

Real Estate

PEOPLE NEWSPAPERS

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Springing Forward

Our designer takes a look at the hot color palettes and where to find them

By Margaret Chambers
Special Contributor

Let's talk trends first with a sneak peek into Lee Jofa. Available only through your interior designer, Lee Jofa is considered one of the high-end showrooms in the Design District because of its exclusive trims, wallpapers, and furniture, and it is always a leader in the industry in color, style, and quality.

Our foray into new trends reveals some of the latest color schemes to whet your appetite: Some are traditional, others contemporary. Mix them up to create an interesting room.



Pleated velvet entices the eye

Gorgeous wallpapers become conversation pieces

Unique drapery rods add elegance to any window

A wool rug offers another level of contrast to a room

SERENE AND MODERN. This color palette is an array of golds, grays, and creams in fabrics, papers, and trims and a variety of textures and designs. See how well these mix and blend together. Soft grays and tans are perfect for a serene, modern look. As a designer, I always make sure a soft palette has a lot of texture and contrast with dark wood accents.

Beiges and greens blend together on this fabric



WHO SAID ASIAN IS OUT? It has come back hotter than ever because it is truly a classic style — and Asian-inspired wallpaper is making a huge resurgence. One color scheme boasts a pronounced abundance of red lacquer color mixed on linens in reds and greens. Reddish brown velvet in all sorts of trims from small tassels to wide flat tapes are perfect for edging curtains, pillows, and the bottom of skirted sofas and chairs.

Asian-inspired wallpaper gives a wall panache

Small details, like this trim, make a big difference

Geometric wallpaper can be an unexpected treat in a room

Now, let's shop:

How fortunate we are to live in Dallas, where shop owners are always on the cutting edge with the newest trends in shopping for our homes. Make note of these, take a friend, and spend the day discovering an abundance of the latest and greatest new traditions and old classics to suit current tastes.

Mecox Gardens, 4532 Cole Ave., is 6,500 square feet of exciting merchandise. I saw a fabulous mix of large-scale mirrors and cabinets, small, unique photo frames, and an incredible assortment of coffee table books. Mecox prides itself on its large assortment of unique accessories, old and new, and a wide selection of planters, chairs, sofas, and occasional tables. David, Jeff, and Tyler enjoy their creative jobs of keeping the shop stocked with fresh, new merchandise. Every Thursday they bring selections from their 7,000-square-foot warehouse and completely redesign the vignettes, making room for the latest spring arrivals. The founders from Southampton, N.Y., are world travelers, always looking for the newest and latest inspirations from the old and new. Their Dallas shop is an eclectic mix.

Stephanie Anne, 2 Highland Park Village, has just opened this new location, filled with old and new, vintage and antique finds, and even their own line of comfy and luxurious sleepwear, referred to as Lounge Wear. Immediately noticeable is the unique lighting, which is always changing. The owner's artistic flair is revealed in the slip-covered seating, linens, artwork,

and accessories. What a fun place to shop for gifts and jewelry!

Take a short walk down the sidewalk to **Avant Garden by Todd**, 4 Highland Park Village. This charming floral boutique receives flowers twice a week from Holland, so the shop is always filled with lilacs, hydrangeas, double tulips, parrot tulips, peonies, and ranunculus — some of the most popular flowers of the spring season. Make sure you see the parrot tulips, a personal favorite, full of color and inspiration!

Linen Boutique at 5600 W. Lovers Lane, Suite 122, specializes in fine linens for the home, bed, bath, and table. The boutique stocks primarily Sferra and Ann Gish, completely designing several beds complete with accessories, showcasing arrivals from Italy. You can get a first-hand view of how your bed will look in their luxurious bedding ensembles. The Linen Boutique has beautiful accessories for all bathrooms. They also have a bridal registration and gifts for all occasions.

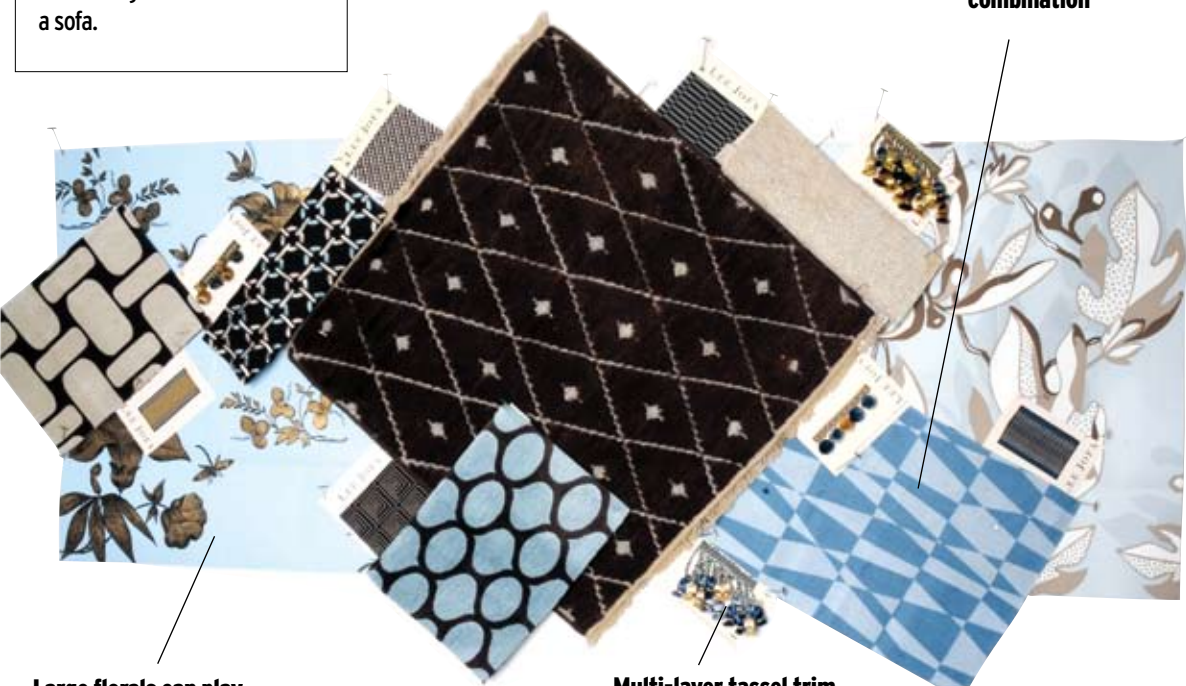
The great fun about living in this trendsetting day and age, and being so close to a wide variety of top quality vendors, is that the choices are almost endless and you are sure to find a scheme that fits your taste and personality, putting you on top of the latest trends in design. Have fun shopping!

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For more designer insight, see today's issue of *Homes & Estates*.

MIX IT UP. Soft blues and browns are still popular for that transitional look. Use geometrics mixed with large open florals on linen and trims. It's applied sparingly on pillows, skirted tables, and of course, a little soft oatmeal chenille is a perfect background for fabrics on a sofa.

Geometric linens are a visual treat to this blue and brown combination



Large florals can play well on walls

Multi-layer tassel trim should be used as a finishing touch