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INTERIOR DESIGN



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*8 Modern
Living Room Ideas
That Are so 2023*

*6 Kitchen Floor
Ideas That Are
Tasteful and practical*

*Next Year's Paint Trends
Are Looking a Lot Like
Barbenheimer, Sherwin
Williams Predicts*

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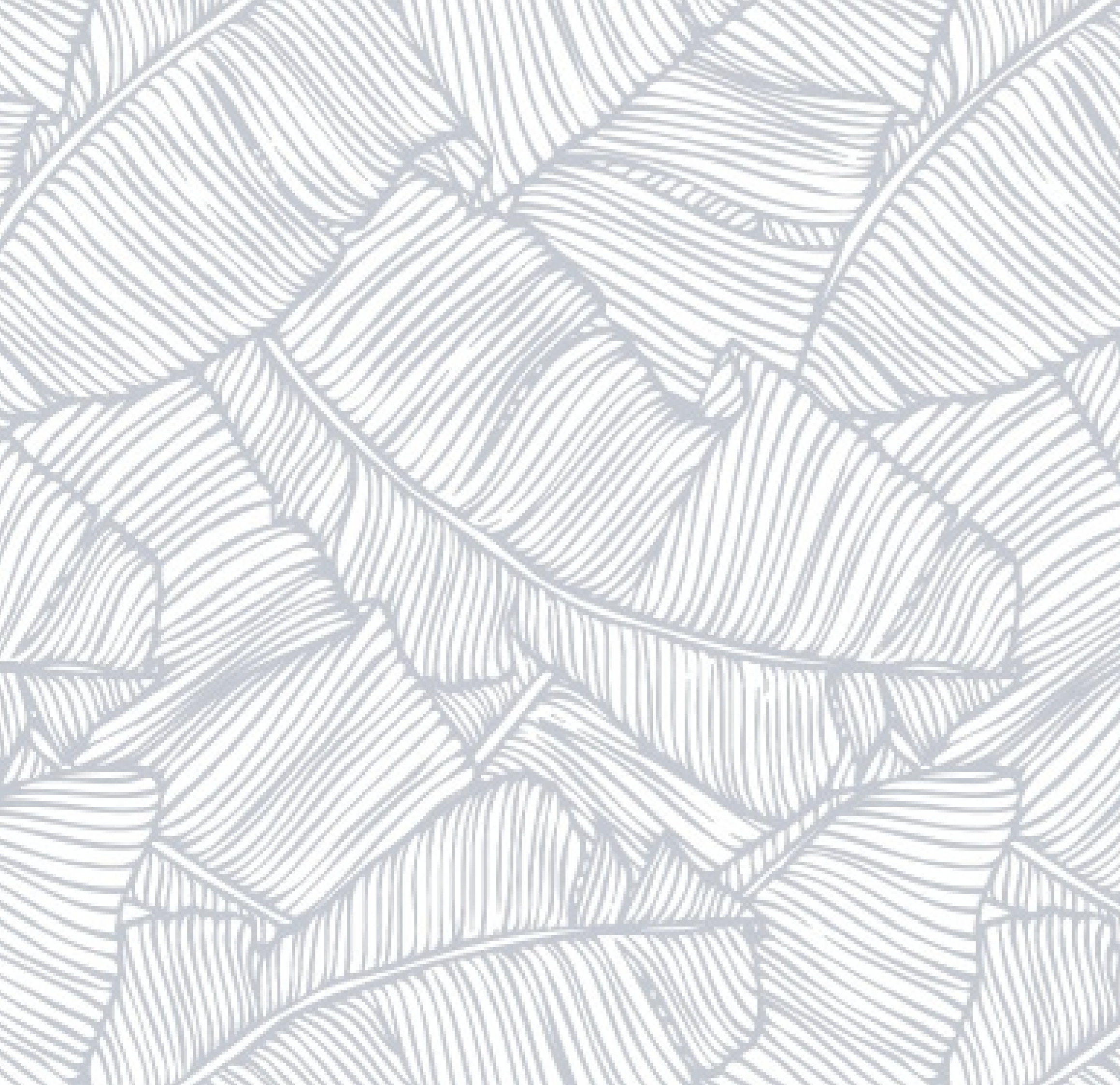


