

SUMMER INSPIRATION

Cool blues

Want something subtler? Team faded sky blues with sun-bleached neutrals for simple elegance

Stylist Robin says,

“With its washed-out blues and soft creams, this is a wonderfully calming scheme that is perfect for living rooms and bedrooms. The first step is to paint the walls summer-sky blue and lay a cream carpet – add a large rug to draw the eye to the centre of the room. Choose furniture in pale colours that look as if they’ve been bleached by the sun – these creams and buttermilks are softer than pure white and won’t show up marks as much. With such a muted colour scheme, you can have fun with prints and accessories. Play up the room’s summer-garden feel with a pretty tree and bird print on the cushions and curtains, and add a statement armchair in classic stripes – just stick to the same colour palette throughout to avoid a clash. Complete the look with outdoor-inspired accessories, such as pretty picnicware, pitchers and hanging votive jars.”



Perth chair in Maxwell Willow, £600, Laura Ashley



Theme your room

This room’s garden feel started with the bird and tree-print fabric used on the curtains, and continued through to the accessories. Take inspiration from your own garden and arrange a pitcher of meadow flowers alongside bird ornaments and hanging votive holders. You could even look to the potting shed – an unpainted peg rail and rustic string holder are part of this display.

FIND ALL THE DETAILS

FURNITURE AND DECORATION Walls painted in Inky Pool 6, £19.49 for 2.5ltr, Dulux. Wool Ventus carpet in Gilma, £46.65 per sq m, Alternative Flooring. Malmaison rug, £300; curtains made in Holbeck Willow, £25 per m; both Laura Ashley. Chichester coffee table in Limestone, £475; Chichester mirror in Limestone, £295; both Neptune Classics range, John Lewis. Cambridge chair in Linen, £650; Perth (striped) chair in Maxwell Willow, £600, both Laura Ashley. Peg rail, from £30, Heal’s. Frames, £16 each, Lombok. For similar canvas, try the selection at Pimpernel & Partners. **ON SOFA** Cushions made in Holbeck Willow, £25 per m, Laura Ashley. **ON ARMCHAIR** Cushion made in Mylor Willow, £22 per m; throw, £60; both Laura Ashley. **ON COFFEE TABLE** Bowl, £50, Sage. Glasses and carrier, £25, Garden Trading. Bottle, £6, Roost. Baskets, £16 each, Lombok. Jug (used as vase), £4.50, IKEA. Box, £19, Roost. **ON CONSOLE** Tray, £15, Roost. Candle, £15; string spool, £25; tealights, £3.50; all I Gigi. Bird, £8, Roost. For similar jug, try The Contemporary Home’s jug, £12.99. **ON PEG RAIL** Votive holders, £4.50 each, Garden Trading

For where to buy items shown, turn to page 200

Buy the look...



Summertime blues
Pile up tactile silk cushions in sun-faded blues
Cushion, £20, Heal’s



Bird on a wire
A little bird told us about this cute cage candleholder
Birdcage candleholder, £49, Roost

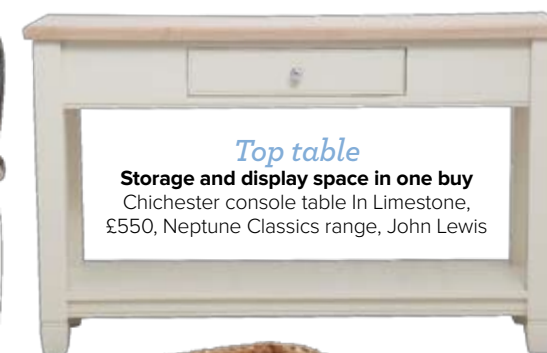


Classic shape
This elegant scroll-arm sofa will outlast fads and fashions
Hertford two-seater sofa in Edwin Natural, £1,000, Laura Ashley

CLASSIC BUY



Gentle glow
Hang a vintage-style tealight holder
Votive, £4.50, Garden Trading



Top table
Storage and display space in one buy
Chichester console table in Limestone, £550, Neptune Classics range, John Lewis



Handy basket
Introduce natural colour and texture
Magazine basket, £40, Laura Ashley



MOODBOARD 7

Get The Look

COOL BLUES
FROM TOP Mylor Willow fabric, £22 per m; Holbeck Willow fabric, £25 per m; both Laura Ashley. Inky Pool 6 paint, £19.49 for 2.5ltr, Dulux. Carpet, £46.65 per sq m, Alternative Flooring
See page 100 for more gorgeous moodboards

FEATURE AND STYLING ROBIN COLLINGWOOD
PHOTOGRAPHS SIMON SCARBORO