

The

ENGLISH HOME

Celebrating the essence of English style
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The New Collections

Autumn's most tempting fabric & wallpaper launches

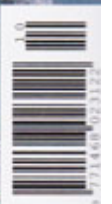
Island kitchens
& softly modern
bathrooms

How to dress
a beautiful
bedroom

Design Fusions
Fashion, art, high society
and interiors: discover
who's working with whom

FIND YOUR HOME STYLE

From mellow country looks to townhouse chic



IN VOGUE: CORAL | BRITISH BRANDS | LIGHT INSPIRATION

DESIGN INTERSECTIONS

How do the worlds of fashion, art, architecture or even high society come to influence the look of our homes? We investigate the intriguing arena of collaborations, crossovers and the intersection of creative minds



people want, and it's great to have the opportunity to work with people who have these attributes."

For Kate Mooney, CEO of online interior design store Occa-Home, the success of any collaboration comes down to the skills of different design disciplines being highly transferable. "The creative processes are very similar," she says, "and looking at problems in a different way comes up with different solutions. Colours, trends and other designs can be brought in, and it makes the collaboration very dynamic." Indeed, it is all about a sense of adventure. For most homeware companies who employ 'outsiders', the sense of a new and fresh outlook is key. At Liberty Art Fabrics, for example, it began with a collaboration with boundary-pushing artist Grayson Perry in 2009 and continued with a diverse mix of artists, designers, illustrators, galleries, museums, curators, collectors and authors ever since. "The result is interesting and diverse printed fabric collections, influencing and being influenced by other sectors of the cultural world," explains head of design Emma Mawston. "It is one of my favourite parts of the job as everyone is so lovely, so interesting and has a different angle on how they see Liberty Prints and how they would like their print to look."

When The Rug Company commissioned first leading interior designers and then fashion designers to create rugs, they found that their designs were unlike anything seen before. "We work with designers from many fields, some textile designers, some product designers, artists as well as fashion designers. They all offer a different perspective that is equally valuable," says CEO and co-founder Christopher Sharp. "We are fully aware that collaborations which have a purely marketing function are rather cynical. We like to think that we are interested in collecting design rather than designers. If you are going to collaborate with multiple designers, then you have to keep reminding yourself that the reason you are doing the collaboration is to make innovative products." ▶



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP Design journalist Barbara Chandler worked with Britain's biggest wallpaper company Graham & Brown to select designers from a variety of fields, including illustration, street art and fashion, to create Graham & Brown's New Wave Collective, from £26 for a 10m roll.

Ashley Hicks' dynamic chainmail design, which he describes as "a play on the traditional hexagon grid" is featured in Alternative Flooring's UK-made Quirky B collection. Pioneering German-American architect Mies van der Rohe – a central figure in the modernist Bauhaus school – created this tubular-steel cantilever chair in 1927. Both elegant and comfortable, the



pared-down elegance of the chair epitomises the marriage of form and function often embodied in such timeless designs. Matthew Williamson is a master of print, embellishment, and kaleidoscopic colour in fashion design and has collaborated for a second year with Osborne & Little. *Kairi* wallpaper, £56 for a 10m roll, Osborne & Little. *Sofa* in Williamson's *Jungle Beat*, £55 a metre, Osborne & Little

