House Beautiful

The Perfect Floral Wallpaper for People Who Hate Florals

Yes, you read that right.



BY HADLEY KELLER MAR 19, 2019



As a lover of all things maximalist, colorful, and patterned, who would swathe my whole home in a Chinoiserie or a chintz if I could, I understand that this style is not for everyone. But, if you're in the camp of "floral <u>wallpaper</u> is just too...floral," there just may be a floral for you. Hear me out.

This week, <u>Flat Vernacular</u>, the cool company behind some of our favorite graphic wallcoverings, debuted its latest collection, Wilds. The two florals in the line, which eschew familiar chintzes or scenics in favor of modern takes, represent Flat Vernacular's biggest strength: interpreting tried-and-true subject matter in fresh, new ways.

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<u>Meadow</u>, as its name suggests, takes its motif from the flora of a spring field—but presents these specimens flattened on a solid background, like <u>fresh flowers</u> pressed in a book.

"This particular pattern began as a watercolor illustration of different weeds done in the studio as an exercise, with no end use in mind nor any collection in mind," Flat Vernacular's Payton Cosell Turner tells *House Beautiful*. "During the process of painting, I realized that weeds are a perfect metaphor for the unconquerable strength of nature, and the incredible resilience of people who fight against inequality every day."

That inspiration informed the pattern's colors, too: "Meadow comes in two colorways for wallpaper, Heliotrope (white background) and Bluestocking (blue background)," says Turner. "Both are named after specific historical feminist groups: Bluestocking, for the Bluestocking Society in 18th century England, and Heliotrope, which is classically understood as a color that represents women's suffrage."

Meanwhile, the company has reinterpreted Flora, its bestselling pattern comprised of bunches of flowers in a diamond pattern, in an even more modern manner. The new Casbah blue colorway presents the pattern in a simple, blue-and-white palette, turning, well, flowery florals into a punchy pattern.

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Still too floral for you? Try <u>Cascade</u>, an abstracted interpretation flowers bending in the wind, rendered in fluid brushstrokes of navy (Deep Blue), marigold (Sunbeam), or taupe (Clay). Though Cascade only comes as a fabric (the other two new patterns are fabric and wallpaper), we're all for upholstered walls—or how about a statement curtain or patterned tablecloth?

As Turner says, "visually, Cascade is the kind of pattern that is versatile enough to fit into all different kinds of decor schemes."