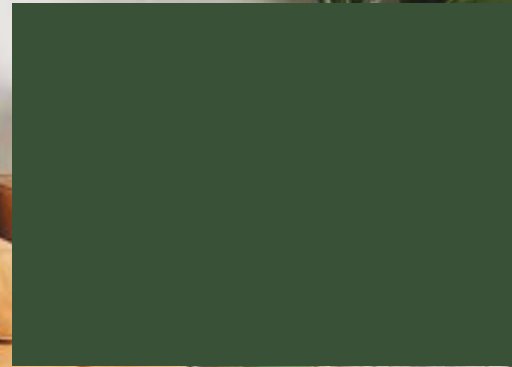


# AD

INTERACTIVE MAGAZINE

## Upgrade Your Interior Spaces on a Budget



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# Popular Mixed Decorating Styles

by Linda Chechar

Forget the overly matched look—it's time to experience mixed style. Creating a mix of furniture styles, patterns, and fresh and on-trend colors can be tricky to do. It takes a few secrets from the pros to mix vintage, modern, ethnic and traditional styles, so your room looks coordinated rather than confusing.

Mixing takes some practice, but it makes the decorating experience much more enjoyable. This loose style serves as a great equalizer in interior design. A mixed style snubs its nose at the rules by blending old with new, cheap with pricey, bold with subtle, and classic with trendy.

Many different interior design styles exist, but few fit into just one category. More and more people favour a mixed style to play off their existing furnishings and incorporate new pieces. Combining what you have on hand with something completely new and unexpected gives you the license to invent a uniquely tailored style for your home.

Pulling design elements from different periods and styles allows you to step outside your comfort zone as your style evolves. The more you experiment with different styles, the more you'll find that one type of decor can blend with another. That's how interior design professionals often go about creating personalized looks for their clients.

## Boho

Bohemian or Boho style is highly original, creative, and eccentric. The term stems from Bohemia, a region of the Czech Republic and its ethnic wanderers referred to as "bohémien" in French. It grew to mean a tight-knit community of creative people living a socially unconventional lifestyle.

Bohemian decorating transforms the ordinary into extraordinary by deftly mixing vintage and exotic furnishings that exude warmth and individuality. Initially, Boho might be construed as overwhelming with its busy mixture of color, pattern, and texture. At a second glance, it actually looks and feels downright soothing and cozy with its layers of fabric and deep rich colors.

When choosing a Bohemian color scheme, try to stick with jewel tones and earthy shades. For example, go daring with deep red, terracotta, indigo, aubergine, or coffee for the walls. Avoid pastels, vivid colors, and bright white. Add fabric wall hangings, window swags, art, and mirrors. Bring faded Persian, kilim, or dhurrie rugs in coordinating colors to layer the floor. Shop flea markets to unearth distinctive weathered wood furniture and upholstered secondhand pieces.

Boho-style accessories should look like they've been collected over many years from all corners of the globe. Old framed photos, porcelain figurines, glass beaded curtains, fringed lampshades, fancy decorative boxes, colorful bottles, floor cushions, sparkling pendant lighting, and paisley throws capture the Boho trademark--a random yet effortless look.

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## Eclectic

When done well, the eclectic style allows you to showcase your personal style while following the basics of proper design. Don't worry about staying within a certain period or style—there's plenty of room for several of your favorites.

The lack of rules in eclectic design is what makes it so popular. But eclectic isn't a no-holds-barred decorating style. Throwing a little bit of this and that in a room does not qualify. There's a very fine line between pleasing contrasts and disarray. Choose no more than three styles to keep your room from looking like a thrift store.

An eclectic color palette can be fairly wide-ranging; however, it's a good idea to tie everything together with a few neutrals. Use color and texture to unify items from various styles and eras. Disparate furniture

## Retro

Mixing these three decades from the 1950s, 60s, and 70s is commonly referred to as retro style. The combination of mid-century years is influenced by interior design trends from the middle of the 20th century. Retro has an enjoyable, light, and freeing feel with funky colors, futuristic patterns, and a sense of creativity.

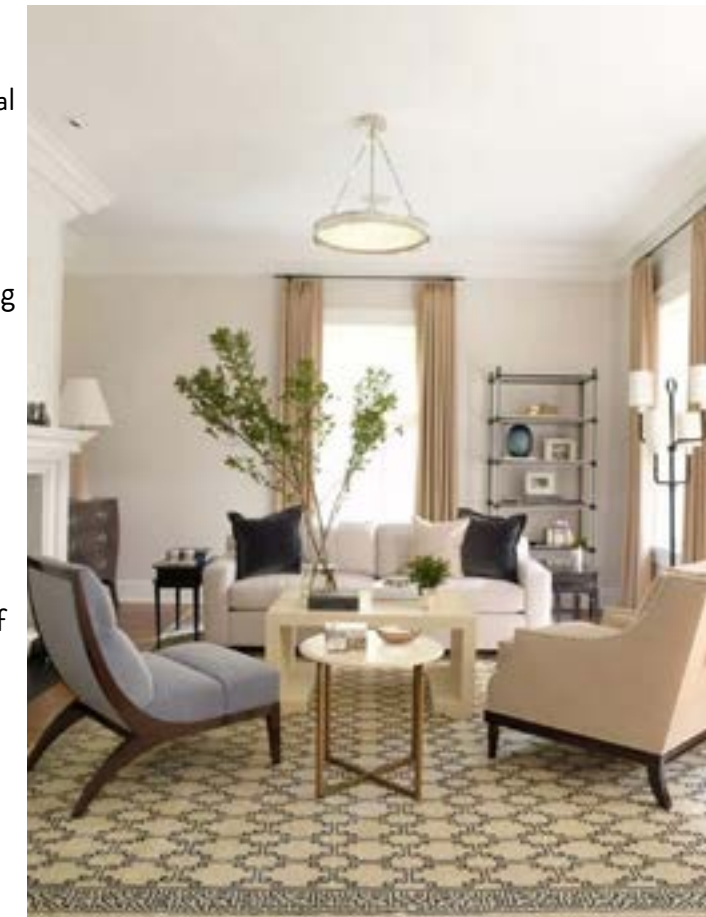
Shag carpets, atomic decor, vinyl chairs, plastics, chrome, and curvy sofas have an influence from the past. Groovy combinations of fabrics, furniture, and textures during these 30 years integrates common elements that will give your home an energizing style.

