



The Bianca range from Maskreys – high-gloss white lacquer is accented with red leather chairs

The coloured glass and curves of these light fittings from Momentum epitomise the look of the season



Fall into autumn

Revamp your home this autumn with bursts of colour and bold accents, says interior design consultant and star of DIY SOS, Deborah Drew

With the brindled advance of autumn upon us and winter waiting in the wings, the dismal summer can now be forgotten. We can instead look forward to the leaf-swirling blue skies of October and November followed by salmon and turquoise dusks. And what a better time, to inject a bit of colour and sophistication into our homes, than when the nights get that little bit darker earlier and the days get that little bit crisper. After all, we may be looking at those four walls a little more than we had hoped.

The overall look for autumn 2008 is a real mix. While furniture is much more angular and masculine, the overall look is surprisingly elegant. Structural finesse is of the moment; look for simple details in the design if you are buying furniture, with an almost invisible framework. Solid and chunky has had its day – designers are now concentrating on the function and form of our furniture and are working even harder at concealing the practical elements into the

designs. Choose neutral greys or fawns in muted linen mixes scattered with cushions detailing silvers and bronze threads accordingly. Axel sofas (as below), which display this trend perfectly, were showcased in Milan last month are now available from Momentum in the city centre.

With less emphasis on texture this year, metal accessories are still forging ahead in popularity, replacing the neutral textural explosion we have witnessed in recent years. High gloss, mirrored and reflective surfaces add extra depth to any scheme, and although the look maybe isn't as soft, it is arguably a cleaner style, possibly even more mature and simplistic.

This season's look however, is not necessarily one of minimalism. Accessories add further dimension as well as warmth to a scheme, and they create an opportunity

to introduce bold contradictory accents of colour, pattern and form to make a real design statement.

Add choice accessories and personal effects for the final look and remember while less may not be more right now, quality and elegance are still key.

Bolder tones such as tangerine, green, and cerise are the accent favourites this autumn as seen in the 'Lotus' chairs available from Momentum.

The Bianca range from Maskreys highlights the look for Autumn dining – simple colour combinations of white furniture coordinated with striking chairs. And, who could resist waking up to the serene charm of their

“Bolder tones such as tangerine, green and cerise are accent favourites”

Hulsta pure white range – the definitive look for bedrooms right now.

For those who prefer a more opulent allure then look no further than Designers Guild's new collection of silks, velvets and flock wallpapers, the designs of which are inspired by the royal residences of Buckingham Palace and Windsor Castle. Add glints of glamour with your accessories to indulge your senses.

For the more contemporary scheme, think Mondrian elements complimented by natural organic form. The simple modular





Brighten up clean lines and colours with injections of autumnal green with these contemporary wall stickers from Maskreys



Even the simple addition of striped carpets (from Maskreys) can transform a room

units we all know so well are moving into new territory introducing either colour or broken symmetry to create further interest as seen by the Sistema range by Studio Cappellini from Momentum and the Influence and Aspen ranges from habitat. Complement the angles of modular units with the curves of natural organic form to redress the masculine and feminine balance within your scheme.

For lighting, think coloured glass and sculptural statement pieces. Striped carpets are also increasing in popularity as seen by the Mississippi range of colours at Maskreys this season.

This season is all about brightening up the grey – whether that be with a print wallpaper, a statement bold chair or even a colourful carpet. So, don't get glum this autumn, get creative. □

For more inspiration this season from Deborah visit www.dddesigns.co.uk

Suggested suppliers:

- Momentum, 31 Charles Street, Cardiff
tel: 02920 236266
- Maskreys, 116-120 Whitchurch Road, Cardiff
tel: 02920 229371
- habitat, 9-11 The Hayes, Cardiff
tel: 02920 228811
- No 81 Interiors, 81 High Street, Cowbridge
tel: 01446 771581
- Chicos Lifestyle Furniture, Penarth Rd, Cardiff
tel: 02920 383865



Momentum have got the autumn palette just right with cool clean greys, to warmer sandstones, lifted with vibrant colours and patterns