

Autumn

Keep up with the latest looks with our new seasonal trends briefing



COCO REPUBLIC

As the weather cools and you find yourself migrating indoors, what better time to turn your attention to updating your interior. To achieve a fresh look you can add a few key pieces or do a complete style overhaul. Trend forecaster Genty Marshall, of New Black Global Trends, says vibrant colours, patterns, natural materials and handmade items are all on the agenda for autumn.

Vibrant colours

"Colour-wise we've just been through quite a strong beige-topia, beige has been very prominent in the last few seasons," Genty says.

"We're getting back to a more **colourful palette** especially in textiles and window treatments but also for furniture accessories. Accessories can be a great way to bring colour through because you can be a little more seasonal about it."

Natural

Natural materials such as **wood and stone** are also featuring heavily this season.

"What is coming through in **timber** are toffee tones; they're warm and great for autumn and also **raw wood finishes** that have a kind of Scandinavian feel," she says.

Strong colours and patterns are being used liberally and work as a counterpoint to the natural colours and materials.

African palettes

"Trends coming through in textiles are **plaids and tartans**, as well as **African colour palettes, patterns and finishes**. That's something we haven't seen much in Australia before. We've had a lot of the **Indian paisleys**, but the new African palettes are very strong in colour but they also work well with natural materials. They're a lovely counterpoint and juxtaposition with those natural patinas."

Handmade

As a part of the movement towards more sustainable design, Genty has noticed

PHOTO: HAYDON GATTACH (MATE STOKES PENDANT LIGHT)



a trend towards **handmade artisan furniture** and homewares built to last. "It's interesting with the handmade trend. When it first caught people's attention it was all quite kitsch. Now we're moving to a much more sophisticated handcraft. And that's lovely because it's really bringing back the sense of time that goes into something," she says.

Wood and ceramics

A combination of **wood and ceramics** is also being seen in everything. Genty identifies Melbourne-based designer Kate Stokes' pendant lamp, made from a combination of timber and brushed aluminium (giving it a ceramic look), as a good example of this look.

Mixing it up

Freedom head of furniture Andrew Moricz says **eclecticism** remains a strong trend. "Nothing should match and fully co-ordinated ranges are being swapped for colourful, key pieces," he says. "Before you would do an accent chair in colour and now you might have a pattern on a full sofa."

Eco friendly

Freedom's autumn collection also caters for **individuality** and eco-friendly design. "We work a lot with **salvaged timbers**, we're reusing architectural beams from old warehouses and using new distressed techniques on furniture," Andrew says. "We have a collection called Farmhouse in which we have various styles of furniture, so together it looks like a room that has manifested over generations. Strictly speaking **nothing matches**, but that's the way we like it." For an easy way to update your look, Andrew says to focus on your dining table. "A really great way to update a dining table would be to change the chairs and even think about using a mix of chairs, so one type down the side and a different type at the end." ■

Alice Wasley



MUST HAVES



The sleek but earthy Coco Pendant by Melbourne designer Kate Stokes is \$1500 from Coco Flip.



Mix and match with cushions, such as the Mika, \$59.95, Natalia, \$39.95, or Alannah, \$59.95, from Country Road.



The Perth chair, \$2295, from Laura Ashley can be paired with natural materials or mixed with colours and patterns.



Go natural with the Louise throw, \$149, Melange baskets, \$39.95 and \$59.95, or the Minott Basket, \$119, from Country Road.

MORE INFORMATION
Coco Flip cocoflip.com.au
Coco Republic cocorepublic.com.au
Country Road countryroad.com.au
Freedom freedom.com.au
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