

CURRENT STYLE

WE TRAIN OUR LENS ON FORWARD-THINKING FASHION
FROM FABRIC INNOVATIONS TO FRESH DESIGNS.

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TRENDS

Bold colors. Rich textures. Sumptuous fabrics. They sound like indoor concepts, but in today's outdoor spaces they're more applicable than ever—especially now that the 5th room has become its own defined space. Here, we give you a quick primer on some of the top trends shaping outdoor design.

HOT HUES

Bored with brown? Good news: Color is making a comeback. We saw the first hint of it this year with Cuban-inspired tropical hues splashing into interiors. Think Caribbean turquoise, punchy coral, citrusy orange and sunny yellow.

Those colors go softer for 2018, with trend forecasters predicting an uptick in pastel hues à la Miami's Art Deco District. Soft pinks and blues (vindication for fans of Pantone's 2016 Colors of the Year Rose Quartz and Serenity), along with icy shades of lavender and coral are poised to make a big impact both indoors and out. Hints of that trend have already popped up in casual showrooms, including lavender cushions on contemporary collections in Lexington's Tommy Bahama showrooms.

Even neutrals are getting a shot of life, thanks to colors such as navy blue and olive green as the backdrop for brighter hues and patterns.

MOD WORLD

Call it the “Mad Men” effect. Though the series wrapped in 2015, the cultural influence of the show, set in the ultra-cool world of 1960s advertising, is still being felt via a resurgence of midcentury modern style in home furnishings.

That sexy look of clean, geometric lines and sleek silhouettes has moved outdoors, too, with midcentury-style collections such as Castle’s angular Gold Coast and the Bauhaus-styled Verge from Brown Jordan.

The look falls right in line with the trend toward contemporary and transitional looks in outdoor spaces. A recent consumer survey fielded by PBM Strategic Insights found that more than a third of respondents favored contemporary/modern styles for their outdoor furnishings. The clean look of mid-century and contemporary styles fits right in with the minimalist vibe of cool, urban spaces—a growing market for outdoor furnishings.



Brown Jordan
Verge Collection

IN THE MIX

We all know the matchy-matchy look is out. Today’s discerning clients prefer a curated approach that blends pieces from multiple collections to create a more eclectic, personalized aesthetic.

Now casual manufacturers are taking that one step farther, mixing materials within collections to create depth, texture and visual interest. Combinations run the gamut, from the transitional look of Gloster’s Pepper Marsh—which pairs its signature teak with an ash-colored synthetic weave—to the ultra-modern concrete-and-stainless steel Mesh collection from Seasonal Living.

With so many material options now available for casual furnishings—synthetic weaves that mimic natural fibers, powder-coated aluminum in a rainbow of finishes, naturally durable woods like teak and ipe, reinforced concrete that resembles wood, and recycled plastics—the possibilities are seemingly endless.



Gloster
Pepper Marsh Collection



INSIDE OUT

In the old days, outdoor rooms were less “rooms” and more often a few lawn chairs and maybe a small dining set dropped in the backyard without a lot of thought.

Today’s homeowners want to bring the same style and comfort they enjoy inside to their outdoor spaces. That means luxurious furnishings with weather-proof upholstery and supple performance fabrics in indoor-style textures like chenille, bouclé and jacquard. Today, outdoor rugs and throws are just as soft and colorful as their indoor counterparts, yet durable enough to withstand the elements. Lamps and light fixtures defy the constraints of outdoor conditions. Fully appointed outdoor kitchens make al fresco entertaining a breeze. And outdoor theaters and spas are growing more and more popular.

The trick with these rooms is in the transition. Blending indoor and outdoor looks for a seamless experience means careful attention to cohesion, while still maintaining the sense of fun and ease expected in an outside space. □



Castelle
Gold Coast Collection