

The

ENGLISH HOME

Celebrating the essence of English style

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New Year Shortlist

The most inspiring and innovative buys of the year

Set the scene
for celebrations

- Chic table dressing
- The new cocktails
- Stylish party food

Inside knowledge

- Design a sociable kitchen
- Discover little-known fabric designers
- Use the subtle new pearlised effects

HOMES THAT WELCOME

from Victorian cottage to Georgian-style new-build





RECOMMENDED PAINTS

TOP "Graphite Grey can be overlooked as 'too dark' when viewed as a colour chip, but brushed out it surprises," says Phil James, Marston & Langinger's managing director. "The range can vary from powerful mid greys to soft near-black." £41.50 for 2.5l chalky interior matt emulsion. Ecos Organic Paints' founder Ian West, suggests "a matt-black statement wall can provide the perfect neutral backdrop for brighter home furnishings." Black, £41.63 for 5l matt emulsion. "Satin Black was inspired by a fabric with texture," says director of Kong Colour, Vanessa Galloway. "Lighter pigments with the slight sheen of our emulsion created a black with good depth and movement." £42 for 2.5l low sheen emulsion.

MIDDLE A new addition to the Paint and Paper Library chart is Come in Houston "A warm Mars-red-based black that is ideal for dark atmospheric dining rooms," says director, David Oliver. "Being so deep, it is effective at disguising the perimeters of a room when utilised on skirting, walls, cornices and ceilings." Exclusively available from the Chelsea showroom. £36 for 2.5l flat emulsion. Mike Howes, commercial director at Paint by Covran informs: "Darkest Tam is inspired by the wild windswept landscapes of the Scottish highlands. This deep, rich shade is best used as an accent or to create a stand-out feature wall." £36 for 2l emulsion.

BOTTOM Rebecca Craig, head of design for Sanderson, advises: "Late Night Black is an inky blue-black, perfect for adding a glamorous, dramatic flair to interiors." £38 for 2.5l emulsion. Farrow & Ball's Black Blue is "a bluer version of Studio Green and definitely appears blue when painted on large surfaces," says director Sarah Cole. £36 for 2.5l estate emulsion. Fired Earth's Top Hat is another new shade. "It is a soft, very gently faded black that's reminiscent of crushed velvet," says creative director Rob Whitaker. "Smart but not in any way stark, it's a classic choice for deco-style bathrooms and hallways." £35.50 for 2.5l matt emulsion. ▶

New Year Honours 2015



In our inaugural shortlist of high-achievers, we celebrate the very best of innovative and collaborative design from companies both large and small





◀ **Konig Colours**
 From Konig Design comes Konig Colours, a non-toxic paint range with eco credentials. The range was developed in response to frustration with available paint shades, and a bespoke matching service is also available.

Flat emulsion, £36 for 2.5 litres, Konig Colours



◀ **Fired Earth**
 A neat collaboration with London Underground sees Fired Earth introduce its Underground 150 collection based on the instantly recognisable signage (such as the one shown left) as well as a striking Edwardian (1903) range, based on the Art Nouveau-inspired tiles originally created by Leslie Green to inject an Arts and Crafts aesthetic to the then new underground stations.

Mind the Gap tile, (68.4x 7.6 x 8cm) £74.99, Fired Earth



▲ **Liberty Art Fabrics**

Three collections form the basis of Liberty Art Fabrics' new interiors offering: Nesfield, Jubilee and Heritage. Each bears the trademark Liberty style instigated in 1875.

Felix Raison, £115 a metre, Liberty Art Fabrics



◀ **Graham & Green**
 Championing the usually unseen artistry behind wallpaper print – Graham and Brown worked with design journalist Barbara Chandler to curate and mentor 13 designers from illustration, fashion, print and textile design to create its New Wave collection of wallcoverings – bringing art to walls at high street prices. We applaud the approach and particularly admire the attention to detail on the Foxglove wallpaper design by Lucinda Abell.

Foxglove design wallpaper by Lucinda Abell, £20 a 10-metre roll, from the New Wave collection, Graham & Brown



“ As a textile geek, I was excited to see Nerium – a new weave from Ian Sanderson. After a lapse of two generations, the company has revived the technique of warp printing. This prints the complete design on the warp threads (the ones that run vertically on the loom) and then weaves the fabric with a neutral coloured weft (the yarns that run horizontally under and over the warp) to create a diffused shadowing in the finished cloth. ”

Celia Rufey, interiors journalist



◀ **Fishes by De Gournay**

This ethereal Fishes wallpaper, featuring handpainted Koi carp swimming with gilt ground, shows outstanding artistry and is also directional in being amongst the first and the best in encapsulating the renewed focus of interior companies looking to the east – particularly to Japan, for design inspiration.

Fishes wallcovering, from £625 for a 915mm x 2,130mm roll, from the Koi and Japanese collection, de Gournay