

snug spot

Inviting colours, plush materials and enticing furniture push all the right buttons when it comes to living rooms for lounging

FEATURE Aditi Sharma Maheshwari





‘To select fabrics for furniture upholstery, it’s important to keep in mind the desired texture and feel. Boucle fabrics are a fantastic option for achieving a soft, comfortable sensation, as they offer a lovely texture and a plush feel. Other than that, to ensure maximum comfort, it’s advisable to opt for a mix of wool and cotton sofa upholstery.’

Kashi Shikunova, director at Yam Studios

‘A little texture via a throw can go a long way in making a sofa feel really cosy – a flat, tight weave will fall flat and heavy to the eye, while texture (from a woven linen blend to a thicker boucle) will add some depth, dimension and a feeling of warmth.’

Allison Lind, founder of Allison Lind Interiors

‘Incorporate natural materials, such as wooden accent pieces or decorative baskets made from woven materials, to bring warmth and cosiness to the room.’

Rose Sorkheh, interior designer at The Stylesmiths

INSIDE OUTSIDE

An earthy palette of neutrals, greens and browns can give the living room a feeling of being outdoors. ‘To make this deep olive hue the star of the room I needed to keep the surroundings calm. I chose a neutral wall and rug. Of course, a little pop with the dark olive was imperative and the custom fireplace we designed with the Rosso Lepanto marble added just that perfect touch,’ says Huma Sulaiman, founder of Huma Sulaiman Design.

GET THE LOOK Similar lighting, 1stDibs ➤

PHOTOGRAPH SHADE DEGGS



ROSY SCHEME

Soft pinks can go a long way in creating a cosy oasis that's comforting and flattering. 'The client wanted a laid-back living room with gentle colours, so we used blush, ecru and salmon hues to create this effect,' say Nicole Dohmen and Andrea van Well, founders of Atelier ND. 'To make it not too soft, and personality-filled, we added the wall panel of Pierre Frey fabric and green highlights to give it power.'

GET THE LOOK Sofa, Sofa.com. Pendant light, Georges. Wallpaper, Arte

PHOTOGRAPH URSULA ARMSTRONG



PHOTOGRAPH ANSON SMART

LAYERED COMFORT

By adding soft tones and furnishings, you can create a living room that feels like a hug. 'To elevate the mood, we painted walls a strong buttery green,' say Juliette Arent and Sarah-Jane Pyke, founders of Arent&Pyke. 'By layering antiques and contemporary pieces, mixing lines and curves, and balancing vibrant colours and white, the alchemy of the elements creates a welcoming melting pot.'

GET THE LOOK Utrecht armchairs, Cassina. Chandelier, Anna Charlesworth. Walls in Sedia, Dulux >



LONG STRETCH

Organic shapes, tactile walls, in-built seating and niches contribute to a unique living room that is far from formal, but dipped in familiarity and comfort. 'This house's design is a mix of Japanese and Mediterranean inspirations,' say H  l  ne Pinaud and Julien Schwartzmann, co-founders, Heju. 'The living room, with its white painted floor, is a soothing area. The benches can be transformed into beds as desired.'

GET THE LOOK Cushions, Ligne M  ridienne and Muskhane. Carpet, Nunamae. Walls in SC 240, Ressource



PHOTOGRAPH CHARLIE FORGHAM-BAILEY

GENTLE TOUCH

Pastel rooms prove that dainty decorating with an edge is always in style. 'The colour scheme was underpinned by a neutral backdrop of standard multi-finish plaster that gives the space warmth, alongside the light Douglas Fir floorboards. This provides a sense of the natural, and sits as a textural backdrop to the more synthetic pops of colour,' says Alex Holloway, creative director at Holloway Li.

GET THE LOOK The coffee table is bespoke. Sofa, Goods In ►



SECTIONED OUT

Add a unique partition. 'This vintage Italian divider from Nicholas & Alistair provides an artistic talking point,' says Simone Haag.

GET THE LOOK Architecture by Andrew Simpson Architects. Astep pendant, Fred International. Togo sofa, Ligne Roset. Rug, Halcyon Lake



A WARM GLOW

Create a calm feel with lighting. 'We wanted a tranquil, relaxing atmosphere in this room, so we applied a layered approach to lighting,' say Alexy Kos and Che Huang, founders, Child Studio.

GET THE LOOK Pernilla lounge chair by Bruno Mathsson



SWADDLING STYLE

Bring softness to the living room with long, cascading curtains that reach to the floor. These will not only provide privacy but create an enveloping feeling. 'The framing of the windows with brass hardware and gold curtains anchored the space in the historical context of the home, but feels surprisingly youthful when paired with pink walls,' say Brittney Hart and Justin Capuco, founders of Husband Wife.

GET THE LOOK Curtains in Athena fabric by Lelièvre. Sofas in Mansfield Park fabric by Gretchen Bellinger

PHOTOGRAPHS (SECTIONED OUT) SHANNON MCGRATH; (A WARM GLOW) FELIX SPELLER & CHILD STUDIO; (SWADDLING STYLE) CHRIS MOTTALINI



PHOTOGRAPH BY JOHN DANIEL POWERS

OPEN VIEWS

A place by the window not only opens up views, but also gives the living room a whimsical touch - a perching spot to quiet the mind and rest the body. 'The goal was to replenish the homes' arts and crafts aesthetic tradition, while not creating a historic time-capsule home,' says Patrick Bernatz Ward, an architect and designer at his namesake firm.

GET THE LOOK Adrian Pearsall slate table; antique Tuareg rug, both 1stDibs >



LOOK UP

Ceiling paints not only inject life into a room but can also create a cocooning feeling; as though embraced by design, inspiration and style. 'This was an original dining room that was reimagined as a child-friendly living space and study,' say Dominique Brammah and Shannon Shlom, founders of Duet. 'The stripes add a sense of joy and light-heartedness to the otherwise formal proportions of the room.'

GET THE LOOK Ceiling in Autumn Orange, Dulux. Sofa and rug, Duet

PHOTOGRAPH ANSON SMART