

Fabric of life

Give your home an inexpensive yet soulful makeover with clever textiles that express your personality

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THIS PAGE The floral cover on the sofa sets the tone for a relaxing living room and contrasts with blue stripey cushion covers. Plain linens dress the coffee table and windows for a cool, unfussy look

RIGHT Hardy, covered chairs dominate this dining room. They form a striking balance with a delicate, embroidered and mirrored fabric from India, which has been repurposed as curtains



Textiles are one of the most versatile components of home decor and an easy way to add colour, pattern and charm. From bed linens and cushion covers to lampshades, curtains and throws, there are myriad ways to inject your individuality into your space, whatever your budget.

In *Decorating With Fabric*, designers Kate French and Katherine Sorrell provide inspirational ideas for every room. Using real homes, they demonstrate that there is no limit to the ways material brings softness, warmth and character: opulent, chic, minimal, neutral, functional, colourful, dramatic and frivolous. As someone wise once said: 'You can't buy happiness, but you can buy fabric, and that's pretty close.'

'Decorating With Fabric' by Kate French and Katherine Sorrell (Ryland Peters & Small, £19.99)



Colour and pattern are used to great effect in this bedroom. A padded headboard has been created using fabric tied to the bed frame, accompanied by pretty bed linen and a contrasting throw



This light and airy office combines shabby chic with industrial accessories. Splashes of colour and texture in the floral, covered storage boxes and plush cushions add interest, warmth and a touch of softness



Headboard cushion, £595, sohohome.com



Double bed frame, £157.99, wayfair.co.uk

Glass dome pendant, £109, industville.co.uk



Table, £369, cultfurniture.com



Box file, £19, cambridgeimprint.co.uk



Bedspread, £175, sweetpeaandwillow.com



Artificial cactus in pot, £34.99, homescapesonline.com

Vase, £75.99, wayfair.co.uk

Pigeonhole wall storage unit, £95, rockettstgeorge.co.uk

Let's play dress up

Be inspired by Zoffany or William Morris prints from Style Library, iconic patterns from Liberty London and coastal themes from Seasalt Cornwall. Family-run The Cloth Shop is another great resource, or take a virtual wander around the haberdashery section of your favourite department store for ideas.

Think creatively and save your pennies: Transform a bedspread into curtains, decorate beds with soft, woollen throws and cushions or revitalise a sofa with a floral cover. Bespoke is the word!



Metal chair, £69, cultfurniture.com

Butler's tray, £44.95, melodymaison.co.uk



Reader offer

Psychologies readers can buy a copy of *Decorating With Fabric* by Kate French and Katherine Sorrell for the special price of £14 (RRP £19.99) with free UK p&p. To order, go to rylandpeters.com and use code 'DECFABPSYCH' at the checkout. Offer valid until 31 August 2020.



Merino wool cushion, £72, finecottoncompany.com

Floral cushion, £42, frenchbedroomcompany.co.uk



Fabric bundle, £49.95, libertylondon.com

Two-seater sofa, £499.99, wayfair.co.uk