

Bed, bath, beyond

The 10 cool home trends to watch, including outdoor beds & wild rugs

By ELIZABETH WINE

WHEN it comes to today's home design, more is more. So say interior design gurus Karen Singh, a designer and market editor of Interior Design magazine, and Benjamin Noriega-Ortiz, whose

work has appeared in magazines, on TV and in homes from Park Avenue to Miami. Whether it's the bedroom, the bathroom or even outdoors, this is a season to be over-the-top.

Here Singh and Noriega-Ortiz talk bold wallpaper patterns, ornate lighting and eight other trends.



1 OUTDOOR FURNITURE THAT CAN GO INSIDE TOO

These days, people want an outdoor space as well-designed as their indoor one, which means utilizing stronger, water-resistant outdoor fabrics. But this isn't your grandmother's stiff, scratchy patio furniture; the newest fabrics are softer than you remember.

Take Sunbrella. Developed for patio umbrellas, the fabric, used with soft foam padding that can be left in the elements without breaking down, beautifully covers chairs and sofas. The combo makes for furniture soft enough for a living room — and that's exactly where many of Noriega-Ortiz's clients use them. The material is also stain-resistant, more important in recent years than ever before.

"Now that kids dominate the house, you have to make the house kid-friendly," says Noriega-Ortiz.

The Corsica Lounging Collection (pictured), with teak frames and real-looking synthetic wicker, from Smith & Hawken is a favorite.

"It's light and airy," he says.

394 West Broadway; (212) 925-1190.



2 A RESURGENCE IN SCANDINAVIAN DESIGN

Many don't know that Scandinavian design does not equal IKEA alone.

"There are embellished forms in Scandinavian design," Singh says. "There's a sort of richness happening, more play with proportions and pulling the geometric forms into distorted shapes. It's not all clean and strict and minimal."

For example, there's Hans Wagner, a Danish designer whose work (his Circle chair is pictured above) is being reintroduced by Brayton International.

Look for the Circle or Valet chairs at either Dennis Miller Associates at 200 Lexington Ave., Suite 1510; (212) 684-0070, or Scandinavian Design, 347 Fifth Ave., Suite 1000; (212) 213-0000.

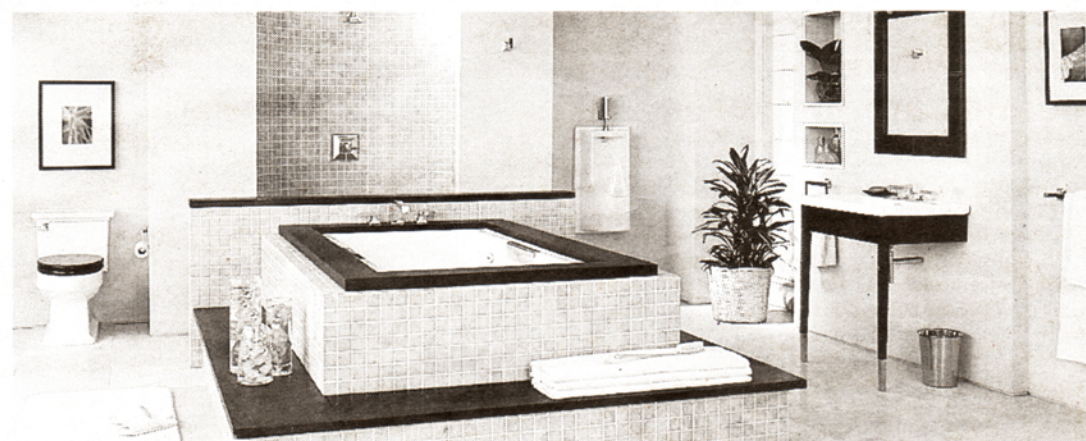


3 NEO-BAROQUE LIGHTING

After several years of minimalism, the lighting world is getting playful with lots of ornamentation, says Singh. In the past, fixtures were white or stainless-steel, slim and elegant. But now lighting designers have let their hair down.

