

THE

GREAT BRITISH HOMES FROM CHEWTON ROSE | AUTUMN/WINTER 2014



PLACE



CHEWTON ROSE



LIVING
INTERIORS
INSPIRATION AND
ADVICE FROM THE
DESIGN EXPERTS

HOW TO CREATE YOUR
PERFECT BEDROOM

FOOD & DRINK
NEWS, REVIEWS,
INTERVIEWS... AND THE
CHEWTON ROSE MARTINI

PROPERTY
76 PAGES OF GREAT BRITISH HOMES

MOVE ON UP

Find your dream home inside

Sweet

Make your bedroom the ultimate personal haven

DREAMS

THE PERFECT BEDROOM has many interpretations. For some, it is a cocoon, decorated in deep, sensuous colours and swathed in touch-me textures. For others, it's a simple space, bathed in chalky pastels and early-morning light. But, however it is styled, one factor remains constant: it is an inherently personal space.

'Dining rooms used to be where people pushed the boundaries, but the bedroom is where clients are more adventurous now,' explains interior designer Louis Henri (www.louishenri.com). 'It's your own personal space, so you can afford to indulge in a little bit of fantasy.'

Louis loves fabric walls, for example: 'They can make a bedroom feel like a jewellery box,' he says. 'A place that is very safe and secure. I have heard that mentioned in a bedroom brief many times.' Meanwhile, for Anita Kohn of Living in Space (www.living-in-space.co.uk), comfort is a priority. 'Tranquil, calm, comfortable, luxurious and peaceful – these are the words I hear again and again from my clients,' she says. (You can see more of Anita's work on pages 20-21.)

The bedroom is also a place where fashion is less important. 'I think a bedroom should be designed in a timeless way, which lessens the anxiety of following particular trends,' says designer Irina Townsend (www.keirtownsend.com). But there are still endless design possibilities.

In a contemporary home, you could dispense with a headboard and hang a huge artwork behind the bed; a stencilled mural or blocks of painted colour create a similar effect. In an industrial setting, or a

