

Breathing Life Into Your Home Décor With Texture

Adding texture is an easy and effective way to elevate your home décor, transforming from a one-dimensional space into a more dynamic, inviting atmosphere. So, how can you incorporate texture into your home décor?

- Natural materials, such as stone, houseplants, and wood (e.g., bamboo Roman shades and woven baskets).
- Textiles, such as tapestries, velvet accent pillows, knit throws, and area rugs.
- Textured wall treatments, like wallpaper, brick, shiplap, board and batten, crown moulding, or larger window casings.
- Lighting fixtures with textured finishes such as fabric, metal, or paper.
- Textured art, like sculptures or paintings with visible finishes, rather than prints.
- Mirrors. The texture of their frames can evoke elegance and warmth, and the reflection they provide helps create visual depth.



Layer textures for contrast, such as pairing velvet and brass or soft linen with leather, and use elements of texture in different sizes for balance. Finally, to best accentuate your texture elements, use soft lighting.



Peel-and-Stick vs. Traditional Wallpaper

If you are looking to refresh a room and introduce personality and detail, wallpaper is an excellent option. However, deciding between peel-and-stick or traditional wallpaper depends on key factors such as budget, design goals, and installation preferences.

Peel-and-stick is an increasingly popular choice, particularly if you plan on DIYing it. It's basically just a sticker you stick to the wall, and it doesn't require additional materials or mess to install. It's also easy to remove and repair. It can, however, peel over time and has a lifespan of approximately 5 years.

Traditional wallpaper is generally considered the more durable and long-lasting option with a typical lifespan of 10 to 15 years. Installation is more complex and usually requires specific materials, so you may want to consider hiring a professional. It offers a broader selection of colours, textures, and patterns than peel-and-stick, and is more durable against moisture, so it's less likely to trap humidity or harbour mould behind it, making it more suitable for kitchens, bathrooms, and laundry rooms. However, traditional wallpaper can be a deal-breaker if potential homebuyers don't like it, given how labour-intensive it can be to remove.

Beyond Walls: Creative Ways to Divide Rooms

Interior design trends are shifting away from open concept layouts and returning to more defined functional spaces. For smaller, multi-use spaces, creative room dividers are a stylish and practical solution. Here are some innovative ideas:

- Folding screens are available in materials like metal, wood, fabric, and mirrors. They are portable, versatile, and easy to store.
- Bookcases or cubbies, with an open back to let light filter through or a closed back for more privacy.
- Sliding panels, like barn doors, are ideal for small spaces because the door doesn't need space to swing open.
- Traditional curtains, or for a biophilic or boho style, a macrame divider, or beaded curtains.
- Frosted glass partitions for a modern aesthetic, which filter light and still provide privacy.
- Wooden slats, which are available in various sizes, stains, finishes, and grains.

With a little creativity, you can transform any open space into a multi-functional area that fits your style and needs.