CONTACT

+62 817 551 414
info@mhllt.com

LOCATION

Jl. Gn. Tangkuban Perahu
No.303, Padangsambian
Klod, Denpasar Bar.,
Kabupaten Badung, Bali
80117



**WHAT'S
INSIDE?**

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That Are So 2023

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Are Tasteful AND Practical

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8 MODERN LIVING ROOM IDEAS THAT ARE SO 2023

The term modern can mean so many things, and if you think about it, so can a living room. In this day and age, open-floor plans inhabit the space that smaller, self-defined rooms once did, housing living rooms that serve many functions. Here, you read your books, watch your Netflix, eat your meals, entertain your guests...you live. And such modes of living modern life require a similarly multifaceted design scheme.

Admittedly, a living room and the modern aesthetic don't seem like a particularly compatible duo. As Cochineal Design principal and cofounder Sarah Sargeant points out, simply hearing about a modern living room might conjure a look that's "sterile, austere, and one-note." But in reality? Modern living rooms can deftly bridge the gap between the welcoming and well appointed. "Modernity has a streamlined tone that balances historic forms with a fresh sensibility," New York-based designer Augusta Hoffman explains.

In fact, a modern look can mean incorporating anything from minimal to midcentury, natty to neutral, chrome to concrete. But where to start when you want to find your own version of modern? "I think that the most successful modern spaces find beauty in practicality, while using rich materials to soften the minimalism," Hoffman adds. Sargeant agrees. "For us, modern means it achieves lifestyle needs while also being minimal leaning," she tells us. "We believe mixing time periods, tones, and textures can achieve a current look." In 2023, Sargeant says, the secret to achieving a modern living room is "taking environmental, ecological, and longevity factors into account." In other words, using locally sourced materials, working with nearby vendors, and minimizing climate impacts by reusing and buying vintage will help your living room transition nicely into the new year.

Christopher stark



1

BOLD SILHOUETTES

Modern design needn't be confined to right angles alone. In a sitting area of this California retreat, designed by Noz Nozawa, the asymmetry of the room is enhanced by a Casey McCafferty cocktail table that looks like it could come alive at any moment. The curvy rug underneath it by François Dumas further enlivens the room—both tonally and texturally—encouraging informal living that is as refined as it is comfortable.



Christopher Stark



Nicole Franzen

2

Industrial Interest

Modernity lives in any time period. What is central to the concept is invention. In this Connecticut beach house, Amanda Jesse and Whitney Parris-Lamb looked to the industrial revolution to pinpoint their definition of modern. The presence of metal and concrete, plus the brightness of the space, allows for earthy, muted tones to take precedence in the furnishings. It's a perfect opportunity to work with a carpenter like Jacob May (who designed the dining table to the left) or Palo Samko (who made the dining chairs).



Tim Lenz

3

MIDCENTURY MODERN ROMANCE

In the modern home not every space has a single, distinct use. Sometimes one must choose between a dining area over a living room—or vice versa. When space is limited, make miniature modern living rooms out of unused corners, like Augusta Hoffman did here in her elegant New York City apartment.

4

BOLD TONES AND GRAPHIC PRINTS

In the same way that a gray scale can evoke the silent films of the past, so can bold colors and graphic prints root you in the present moment. In the living room of a Manhattan townhouse, designer Danielle Colding brought in a royal blue biomorphic sofa and graphic upholstered armchairs that banish any thoughts of the old and fuddy-duddy.



Kelly Marshall

5

THE OLD MEETS THE NEW

One colossal statement to modernity can steer a room down a forward moving path. In the living room of a West Hollywood pied-à-terre, Andre Herrero of Charlap Hyman & Herrero constructed a steel double-height fireplace with a hidden compartment for the client's TV. The material evokes spaceships and factories—symbols of the modern day. Contemporary art, like the eyeball-shaped sculpture by Olivia Erlanger, hanging across from the fireplace, does its part to keep things fresh too. In this environment, choice antiques can make sense as well, when balanced by contemporary elements.