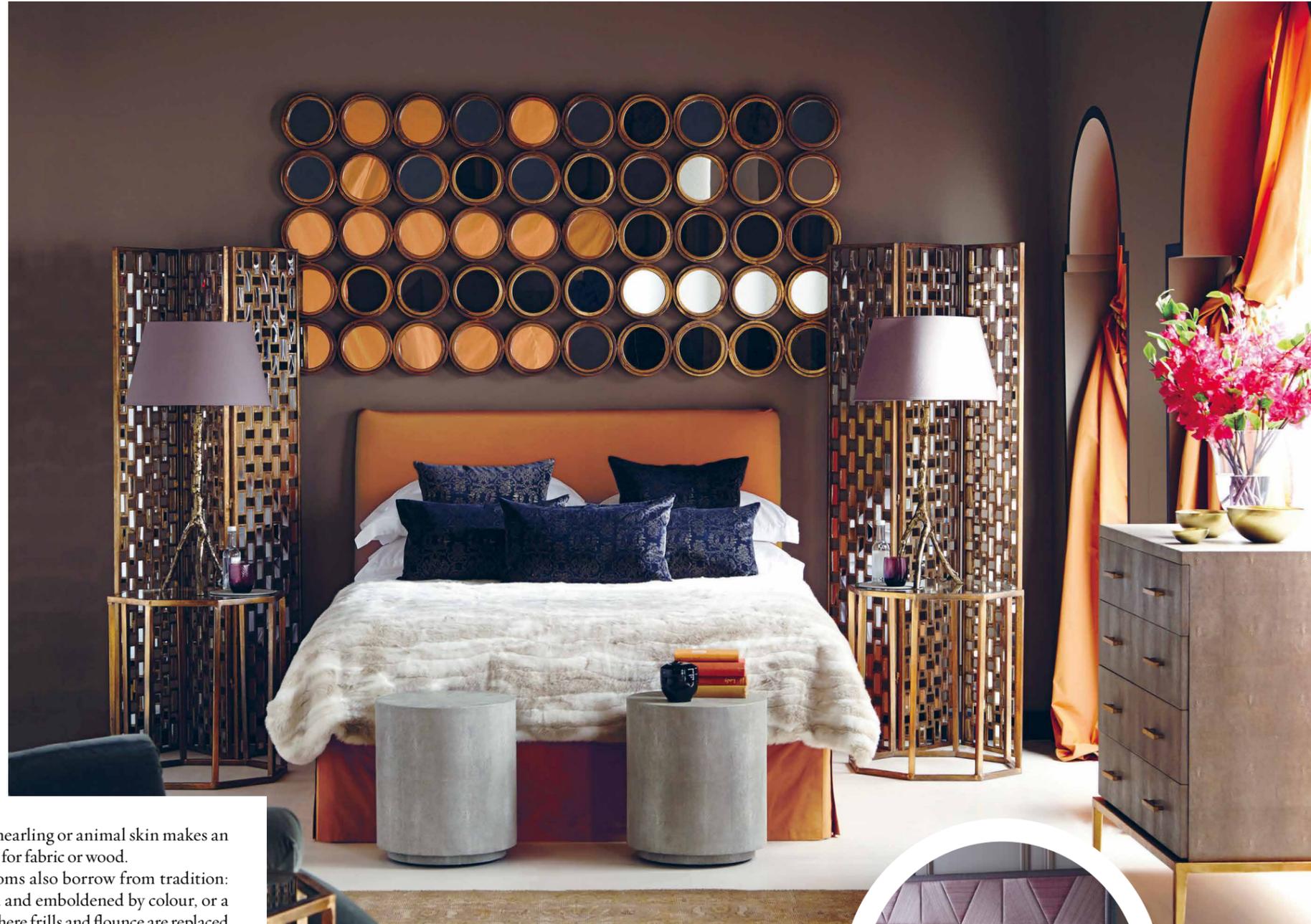


room with lots of glass, leather, shearling or animal skin makes an effective, and tactile, replacement for fabric or wood.

The best contemporary bedrooms also borrow from tradition: a buttoned headboard, oversized and emboldened by colour, or a modern take on the canopy bed, where frills and flounce are replaced by simple, draped fabric panels.

In a rural home or a Victorian town house, a more relaxed approach is appropriate – print-clashed fabrics produce a modern spin on bohemian style, with cushions, feather eiderdowns and luxe wallpapered walls. A quirky printed fabric can elevate the simplest headboard into another dimension, while antique French bedsteads never lose their appeal.

It is also possible to think entirely outside the box when designing a bedroom – Living in Space upcycled a beautiful antique mirror

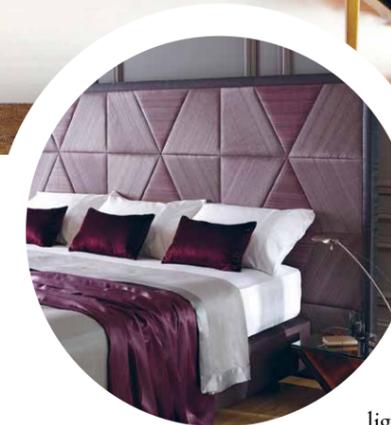


CLOCKWISE FROM MAIN IMAGE: OKA blends opulent and exotic in this glitzy bedroom (www.okadirect.com); an oversized headboard from Vispring creates a unique bed; Keir Townsend contrasts a subtle colour palette with luxurious textures; sleek lines star in the new Rococo bedroom collection from Crown Imperial (www.crown-imperial.co.uk); Gingerlily's elegant raspberry Leaves silk bed linen

frame, custom-creating a unique upholstered bedstead that provided plenty of wow in what was a relatively modest-sized bedroom.

All three of our designers believe that custom-created furniture is essential. 'Custom-built furniture is usually our preferred choice, because we can incorporate lighting and storage,' says Anita. Louis agrees: 'Everything we do is custom-built because it allows us to play with the scale of the furniture, and we can build in special features – like a hairdryer socket built into the bedside table, or a lined drawer that contains an iPad charging socket.'

Irina also asks her clients to select the very best mattress they can afford. 'This is the one single factor that determines whether a bedroom is truly comfortable,' she explains. Usefully, Occa By Hypnos now offers a bespoke mattress design service that includes longer, wider or specially shaped mattresses (www.occa-home.co.uk). And Vispring has created the Majesty mattress – hand-filled with a blend of real Shetland wool, long-stranded horsetail, cashmere and silk. Combined with the President divan base and Berkeley headboard, this trio is available exclusively from Harrods at £80,000 (www.vispring.co.uk).



Lighting is also key – particularly in a decorating scheme with rich colours and textures that absorb light. 'There should be ambient, focused and feature lighting,' says Irina, while Louis

points out that you should never be

able to see a light bulb or light source in a bedroom.

Finally, your dreams will be sweetest when you invest in luxury bed linen. White sheets with a high thread count never lose their charm. But while top-quality Egyptian cotton is a classic choice, silk is singularly special. The duvets and bed linen from Gingerlily (www.gingerlily.co.uk) are made from A-grade mulberry silk: they keep you warm in winter while drawing heat away from the body in summer. Silk bed linen also has health and beauty benefits: it helps to retain moisture in your skin, minimising wrinkles as you sleep, and reduces hair static. Now, that's what we call a sublime sleeping experience.