Bedroom

It’s time to rethink gold. Once shunned 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.

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Focus preview

Kitchen

The 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.
EVERYTHING 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.

**Focus preview**

**Drawing/sitting room**

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)

Galaxy lamp, £1,788, with 18in Cylinder platinum-satin shade, £310, Porta Romana (020–7352 0440; www.portaromana.com)

Tabriz Fashion Artwork hand-knotted 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)

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)

Berlin chairs by Moroso, upholstered in Rubelli fabrics, POA, Chaplins (020–7352 6195; www.chaplins.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.gpj baker.com)

**→** Damask Print 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.alton- brooke.co.uk)

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**↑** SL0051.NI Tavi-stock floor lamp in nickel, £837.60, with 8in Pembroke linen lampshade, £46.80, Vaughan (020–7349 4600; www.vaughan- designs.com)