Focus preview Kitchen

T HE trend for using natural materials, with their inherent texture and beauty, in the kitchen has been steadily building for a few years. This season's take on the look revitalises it, combining gracefully with smoked glass, unashamedly luxurious brass and gold accents and exquisitely detailed finishes. A resurgence of ripples, curves and carving serves to add a softer note and structured herringbone and parquet patterns emphasise multi-hued marble and deeply grained wood to perfection.

Fabrics are as low-key as the materials themselves, embracing painterly brushstrokes and a neutral palette that works just as well across upholstery as for simple Roman blinds.



↑ Hammered scroll handles, from £109.50 each, Turnstyle Designs (01271 325325; www.turnstyledesigns. com)

↓ White high-gloss hand-painted Refectory kitchen with quartersawn oak cabinetry, Bianco Fantastico marble worktops and splashback and polished nickel hardware, from £120,000, Christopher Peacock (020–7100 4423; http://peacockhome.com)



Curved parquet flooring, from £300 per sq m, Topfloor By Esti (020–7795 3333; www.topfloorrugs.com)



← Estrato 120579 fabric in Damson/ Viola/Blush, £46 per m, Harlequin (0845 123 6805; www.harlequin. uk.com)

↑ Calacatta Zebrino marble in Large Herringbone mosaic, £385.38 per sq m, Ann Sacks (020–3055 0802; www. annsacks.com)

← Matte Gold Lotus Collection with 24-carat gold detail, a seven-piece set costs £850 (can also be bought individually), Elise Som (020– 3845 1987; www.elisesom.com)



← Palmeto table in mahogany with natural brass inlay and glass, POA, Paolo Moschino for Nicholas Haslam (020–7751 4262; www.nicholashaslam. com)

Bedroom

I T'S time to rethink gold. Once eschewed by tastemakers far and wide, the resurgence of metallics has seen a softer, more refined gold come to the fore, along with the warm gleam of antique brass and bronze. Used in this lighter form, its subtle shimmer easily passes as a neutral, making it ideal for a calm bedroom.

Acres of flat colour can be overwhelming, so complement pale gold with animated pattern. Traditional motifs of unfurling vines, trailing foliage and delicate florals work well, as will abstract prints that draw on the natural world.

Finish with soothing shades of oatmeal, ecru, mahogany and umber-brown timber for the perfect blend of glow and glamour.



↑ Anapa 1 rug in semi-worsted wool and silk, from the Alpha Workshops II collection by Edward Fields, £12,085 for a 7.47sq m (80sq ft) rug, House of Tai Ping (020–7808 9650; http:// taipingcarpets.com; http://edward fields.com)

↓ Florent

wall covering

in inro, £428 per

sq m, Fromental





Charge Temple Jar table lamp in distressed brass with a wooden base and Honan silk Empire shade, £949, Besselink & Jones (020–7351 4669; www.besselink.com)



www.countrylife.co.uk

↑ CL125 Savile Row Chandelier 75cm (29.5in) diameter with a tiered frame and handcarved Lucite tiles, £5,340, Bella Figura (020–7376 4564; www.bella-figura.com)

→ Loop handles in antique brass, £714 per pair, Black & Key (020–7351 7989; www.blackandkey.co.uk)

↑ Tamara fabric in silver/gold J890F-02 by Jane Churchill, £89 per m, Colefax and Fowler (020–7351 0666; www.colefax.com)

Summer Harvest mirror in raw teak, £17,517, Christopher Guy (020– 3397 2410; www. christopherguy.com)

> ↑ Bourdon buttoned seat, £1,450 plus 3m of fabric required, David Seyfried (020–7823 3848; www.davidseyfried.com)

↑ Insley & Nash at Savoir bed in bespoke screenprinted fabric, from about £10,000, Savoir Beds (020–7352 0302; www.savoirbeds.co.uk)

Focus preview Drawing/sitting room

 ${f E}$ VERYTHING from soft furnishings to wallpaper is in an unmistakable blue mood, although the relaxed azure accents of summer have given way to deeper, darker hues for autumn/winter. Layered indigo tones, classic navy and sumptuous inky shades create a wraparound effect that's cosy yet sophisticated. Graphite grey and silver, rather than crisp white, bring harmony and balance, with hints of polished chrome and subtle sparkle.

There are few better partners for the colour scheme than damasks, so expect to find them reinterpreted, updated and overlaid, bringing out their rich elegance and intricate pattern in a modern setting.

Flooring is also a big story, with carpet and rugs becoming an ever-more important element of a design scheme.

→ Curtains in Landseer fabric in Prussian Blue 332693, £84 per m, Prussian Flat emulsion, £43 for 2.5 litres, sofa in Amoret fabric in Bronze 332638, £84 per m. Zoffany (01895 221000; www.zoffany.com)





↑ 50mm diameter matte lacquered curtain poles with small bobbin finials by Walcot House, from £260.60 for a 150cm-length pole set, Jason D'Souza (020-7351 4440; www.jasondsouza.co.uk)

designs.com)

1 SL0051.NI Tavistock floor lamp in nickel, £837.60, with 8in Pembroke linen lampshade, £46.80, Vaughan (020-7349 4600; www.vaughan-



leather in Bedazzled £18 per sq ft, Whistler Leather (020-7352 4186; www.whistler leather.com)

↓ Gilbert Indigo 0697003 wallpaper by Stroheim, £187.80 per 8.23m roll (W68.58cm), Alton-Brooke (020-7376 7008; www.altonbrooke.co.uk)





↑ Sofa in *Royal Damask Sapphire* BP10646.2 fabric, £129 per m, throw in *Regal Silk Bronze* BF10660.2 silk-mix fabric, £69 per m, from the Historic Royal Palace collection, G. P. & J. Baker (01202 266700; www.gpjbaker.com) 🐆

↑ Tabriz Fashion Artwork handknotted rug in Tibetan wool, Tibetan nettle and Chinese silk from the Erased Heritage collection by Jan Kath, £2,985 per sq m or £22,400 for stock size 250cm by 300cm (98in by 118in), Front (020-7376 3355; http://front

rugs.com)



← Berlin chairs by Moroso, upholstered in Rubelli fabrics, POA, Chaplins (020-7352 6195; www. chaplins.co.uk)