

Stella

INTERIORS SPECIAL

Mover, shaker, tastemaker
The design doyenne
who shapes how we all
live and shop

Jasper Conran
Confessions of
an interiors junkie

A new lease of loveliness
An it-decorator's quick tips
to turn a rental flat into
a fabulous home

PLUS

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Five pages of insiders'
guides to shopping

•
The 20 best
interiors blogs

•
Jonathan Adler's
colour clinic

LITTLE MISS
STRUCTURALIST
BEAUTIFULLY
MODERN AUTUMN
DRESSING





THE KNOWLEDGE

How to use colour in your home



Bright ideas from the interior designer and king of 'happy chic', Jonathan Adler

COASTING IN NEUTRAL It's OK to be a fan of neutrals – just choose one accent colour to add to the room. Turquoise, for example, goes with almost anything. I actually use a lot of neutrals in my collections, creating room sets with white, navy, grey and beige then adding a couple of 'pop' colours. I'm a potter and believe that the best neutrals are natural materials – wood, linen, clay

A LITTLE GOES A LONG WAY Distribute colour around the room in small bits and bobs such as lamps, accessories, so that there's a nice rhythm. Everywhere you look there should be a place for your eye to rest – on a cushion or vase, or a bowl full of lemons or limes. Pattern, too, provides necessary punctuation. I love a bold patterned rug as an anchor – top it with neutral furniture

MAKE AN IMPACT Want to go more hardcore? Being reckless can work just as well as having a plan, so go crazy with colour and mix it all together. When you're about to snuff it you want to remember that poppy-orange lamp or turquoise breakfast nook, not a beige-on-beige blur

SEND A MESSAGE Colours have strong associations and communicate different things. Think about what you want to say about yourself, and your home. If you use orange you're saying, 'I'm happy and I love life.' Moss green can communicate that you're a nature lover. Turquoise is the colour of holidays by the sea; it's happy and calming. Navy is the colour of classicism

FAILSAFE PAIRINGS Black and white will work for ever, and make an amazing platform on to which you can layer your single accent colour, say turquoise, lime or orange. Orange with navy is preppy, and with pink is chicer than you might imagine. Team lime green with icy silver or a zesty yellow. I've always been obsessed with chocolate brown as an anchor for 'pop' colours, especially blue, but lately I've been having an affair with grey. It's one of those neutrals that harmonises perfectly with strong colours. Try it with any shade of yellow

ONES TO AVOID There are no 'no's, except for mauve. It's the one colour I can't work with. And red with black is dicey territory. Red is a daring, dangerous colour, which is great, but the minute you pair it with black it can go a bit too *Happy Days* 1950s. Go with a mink brown instead

PATTERN CLASH Don't be scared to use a bright, mural wallpaper – or two – in a small space. Mixed patterns make your house look personal. Guest bathrooms are a great place to start. It can be tucked away – something you don't have to look at all the time if you are timid with colour – but it should be there. A house should be full of surprises ●

The new Jonathan Adler shop is at 60 Sloane Avenue, London SW3 (020 7589 9563; jonathanadler.com)



rather than Swedish), just photograph after photograph of beautiful interiors best described as Scandi-rustic. A must for anyone seeking design inspiration or simply to get out of chores. emmas.blogg.se

FAMILLE SUMMERBELLE

If you didn't know that Julie, the Frenchwoman who blogs (in English) under the name Famille Summerbelle, was a designer of prints, textiles and interiors accessories, you'd guess pretty sharpish. The way that photographs are artfully grouped according to their subjects' form, pattern or colour is a bit of a giveaway. Fans of the artist Rob Ryan would do well to follow the link on the blog to a shop selling her work. famillesummerbelle.typepad.com

HABITUALLY CHIC

'Glamorous Lives & Stylish Places' is the tagline to this utterly compelling blog from a New York interior designer, a woman of unashamedly uptown taste, both modern, slightly *Mad Men* uptown and the more traditional. She'll post photos of everything from the late Jackie O's swag-tastic Fifth Avenue apartment to her own well-stocked dressing-room. Yes, it's *that* fabulous. habituallychic.blogspot.com

Below: the South African blog Miss Moss



JONATHAN ADLER'S MUSINGS

Slightly bonkers musings (or what he calls 'deep and not-so-deep thoughts from the brain of Jonathan Adler') that take in all manner of subjects, from the importance of the colour orange to, erm, his obsession with pill-shaped homeware. It's gloriously madcap and just a bit camp, as you might expect from the king of modern-kitsch interiors. jonathanadler.com/blog

KATY ELLIOTT

A must for anyone who has ever dreamt of restoring an old home, or is in the throes of doing so. It's written by an interiors journalist who is slowly but lovingly

bringing a 260-year-old place in New England back to life. Expect regular updates about historically correct shutters and fireplaces, along with photographs of freshly Farrow & Balled rooms, and other home-related stuff besides. kateyelliott.com/blog

LONNY

OK, not strictly speaking a blog, but this bi-monthly online