Colors such as aqua, pink, brown, avocado green, and harvest gold are easily identifiable from the era. Lava lamps and Sputnik pendants are relatable to each other among retro, quirky designs.

## Transitional

Transitional style can best be described as a balanced mix of traditional and contemporary decor. It is a lighter, more current version of traditional style that fits a modern lifestyle. Transitional design embraces classic details and elegant furnishings without the formality of traditional style. If you feel contemporary is too plain and traditional is too stuffy, then definitely go with transitional.

Transitional rooms combine curvy, overstuffed furniture with clean lines. The style mixes embellishments, traditional rugs, nature-inspired accessories, and gender-neutral patterns. Keep colors closely related with the occasional burst of color thrown in for good measure. A monochromatic room might feature subtle pops of gray, black, and blush for warmth and contrast.



## Seven Tips for Mixing Interior Styles

Make things equally distributed: Don't segregate different styles in one room. Mix them throughout the space to make it easier on the eye.

# Compact Functionality in Small Spaces

“At its core, my outlook is nourished by the layers of my culture and travels,” says Yasmine Ghoniem, founder and principal of YSG Studio. Yasmine, who has an Australian mother and an Egyptian father, grew up between Kuwait and Saudi Arabia—with a few years in-between in Australia—and almost a decade in America for postgraduate studies and work. “Like all YSG spaces, everything in my home is interconnected and there is no hierarchy.”

After renting a place in another Sydney suburb for some time, Yasmine and her husband Tom Swanson were ready to take the big leap toward home ownership. “Several months of online searching [brought us to] this golden find,” Yasmine says. Situated on a building’s upper level in the city’s iconic oceanside neighborhood of Bondi, the compact, 592-square-foot apartment immediately seduced Tom—who is “a mad surfer,” according to Yasmine—with its beachside location. It didn’t take much more to convince the interior designer, who loved the sensible layout. “It shares no common walls and has no internal corridor, meaning absolutely no space is wasted,” she says. “Tall ceilings were the added kicker. Original timber-framed windows were also a requirement.”

Before the couple moved in, a six-month renovation involved the installation of new architectural cornices and finishes throughout; the design of new kitchen, bedroom, and bathroom joinery; the construction of an L-shaped, built-in banquette in the living room (a piece that has become the nucleus of the home); and repainting everything, including a tile feature in the kitchen and entrance vestibule, among other projects.

“My home is a retreat where feelings speak far louder than the furnishings,” Yasmine says. “It’s not very beachy—no blonde woods and maritime or navy blues, and certainly no all-white palette. It’s a very plump and tactile space that really does invite you to flop into a state of complete relaxation the moment you swing open the front door.”

The kitchen is the couple’s favorite space, but it was also the most challenging area to reimagine for Yasmine. “It was like trying to stuff an elephant into a matchbox,” she says and then smiles. The Womb chair by Saarinen in the living room—Yasmine’s first-ever big purchase, which she made not long after graduating—the Kulchi bedroom runner that Tom purchased when the couple first met, and the framed scarf by New Zealand artist Kushana Bush are some favorites. “The bed’s ’70s-style floral fabric bolsters and the custom-printed fabric Roman blinds in our bedroom are both repurposed from an interior design exhibition I was involved in at the National Gallery of Victoria a few years ago,” Yasmine says. “I created a retro dreamscape domestic installation. It’s really special to be reminded of that honor daily.”

The color palette is fresh and punchy but simultaneously warm and neutral, while soft and hard textures that invite touch adorn every room. Describing their home as their “version of a cabinet of curiosities,” Yasmine integrated custom timber wall shelving next to the kitchen to store mugs, glasses, and trinkets, as well as ceramics and travel souvenirs collected over the years. “There’s no room to reorientate the furniture, so I find myself playing around with the arrangements on this [shelve] instead, adding new ‘family members’ I come across with my bowerbird-like tendencies—an occupational hazard,” she says.

The multilayered decor perfectly matches Yasmine’s design aesthetic. “I don’t feel comfortable in highly curated or over-stylized spaces,” the interior designer confesses. “We’re super okay with worn patinas, crinkles on our banquette’s linen, and

6 scuffs on the painted floorboards. We wanted every room to age gracefully.”



# Inside Emma Chamberlain’s Radiant New Home



Today Architectural Digest is welcomed to Los Angeles by internet sensation Emma Chamberlain for a tour of her deeply personal new home. Designed in collaboration with Ashley Drost and Marie Trohman of Proem Studio, the house deftly mirrors its inhabitant’s chill, laid-back vibe and intriguing sensibility. “I’m a mood board type of girl. I scoured every corner on the internet, every weird, deep hole on Pinterest,” says Emma. “I find inspiration for the home everywhere, the same as fashion. It’s all one in my mind.”