"There's a return to chandelier frills and a little bit of baroque, even if it's done in a modern sense," Singh says. She cites the Baroque chandelier from Spark Lighting and the Bourgie lamp from Kartell (pictured), which is made by injecting polyurethane into a mold to create a solid piece of clear whimsy.

Kartell, 39 Greene St., (212) 966-6665. Spark Lighting sells through MSK Illuminations, 235 E. 57th St., (212) 888-6474.



4 URINALS COME HOME

What's good in a restaurant is great at home, at least when it comes to the potty. Manufacturers have made strides in urinal design, namely by streamlining it.

"I love it," Noriega-Ortiz says. "Women are always complaining that men pee under the seat. If you put in a urinal, the husband pees on his own thing, he doesn't bother you. It looks nice; they're

not offensive. It keeps the toilet seat clean."

The Toto Lloyd Residential Urinal (pictured) has appealing lines and conserves water, using less than one gallon per flush, rather than the 1.6 gallons for a standard toilet.

Gracious Home Westside, 1992 Broadway; (212) 231-7800.

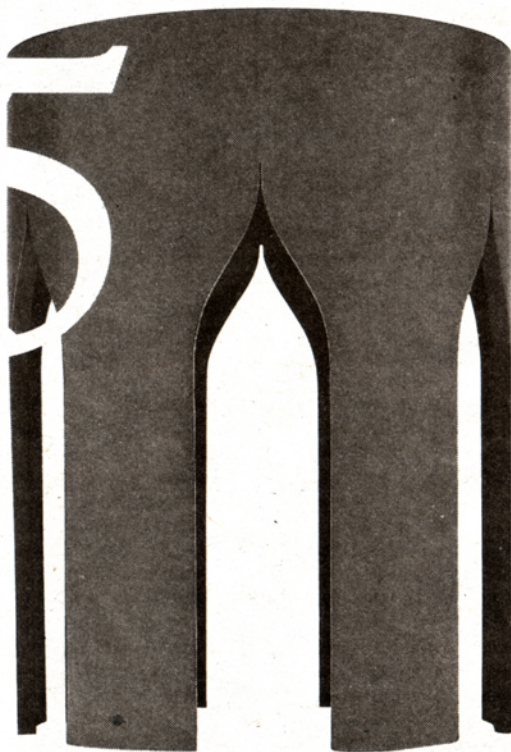
IN FURNITURE, CLASSIC LINES . . .

If lighting has let loose, furniture is getting in touch with its classic roots. Clean, elegant lines and forms abound this spring, though they're not just retreads. Manufacturers have taken traditional pieces and given them a more modern feel, says Singh.

Take the Bessie side chair from the Q Collection.

"It's based on a traditional French medallion back, but with a cleaner, more modern interpretation," says Singh. Similarly, the Cale and Brandy table/stools (pictured) are traditional looking, but with a bit of an edge.

915 Broadway; (212) 529-1400.



6

EVEN BEDS ARE GOING OUTSIDE

Today's homeowners are so taken with the outdoors, some want to sleep under the stars. Those lucky enough to have patios or terraces are having mattresses made using heat- and water-resistant foam (so no rushing to pull it inside when it rains). Even better, the new user-friendly outdoor fabrics can be easily cleaned with soap and water. For outdoor mattresses, try K. Flam, custom-furniture makers in The Bronx

805 E. 134th Street, The Bronx; (718) 665-3140.

**BIG-PATTERNED WALLPAPER**

Back indoors, the 1960s-era taste for bold patterned paper is back, says Singh, although the design itself tends to skew traditional or even contemporary.

"It's big and swirly and opulent, whether it be 'Laugh-In' style psychedelia or Miss Kitty's study from 'Gunsmoke' or something that would go in a Victorian reading room," she says. Check out British firm Timorous Beasties, whose wares (pictured) can be bought at Future Perfect.

115 N. Sixth St., Brooklyn; (718) 599-6278.



7