

METAL GURU: A NOD TO THE 70s

Bath interior designer **Clair Strong** picks some key trends heading our way this spring

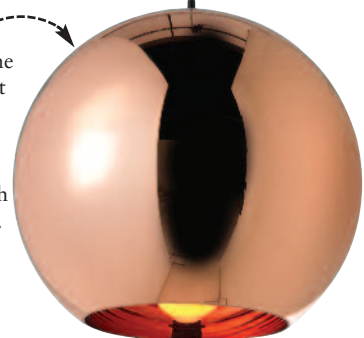
If you're thinking of redesigning your home this spring, you need to know that brass fixtures, cacti, inky blue walls, ethnic rugs and the 1970s are key interiors trends for the months ahead.

Bath interior designer Clair Strong has spent the last few months travelling around the top interior

design shows taking place all over the UK and in Europe. From Top Drawer, Home and London Design Week in the UK, to Maison et Object in Paris, Clair has been checking out all the new colour and design trends which are about to hit the high street this spring and summer. Here is her round-up of the key interior design looks to emerge for 2015....

WARM METALLICS

Warm metallics like brass and copper are the materials of the moment and add an elegant finishing touch to complete the look of a room. Copper and brass can be used on everything from lighting, furniture, tableware, accessories and lamps – and both brushed and polished finishes look modern. An iconic Tom Dixon light is a statement piece that will never go out of fashion. Copper Bronze brass pendants £375 each, Tom Dixon. Copyright Tom Dixon



MOODY BLUES

Marsala may have been named Pantone's colour of year in 2015 but from rich jewel tones right through to deep indigo it seems blue is having a moment too. Try painting your walls a deep inky shade of blue like Drawing Room Blue from Farrow & Ball to give a room a dramatic moody feel. But don't worry, we won't be seeing the end of grey yet although darker shades like charcoal are beginning to take over from the paler greys of the last few years.



Drawing Room Blue estate emulsion £36 from 2.5l, Farrow & Ball copyright

BOTANICAL BEAUTIES

You'll see flamboyant botanical and wildlife prints appearing on everything from sofas to cushions and rugs this year. All the big designers showed gorgeous nature-inspired fabrics covered in ferns, butterflies and flowers and the look has already filtered onto the high street. The Marks and Spencer botanical range nails this trend brilliantly. Copyright Marks & Spencer



SEVENTIES CHIC

After a lasting love for everything mid-century, the interiors industry has added another era to its source of inspiration. The 1970s are now having their moment with smoked-glass coffee tables, low sofas, bold rugs, rattan furniture and metallic accessories giving a modern glamorous retro look to our homes. Copyright Clair Strong



ANIMAL HIDES

The design aesthetic for 2015 is all about making your home look comfortable and modern and animal hides are ideal for creating this welcoming yet contemporary feel. Don't just stick to cowhide rugs though – think zebra print, pastel colours, metallics, patchwork, cushions, blankets, artwork and throws. This zebra print rug would make a real statement on a polished wooden floor. Zebra printed cow skin £94 Amara



MIXED WOOD

Mixing woods is no longer a faux pas and using multiple woods in the same piece is an interesting micro-trend I noticed from the shows. I think a combination of woods adds dimension and richness to a room. I love this cool Fonteyn TV bench in mixed oak and walnut from Made.com. Fonteyn media unit, £499 Made.com





BOLD GEOMETRIC DESIGNS

Geometric shapes are here to stay, Clair says. On tiles, rugs, bedding, cushions and furniture these shapes add a sense of style and simplicity to your home and look great in modern homes. Niki Jones is the queen of geo designs with her new range introducing bang-on-trend mustard and grey to her collection.

Niki Jones from NikiJones.com

OUT OF AFRICA

Ethnic inspired patterns with a modern twist – white combined with colourful zig zigs, stripes and spots – are a great way to add bright colour and that crucial handmade look to your home. Think modern hippy meets Nordic cool! Treat yourself to a new rug or some Kilim cushions to update your living room.

India Jane Beren Cushion £39



URBAN JUNGLE

From terrariums to living walls – walls entirely covered with plants – 2015 will see the return of the house plant, so bring the outdoors in and learn all those houseplant names from the past.

Copyright Clair Strong

A LOVE OF NATURE

Eco-friendly natural materials are also having a moment. Wicker, wood, bamboo and grass are the materials to look for and they fit seamlessly into almost every interior style from traditional country to industrial chic. These Piet Hein Eek baskets from Amara are created by Vietnamese handicraftsmen from recycled & rejected breadboards to great effect.

Piet Hein Eek basket collection from Amara.com



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