

BAR TRUNKS! BIDETS! AND CURTAINS GALORE!

The 11 interiors trends to know now

Words **Olivia Lidbury**

1 SUSTAINABLE, BUT MAKE IT CHIC

Step away from suspiciously cheap furniture and buy second-hand instead. A report by Auction Technology Group reveals that buying a preloved sofa saves more than half a tonne of carbon emissions; for a wardrobe that figure is 460kg. Have the former reupholstered in an end-of-roll fabric (which would otherwise go to landfill) by a big-name designer from Haines Collection, then jazz it up with cushions from small brands such as Atelier Raff and Cutting Floor Cushions, which both use recycled fabrics for inners. And if your shed's shelves are groaning under the weight of half-empty paint tins (the average UK household hoards a staggering 17 pots), it's time to switch to YesColours, which sells punchy tones in recyclable, 1 litre pouches (think squishy, on-the-go toddler meals but for your walls). An eco paint that you don't need a screwdriver to wrench open and an old stick to mix up is a winner in our book.



2 ADD SOME CURVES

So the Georgians really did do it best. Or was it the Romans? Debates aside, the affection for curved edges over hard lines has graduated from rotund sofas to windows and wall openings (which you'll need the most skilled of plasterers to pull off). This project by the award-winning Turner Architects (above) reinvents the atypical side return extension, bringing a slice of Italianate style to a Victorian terrace in south London via Romanesque arches. *Shows mood board of Tuscan architecture to builder*

Adam Scott



3 BAR TRUNKS ARE THE NEW DRINKS TROLLEY

It turns out shiny drinks trolleys aren't so mobile after all, and don't get us started on the dust those bottles attract. Of course a cabinet is a sensible option, but for the one per cent the luxury marketplace LuxDeco has the solution: a decadent Hollywood Bar Trunk by Martyn Lawrence Bullard x SV Casa (below left), which is a delectably crafted trunk on the outside and a bar on the inside that you can wheel out on to the patio come cocktail hour. At almost £65,000, you'd expect a few minibar-sized bottles of gin thrown in but let's not nitpick. For the remaining 99 per cent, Maisons du Monde's wooden offering (£285) is rustic enough to reside in the shed.

4 RIP THE FITTED KITCHEN

Open shelving, cabinet "skirts"... the pendulum has been swinging away from the traditional fitted kitchen, with its overbearing wall cabinets and clinical spotlights, for some time. At British Standard by Plain English, whose cupboards come primed and ready to paint, the design manager, Adrian Bergman, has noted increased interest in what he calls an "undone look" — "where freestanding elements like vintage sideboards and antique dressers harmoniously exist alongside our simple modular cupboards". If you're making the best



of what you've got, adding a vintage rug and a table lamp (yes, on the worktop!) will instantly inject character. For the ultimate how-to, the Brit-in-LA interior designer Kathryn M Ireland is running an online course with Create Academy next month that has a module devoted to mastering that tricky "Oh, it just all came together so organically!" look.



6 COLOUR YOUR GARDEN HAPPY

It's garden party season, so treat your outside space as an extra room with personality. Jennifer Newman's aluminium benches and tables (above) bring the modern-art-gallery vibe to the 'burbs; and for lounging, you won't find anything more fabulous than Odd Limited's Old Rockers. If your budget is more cava than Nyetimber, a jaunty deckchair and spherical sidetable should divert Uncle Frank from going on about which A-roads were closed on his drive over.

5 MARQUETRY MAKES ITS MARK

The inlay du jour is wood marquetry, a traditional craft dating back to the 16th century. The new names putting a contemporary spin on it include Partnership Editions newbie Chelsea Vivash, whose wiggly mirrors (below right) are beautifully coloured and textured, and Nada Debs, whose bold coffee tables come with graphic lines (look up her pieces on the luxury furniture e-tailer Invisible Collection). The award-winning Australia-based designers Adam&Arthur create jaw-dropping pieces using rye straw from France and has made trunks for Louis Vuitton. But do raid your grandma's dressing table, as she might be bang on trend with this one with a jewellery box — and if not, then get wish-listing everything by Silvia Furmanovich (hand mirror, below) on Net-a-porter.



7 SWAP CLAMS FOR CORAL

You have the scalloped bowls, shell wall sconce, clam planter... Hold it there, Ariel! Everyone has moved on to orange coral (faux, of course). New kid on the design block (and former Gucci designer) Gergei Erdei has made its wiggly branches the star of his latest cushions (£250, below) and placemats, because "corals bring luck, vitality and good energy", he says. You may want to warn your collection of crystals.



8 THE BIDET 2.0

Stay with us here: demand for "washlets", which combine lavatory and bidet functions (plus a heated loo seat) in one natty device, has steadily been on the increase at the bathroom outfitter CP Hart. They're much more discreet than the dated styles found in hotels on the Continent, and the brand to covet is Toto (from £2,335), which hails from Japan and — rejoice — is self-cleaning. Just don't call it a bidet.



9 TV CABINETS JUST GOT COOL

It's the conundrum keeping aesthetes awake across the land: to hang the TV over the fireplace or not? But there is finally a solution, and it doesn't involve a constantly glowing, faux art screen: see the interior design studio Hutley & Humm's gilt bamboo framed cabinet, which ingeniously opens to reveal the living room's most fundamental accessory. The creative couple Alfred and Tess Newell have also got in on the act: furniture-maker Alfred makes bifolding-door cabinets at his Sussex workshop (above, from £1,250) and his wife, Tess, a decorative painter, beautifies them with her whimsical designs. Almost too pretty to open.

10 HOLD ON TO YOUR BONNETS: IT'S THE REGENCYCORE BATH

You've curtained your bed and your kitchen cabinets — now the bathtub is getting the textile treatment, throwing the naff plastic shower curtain out with the, erm, bathwater. "For us there are no rules when designing a bathroom and we always look to include something a bit unexpected," says Lucy Barlow, co-founder of the interior design practice Barlow & Barlow, who masterminded this Regency-inspired set-up (right). No kidding — where else have you seen a bath framed in stripy fabric by Fermoie? We give it three months until wannabe versions start proliferating in your Instagram feed. Sadly, Jeeves is not included to buff your back.

Jonathan Bond



11 GET INTO ANIMAL LEGS

Surrealism is definitely in the air (check out the *Surrealism Beyond Borders* exhibition at Tate Modern) and is being reflected in the choice of quirky furniture legs by big-name designers. Rose Uniacke is having a horsey moment with her Hoof collection, which includes blacksmith-made tables and lampstands (from £3,240, above) complete with horseshoes. At Beata Heuman lion paws are the foot of choice. ■

