



Expert Advice

Jayne Everard, Mix'n'Match Interiors:
'Decorating a room can be a very daunting task. There are so many decisions to be made and the pressure of getting everything right first time can be a burden. Think about the style you hope to achieve in the room, whether it's classic, contemporary, traditional or other. The size of the room usually determines how much pattern you can introduce. Smaller rooms will only take a little pattern mixed up with some plains whereas larger spacious rooms can take a lot of pattern.
The colour scheme in a living room varies from person to person. Warm colour schemes are most popular but some people prefer a more subtle neutral scheme. There is no right or wrong colour scheme in a room. It's purely down to your own personal taste. If I were to stamp my own particular taste on rooms around the country there would be a serious case of flower power everywhere. I just love traditional floral prints! Everyone is different, that's what makes my job so exciting and challenging. I will help you find your own taste and style and steer any ideas you might have in the right direction and get it right first time.
Once the style and colour scheme are loosely chosen, next to think about is your suite of furniture and curtains or blinds (or both). Think if you would like to have pattern on the curtains and a complementary pattern on the suite (the room size can help determine this), or pattern on one and a plain on the other. The safest option would be pattern on the curtains with a plain suite. The suite will get more wear and tear than the curtains and can be easily changed or reupholstered. To change the curtains can be a more expensive task. It is also nice to make the window dressings a feature in a room, especially if the window is an unusual shape. Enhance that shape and make it stand out. Look at lots of fabric samples until the one for you jumps out at you.
You'll be glad to know the most difficult tasks are over and done with. Next is the carpet and paint colour. The carpet / wood colour will be determined by the curtains or suite colour. The paint colour will be determined by the curtain fabric. The curtains must sit happily with the paint colour as they are right on top of each other. Scatter a few complementary patterned and plain cushions on the suite, add a few accessories and a console table to hold a lamp.
That's basically it, but again it depends on your taste. Your taste is what makes you individual so let your room be a reflection of your character. Other options can include a painted or wallpapered feature wall, a floor rug, table lamps, standing lamp, coffee table and a few pictures. Don't overkill the room with pictures, keep them subtle. Don't be afraid to call in the experts. We are here to help. We manufacture all the soft furnishings ourselves and you can find our thousands of fabrics in our showroom.'



4 The Rais Q20 available from **Mourne Fires**. A brand new stunning design with the ultimate functionality. Its superb looks are enhanced by a large window, surrounding the fire on three sides. There's an optional 360° rotating base which means you can view the fire from any angle and the Q20 can also be enhanced with integrated heat-accumulating stones for heat storage. Price on request. **5** Mercer leather corner group sofa by Bassett. Available in a range of colours. Available from **Hanna & Browne** Lisburn, Bangor & Newtownards and **Lisnasure Interiors**. Price on request.



1 The Kansai range by Prestigious available from **Mix'n'Match Interiors**. Price on request. Fabric and make-up service also available. **2** The Cathedral range of Victorian flooring available in store and online from **Armatile**. Price on request. **3** From **Clive Christian** is this panelled music room in yew antique lustre with niche alcoves and fireplace, empire club chairs in black velvet and 1872 'rose demai' rug. Prices on request.