between the rich hues of **Kashmir paisley** and the hot tones of **Indian spices**. Explore the soft goods of the world, and let your favorite fabrics lead you on your journey. ▶

paisley

India's spicy sensation



Fabrics, clockwise from top left: "Thames Cone Paisley," Stroheim (718/706-7000); "Samarkand," Peter Dunham through John Rosselli (212/593-2060); "Amber," Clarence House (www.clarencehouse.com); "Wellsbourne Paisley," Lee Jofa (888/533-3532). All to the trade only.

GERALD POMEROY

JUNIOR LEAGUE OF BOSTON SHOWHOUSE

Full of swirl and pattern, paisley has traditionally been used to give a sense of movement to stately rooms, like libraries, that are laden with rich leather furniture. But in this living room, interior designer Gerald Pomeroy teams the time-

honored pattern with a new sidekick for fresh attitude: A hand-printed linen version of paisley in coral, beige, and blue enhances the bluish-gray color painted on the walls. "I love this blue because it's interpretive," says Pomeroy. "Its neutral quality creates magic as it changes from blue to green to gray, depending on the time of day. It's a chameleon that adapts itself to many different schemes."

The anchoring fabric is used solely for the window treatments, pinch-pleat panels that are drawn over Roman shades and finished at the bottom edge with a band of taupe chenille.

To let paisley have its say, the furnishings are covered in neutral ivory. The seating in front of the fireplace revolves around a clover-shaped ottoman flanked by two slipper chairs.

Across the room from the fireplace, a second seating arrangement is anchored by an upholstered sofa. Fronted by the clean silhouettes of two X-shaped tables made from aged wood, the grouping delivers a graphic punch. ➤

Produced by Estelle Bond Guralnick

Photographs by Michael Partenio



••• With an eye-catching, colorful pattern dressing the windows, interior designer Gerald Pomeroy opted for neutral tones in the furnishings. The seating groups are pulled together by a subtly striped beige rug that exposes the dark ebonized floor around the perimeter of the room.

Upholstery treatments—a tailored bed and walls draped with fabric—contrast to create dramatic glamour.



MICHAEL BURG
SAN FRANCISCO DECORATOR SHOWCASE

There's no question that toile makes a decorative statement with its delicate sketch-like forms rendered on an expansive field, but usually the impact is one of softness. Designer Michael Burg emboldens that effect by covering this gentleman's bedroom in not one but two layers of black-and-ivory toile, lined in flannel for a weighty, masculine appeal. The multilayer wall treatment is an unexpected solution that conceals unwanted door openings on two of the walls.

"I was trying to go in the opposite direction of how toile would typically be used," says Burg. "The ground on this fabric is a crackled pattern that gives it a worn, old-world feel, which allowed me to use natural, texture-heavy materials such as mohair and bamboo."

Helping to establish the room's masculinity, the generous expanses of toile are hung in clean, tailored applications from brass hooks attached to the molding. Sea grass in a basket-weave pattern for the floor covering lends a rustic quality. A ceiling glazed and finished with a comb to add texture enhances the room's warmth, as does the Louis XVI-style bed upholstered in taupe mohair and topped with a wool bedcover.

Produced by Carla Breer Howard Photographs by Michal Venera



Designer Michael Burg added hefty, sturdy pieces throughout the room to anchor the expanse of toile. Here, a handsome antique Napoleonic cabinet with an ebony-and-gilt finish stores books and accessories.



toile
France's prettiest pattern

Fabrics, from left: "Zarafa," Bruntschwig & Fils (212/838-7878); "Travels of Marco Polo," Schumacher (800/332-3384); "Blissful," Kravet (888/457-2838); "Toile Du Lac," Zoffany (800/395-8760); "La Declaration," Pierre Deux through Motif Designs (914/633-1170). All to the trade only.

PHOTOGRAPHS: FABRICS, PETER KRUMHARDT



Fabrics, from top: "Ophelia," from Zoffany (800/395-8760); "Cape," from Kravet (888/457-2838); "Brockton Minor," and "Malwood," both from Sanderson (800/894-6185). All to the trade only.

SUSAN SCHMIDT

LAKE FOREST SHOWCASE HOUSE

Nothing says spring like a bouquet of fresh flowers. Designer Susan Schmidt translates nature brilliantly in this light-flooded sunroom. Here elaborate window treatments add pizzazz without obstructing views of the gardens outside. An English chintz echoes specific flowers in the gardens that are framed by the windows, giving a sneak preview of what is about to bloom.

"I favor classic English design," says Schmidt. "With both a terrace garden and a formal garden visible from the windows, it just made sense to play up the views."

Schmidt started by defining where she could create an intimate seating area in the large space. The generous range of colors in the room's primary fabric afforded the designer a multitude of palette options. She chose a sunny palette for its consistent good cheer. A quiet cream sofa in front of the window faces a pair of comfortable damask armchairs. For additional seating, a fauteuil in big checks pairs with an ivory footstool on casters.

Empire-style tole fern stands flank the seating area, providing height and dimension. To minimize the height of the high ceiling, Schmidt accented it with light blue paint. ■

Produced by Sally Mauer and Hilary Rose Photographs by Casey Sills

For more information, see sources on page 190.

florals

England's beauteous blooms



An intoxicating dose of pretty sunlight pours through large windows, inspiring interior designer Susan Schmidt to let the generously sized space bloom with beautiful flowers. A colorful garden floral borders each window, and a more subdued floral in neutral tones covers matching armchairs.

