What’s Hot, What’s Shown in 2019

We asked over 200 design professionals to identify the next big decorating trends—and the ones that have bottomed out.

OUT

Naked Light
If you’ve ever felt nagged by harsh illumination, you’ll be happy to hear harsh illumination will stay well bribed. Of particular notice, direct brightness, New York designer Thomas Jayne says, “I see a move away from game-show lighting.” Indeed New Yorker Libby Langdon agrees, “The past few years we’ve been bombarded with glass-floated floors and lamps exposed inside,” she said. “That trend has officially peaked.” Skip thereproductions. “Use uplights occasionally to add pockets of light and highlight architectural interest,” said Libby Langdon agrees. “The past few years, gallery-white is going away as people crave warmer, direct light.” What’s new? A dappled light. “It seems just about everyone has done a lackluster study or dressing room,” Los Angeles interior designer Laura Muller said, “but they’rev ery much in,〞 said Jessica McCarthy, creative director of 1stdibs. “It’s a more organic option, providing the same geometric features that wire-frame chairs do but without the cold, clinical.” Ms. McCarthy Bees cannot verify. “Natural-colored cane has a traditional feel while a bright blue painted raffia can feel very modern.”

Not-So-Heavy Metal
"Wire chairs are so versatile to one particular style and feel too trendy-they lose themselves in it,“ said Jessica McCarthy, creative director of Decorist. Also saying goodbye to that style, Los Angeles designer Matthew Roseberry, “The mass-produced wire-frame chair surged in popularity because of its modern, sleek aesthetics,“ he said, “but people are looking for more inviting, natural materials now.” feel their prime, too, are any vintage classics, like Saarinen and Eames pieces, said Libby Langdon. “Skids the reproductions.”

Variegated Glazes
Ms. Davis uses solid-colored tiles with variation in glaze, which she said has a beautiful, subtle effect on patterns. "People are moving toward tiles that are special but not loud," said San Francisco designer Kristina Petra, " sucheering mosaics, tiles and greens, such as the Sea Foam tiles from Fireclay. And though trial Morrocan versions have fallen from favor, unpatterned zellige tiles still hold appeal. Raleigh, N.C., designers Sandy Gammons and Liles Dunnigan, meanwhile, favor tiles with a sophisticated antique patina.

Soft Shine
"Subtle, indirect fixtures, like table lamps, sconces and under-cabinet lighting, create ambience without taking over," said San Francisco designer Justin Columbi. Ms. Langdon form a soft, diffused light through a lampshade or opaque glass—that provides a maturity, contrasting, glow, as does the Lutyens Lozenge Lantern at right. Ms. Gonzalez Touzet has installed perforated ceiling panels that create a naturally dappled light. Said Ms. Jayne, “We use uplights occasionally to add pockets of light and highlight architectural interest.”

Vertical Texture
Designers are turning to more tactile walls clad in swans, linen and sisal for a “loose sense of history, with layers of character,” said Susan Clark, founder of sister design retailer Rupho, Nashville. Jonathan Savage suggested placing in oven or woven grass cloth to add a bit of texture and “elevate the gallery wall in going away as people crave a more textured look,” explained New York designer Michael Toreno. He uses drapery or beaded wallpaper, like the Perfora Wallpaper from Es- tia at right, even behind framed art.

Refres hing Ration
New York designer Laurence C. predicts a re- turn of water used unusually—“not just on your grandmother’s front porch in the summertime”—from accents to light fixtures to seating like the Butterfly Rattan Armchair, right, from 1stDibs. Mr. Rosenberg champions cane. “It’s a more organic option, providing the same geometric features that wire-frame chairs do but without the cold, clinical.” Ms. McCarty Bees cannot verify. “Natural-colored cane has a traditional feel while a bright blue painted raffia can feel very modern.”

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Hortic Ceramics
"Patterned tiles can come off as trendy and rocky-climate is a strain," cautioned Nest Stu- dio founder Jessica Davis. Long island interior designer Deb Babcioch specified that busy Moroccan tiles in particular “can’t stand the test of time in your kitchen, the way a classic stone or ceramic subway tile can.” Los Angeles designer Neil Allen suggested using decor details (a stool, a lamp) with a Moroccan feel that are easy to change out in lieu of tile, “which is a big expense and produc- tion to replace.”

Fretted Knots
"Nostalgic, boro-macrame wall accents and overwoven lo-oped tapestries of the 60s and 70s saw a quick and tremenous revival," Los Angeles designer Laura Muller said, "but they hit a saturation point in 2018. "Confident, neat, as it turns out, is once again passe, love celebrating artisans and their work, but having a hand-knotted wall hanging in our home feels very dated," agreed Houston de- signer Brooke McGuyer Hutson. The past year, painted, framed Chinonese peonies or an an- tique European hand-woven tapestry instead.

Prasing Cane
"It’s very difficult to find cane," says New York designer Babcock-Peffer Designs, are loving delights, for to the earthy tones.

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