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THE SECRET OF FABRICS

BY LINDA MAZUR | I have a little secret for you, fabric is both inspirational and a great place to start when designing a room. Beautiful lush velvets, richly woven silks, the simple texture of linens not only can they inspire but when combined with the abundance of wonderful patterns and amazing colours will create for you a living space tailor-made to reflect your style.



However, there is more to fabric than just pretty colours and patterns. When working with clients I try to educate them in all aspects associated with the fabrics we are suggesting for their home such as durability, pattern intricacy, the hang of a fabric and of course colour.

There are many fabrics available today that are high performing with anti-microbial, stain and moisture resistant features. These are beyond “forgiving” and are fantastic for high-traffic homes, especially those with kids and pets. One of my go-to fabric suppliers that never disappoints is Alendel Fabrics. They are always introducing new decadent fabric designs saturated with colour and inspiring yet classic patterns that can blend beautifully into any space.

As important as durability is in your fabric selection, equally important is pattern intricacy and colour. As a designer I love mixing colours

and patterns, however, it’s important to keep in mind that the fabrics you have selected need to be relevant for their intended usage. You may fall in love with a particular fabric however the scale and pattern repeat may not be the best choice for upholstering a diamond-tufted sofa for example; keep this in mind when you are making your choices. Also, when attempting to blend several different patterns attention must be paid to the scale of the patterns you are selecting. Generally, I often recommend start with three fabrics. Combine large, medium and small scaled patterns together and vary the patterns between floral, stripes, geometrics and solids; remembering to balance your textures as well.

With so much available to select from, be bold in your choice of fabrics. If you find a pattern you adore but are a bit hesitant to use it generously throughout your living space then try it on some toss cushions or perhaps an ottoman. Furniture and custom drapery for your home can be a sizable purchase so when scanning over the endless fabric possibilities be sure to select wisely. Whether it’s toiles, stripes, florals, ikats, there are many different possibilities that will beautifully complement your room; just remember to keep a common element throughout and watch your home come alive!



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