



home decor



No hunting motifs

Dara Wyton

One of the most exciting trends for spring 2007 is designer wallpaper. This is not like your grandma's! Wallpaper over the past few years has taken a back seat to paint and faux finish, but it is making its fashionable comeback, wooing designers and savvy homeowners with its great personality and diverse styles and colours.

This spring get ready to go bold with vibrant colours, geometric shapes, and rejuvenated classics. Old is new again in these timeless patterns such as rococo leopard, damask flocked, and palm leaves, all reintroduced in new contemporary colours. With bold and vibrant also comes updated traditional patterns and colours: soft florals, striking stripes, and classic toiles, all in clean colours and rich hues such as burnt orange, verdant green, and chocolate brown as well as calm neutrals. These striking collections of hand-painted wallpaper will leave you with a new love for your home.

And traditional "paper" wallpaper isn't the only option. Fabric wallpaper is also available and will add a luxurious touch to any room. Other materials include those with a metallic lustre and paper that gives the appearance of silk.

Wallpaper sets the mood with colour and design. A bright, cheerful print lightens up the whole room while a dark and dramatic print immediately lends a formal, more elegant feel. Wallpaper can also change the perception of a room's size and dimensions, making it look bigger, smaller, taller, or cozier.

Take a pattern and colour you love, and mould your room around it—make that your point of inspiration. How can you go wrong with charcoal and fuchsia damask, black and silver paisley flowers, or purple and aqua orchid? For the fainter of heart, use a softer, neutral palette with fantastic texture. The key is to think outside the box (or wall!)—frame a couple of pieces as fantastic, oversized artwork, re-cover a couple of your favourite books, invigorate a feature wall, or dramatize a powder room. This is a great way to express who you are and to show your creativity.

Yes, wallpaper is fantastic, but there are still rules and "what not to do." There are a few key things to watch for. No borders! Borders are a design of the past and usually emphasize something that is not worth emphasizing. No gingham! Yes, it is cute in a little girl's fabric but not on your wallpaper. Nothing theme orientated—no hunting motifs, no fruit or vegetable themes. No wallpaper that looks like wood panelling—you all know why! ■

To see these fantastic wallpaper samples, call Dara Wyton Design 604-989-4000 or visit www.darawyton.com