Chris Mottallini



Frank Frances Studio

6

TREASURE-FILLED LIVING ROOM

Anyone can make a sleek living room appear warm and welcoming—all it takes are some thoughtful accessories. In this Brooklyn townhouse, Ishka Designs packed on the charm with intriguing ceramics and eye-catching artwork. The result? A living room that hits that sweet spot between luxe and lived-in.



Stephen Kent Johnson

8

HEIGHT-DEFIANT LIVING ROOM

If James Williams and Jonno Burden's living room is any indication, the only way to go really is up. The duo accented their 30-foot-tall ceiling with two clusters of custom light pendants, drawing the eye upward and creating a light, airy space in the process.

7

SHAPE-SHIFTING LIVING ROOM

Move over, boxy armchairs and rectangular sofas: Furniture with an atypical silhouette is a surefire way to give those living room essentials some visual intrigue. The design duo at Ashe Leandro spruced up a Park Avenue pad with a curvy lounge chair from Move Mountains as well as a bulbous custom sofa that's upholstered in Rose Uniacke wool.



Yoshihiro Makino



6 KITCHEN FLOOR IDEAS THAT ARE TASTEFUL AND PRACTICAL

There are few rooms that can excite the senses like the kitchen, and few features spice up a cooking space like an amazing kitchen floor. Of course, your chosen surface (as with your backsplash, counters, and kitchen island) must stand up to repeated foot traffic and the occasional mess, but it also presents an opportunity for showstopping design.

But where do you even begin? According to San Francisco–based designer Noz Nozawa, you should consider what kind of space you’re working with. “The first factor is where the kitchen lives in your home,” she says. “Is it part of an open-concept great room, where there will be a very visible flooring transition between kitchen and living space? Is the kitchen in its own room? Then the balance of style versus utility really comes down to the people who live there!”

If you’re a person who prioritizes easy clean-up, for instance, consider forgiving surfaces like porcelain tile. If you’re craving a rustic farmhouse look (and don’t mind scrubbing grout), consider gorgeous terra-cotta tiles. “As ubiquitous as they are, I absolutely love hardwood floors in a kitchen. There’s something very warm and easy about them,” Nozawa adds. “But I also love large-format tiles where there are fewer grout lines to keep up with.” The upshot? You do you. “Don’t let fear of water damage or spills influence your kitchen flooring choices!” the designer insists. “As someone whose dishwasher has absolutely flooded my kitchen before, I get it, but try instead to make design choices based on the best life you can dream of for your kitchen space.”

William Abranowicz



Christoper Stark

1

DARK WOOD KITCHEN FLOORS

This Bay Area kitchen is blessed with sky-high ceilings (not to mention towering redwoods within view outside) and Nozawa accentuated the height via white walls, cabinets, and ceilings but kept the look grounded with chocolate-y timber floors. “There’s something very warm and easy about them,” she tells ELLE DECOR of wood floors. Bonus: The vintage rugs add an additional dash of color.

2

QUARTZITE FLOORS

The creative challenge for this Parisian apartment designed by architect Elliott Barnes was to use a single material throughout the home. Barnes selected Vals quartzite, a durable and luxurious stone for all of the home’s floors, including here in the kitchen where their smoky hue is in perfect contrast to stainless steel cabinets.



Billal Taright

3

GLAZED TERRA-COTTA TILE FLOORS

The kitchen in this Spanish-style home, the residence of design-world insiders Joe Lucas and David Heikka, features charming glazed terra-cotta floors that were original to the house. The couple opted to keep them and simply douse the cabinets in a complementary bright blue.



Karyn Millet



Kelly Marshall

4

STONE TILE FLOORS

You can't get much sleeker than this minimalist kitchen in the Los Angeles home of Mara Brock Akil. ELLE DECOR A-List designer Tiffany Howell opted to keep the existing cool gray stone tile floor, a move that matches the twin stainless-steel islands and Arabescato marble walls.



Matthew Williams

5

PARQUET KITCHEN FLOORS

Planks feel plain? Opt for a parquet pattern—as shown in the Brooklyn home of Mars Hobrecker and Coco Romack—which achieves a similar visual effect as tile but without all of those pesky grout lines.

