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home | INTERIORS

THE SUNDAY TIMES
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KATRINA
BURROUGHS



the
INDUSTRY
interior design
BIBLE

Five of the best... interior design books



Industry standard £45

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Storyteller £30

Ever wondered how AN Wilson decorates his dining room? English Decoration is a colourful survey of classic interiors by the tastemaker Ben Pentreath.



Coffee-table heaven £40

The Iconic Interior: 1900 to the Present by Dominic Bradbury looks at 100 remarkable interiors, from Coco Chanel's Paris flat to Donna Karan's home in New York.



Domestic bliss £25

Happy Home by Rebecca Winward is a practical guide to creating a stylish home that suits your needs, illustrated with relaxed interiors you'd love to live in.



Mapped out £12

An essential handbook, The London Design Guide by Max Fraser covers cool interiors stores in the capital. It includes neighbourhood maps with shopping routes.

METRO home comforts

Customisation

Sheila Dunlop is an interior designer and has compiled her resource book, *The Industry Interior Design Bible* (stocked by Amazon), which contains a list of where to find the best interior products.

‘As an interior designer, I always think about the atmosphere I want to create, to reflect my client’s taste. So consider the adjectives that will convey the feel you want for your home. For example, do you want an interior that is sumptuous, chic or calm, or maybe romantic, minimalist, vintage or contemporary?’

‘But this is just the start. To create a really personal and distinctive home for yourself, you won’t want to head down to your local high street. Whether you are looking for a special shade of paint or an exceptional piece of furniture, take time to source hidden treasures so your home is a unique space.’

‘There are so many exciting products out there, for instance shower heads with integral LED lights or a wooden floor sprayed with a metal finish. You might want to find a glass radiator or some reclaimed 1950s cinema seats to watch your TV, which at the click of a switch returns to a mirror. Knowing exciting options such as these even exist will not only give your home a unique edge but will make your secret sources the envy of your flat-pack friends.’



HOME NEWS

BY BEN SPRIGGS



ONE TO WORSHIP
RIDE THE CURVE

There are few things as good for the soul as pulling on a super-soft cardie and cashmere socks, grabbing a mug of tea and settling down on the sofa to work your way through a DVD box set. The thing is, getting comfy on a hard-edged modern sofa can be quite a challenge. Thankfully, this sensually curved creation from the design-world darling Jaime Hayon is as close to a cuddle as seating could possibly get. Based on the idea of a shell — hard on the outside, padded and welcoming inside — the Favn is one of a host of new designs leading a softly, softly approach to how we relax at home. Finally we can bid farewell to the blocky, and frankly ugly, modular seating units of the recent past. The only difficulty is how you will manage to leave the living room ever again.
Favn sofa, from £6,130, by Jaime Hayon; fritzhanzen.com

WHAT GOES
WITH WHAT
THE LIBRARY



Team wood with metals to add shine to calm interiors

Blokhus copper light, £120; allupandon.co.uk. Bric A Brac shelving, £1,295, from Heal's



Old-school industrial lamps will tone down more modern colours

Stepladder bookcase, £129, from Marks & Spencer. Lamp, £160; skinflintdesign.com



Pairing strong, graphic shapes makes for a bold look

Light, £204, by Original BTC; lightingmatters.co.uk. Shelves, £155 each; funktionalley.com



TREND WATCH

Black walls are glamorously gloomy, and they're back. Blame it on this winter's goth obsession, but one or two walls in an ebony hue — with the other walls of the room in the palest of greys — somehow looks sexy and fabulously fresh. You will, however, need to add pop with bright accessories to stop the overall feel becoming sombre. Our fave noirish shade? Little Greene's Jack Black, made from a pigment containing soot produced by burning oil. *Acrylic matt emulsion, £27.50 for 2.5 litres; littlegreene.com*



FANTASY OF THE WEEK...

Sometimes life would be so much easier if you could just move on when you felt like it. Well, with this narrow boat you can sail off into the sunset — as long as you don't need to get anywhere faster than 3mph. Hope is a 60ft, one double-bed, one-bath slice of the slow life. It's currently moored in Staffordshire, in the sort of place where the only noisy neighbours are ducks, and where you can really put those Vuitton wellies to good use. What could be better than spending the winter bobbing along, eating hearty stews prepped in the barge's fully modernised galley? *£70,000, plus you'll need to find a new mooring, approx £1,800 a year; boatfinderbrokerage.co.uk*