6

BLUE MARBLE FLOORS

You'd never guess that this petite kitchen used to be a retro bathroom clad entirely in blue marble. Rather than ripping out the material, L'Objet founder Elad Yifrach embraced it, creating a one-of-a-kind look that now ranks among our favorites in ELLE DECOR kitchen history.



Daniel Schafer

NEXT YEAR'S PAINT TRENDS ARE LOOKING A LOT LIKE BARBENHEIMER, SHERWIN-WILLIAMS PREDICTS

The color gods have spoken. Sherwin-Williams has released its long-awaited 2024 Colormix Forecast, a collection of four palettes made up of 48 colors that tap into the pulse of global events, design, and pop-culture trends. This year, the chosen colors are a high-contrast series of vibrant pinks and moody blacks that tap into our current mindset in a very real way.

The Cleveland-based paint powerhouse's forecast—based on micro and macro trends as varied as political campaigns and what's hitting the box office—is riding on the heels of the oh-so-present Barbenheimer internet phenomenon, a series of pink-and-black jokes, memes, and mashup pairings that are circulating social media and becoming more than just a Hollywood moment. It's a mood. A vibe. And, if Sherwin-Williams's crystal ball is accurate, a cue for forthcoming design trends.

“This Barbie pop-culture moment is not showing any signs of slowing down, and in the color direction too the temperature is really warming up,” Sue Wadden, the color marketing director at Sherwin-Williams, tells ELLE DECOR. “But at the same time, the world is in a bit of turmoil, politically and economically, and when that happens at a macro level, tones in design darken. Color is becoming a big part of this dualistic conversation.”

This year, the paint company is doing things a little differently, releasing a biennial forecast comprised of more colors for more big-picture thinking. This forecast type will be released every other year, alternating with the regular forecast. “It's more of a guide,” Wadden explains “I wanted to take a step back and think about what we really want to talk about, and that's pure color. So we broke the stories down into color families. And I think that will tell a better story to designers.”

Read on for the paint palettes that will be everywhere in 2024.



1

RED, BERRY, AND PINK

This bright office area, drenched in Sherwin-Williams's no-holds-barred Dragon Fruit, is equally happy and sophisticated. The complete forecast features a display of nostalgic hues—from sultry red tones to fizzy magentas and berry-colored purples. “There has been a lot of discussion about how we’re using these warm colors to present ourselves to the world,” Wadden explains. Reds, too, are seeing a long-awaited resurgence in the collection. “We haven’t seen red be an important color family since the ‘90s, and we’re here for it,” Wadden adds.



Sherwin Williams



Sherwin Williams

2

BARELY THERE TINTS

Awash in Sherwin-Williams's Skyline Steel, this nook shows off the charm of a tastefully tinted neutral. Another palette features a lineup of airy off-whites and soft tints that are balanced by warm and cool undertones. Think gray-tinted ivories, stone-colored white, or an understated green-gray silver. “We need to break from white so that’s where this palette comes in, a spectrum of delicate white tints that can be accentuated with texture for a sophisticated look,” Wadden says. “We believe that these tinted neutrals are going to be strong throughout the rest of this decade.”



Sherwin Williams

3

DEEP, DEEP, DARKS

This dining room, backdropped by the paint company's Tricorn Black, is elevated by its bold, moody base. The remainder of the collection—what Wadden calls “a gathering of dramatic deeps and darks”—takes a marked 180-degree tonal shift. “Next year is going to be a political year, especially in North America, where it's anybody's guess what will happen,” Wadden explains. “And when that happens at a macro level, colors darken.” The palette contains a range of anchored dark colors like bottomless blacks, rich saturated greens, and varying browns (one is literally called Rock Bottom).

4

BLUES AND GREENS

Its sister palette is a fusion of blues and greens that feel as evergreen as the colors themselves. “For the first four years coming out of the pandemic, everybody forecast green,” Wadden explains. “And that's going to continue, but in light of massive water conservation efforts and climate-change awareness, blue will emerge as the color of choice come 2025.” This palette features everything from natural gray-blues to invigorating teals, a color story that the paint company predicts we'll see emerge from this trend.

“These palettes express the yin and yang of color,” Wadden explains. “We've got all this warmth and energy in one palette, and maybe we need something starkly different to harmonize with that.”



Sherwin Williams

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