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FASHION FORWARD

*AT HOME WITH TODAY'S
TOP TRENDSETTERS.*



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STYLE SHEET



HEIGHT OF FASHION

The birth of the department store in the late 19th century brought everything glamorous together under one roof—from inviting, intelligent architecture and design to the latest fashions. Jan Whitaker's *The World of Department Stores* (Vendome) looks back to the biggest and brightest shops—including the belle époque splendor of Paris's Bon Marché, above; the block-long, palatial GUM in Moscow; and the always outrageous holiday windows at Barneys New York (vendomepress.com).

A FINE FEAST

For "English Taste: The Art of Dining in the Eighteenth Century," Houston's Museum of Fine Arts has laid a table typical of that extravagant era, with ornate sterling silver settings, above, and re-creations of diet-busting meals, including such dishes as larded hare (through January 29, 2012; mfah.org).



GLAMOUR SHOT

FIVE DESIGNERS SHARE WAYS TO TAKE A ROOM FROM STYLISH TO SPELLBINDING



• "Lighting can have a huge impact on the glamour of a room," says designer **ANN GETTY**, who prefers table lamps with dimmers to overhead lights. "I also like period chandeliers lit with candles," she adds, such as this early-19th-century design, above, by Gérard-Jean Galle.

• Decorator **KATIE RIDDER** opts for dramatic, ultrasophisticated walls. In an apartment at the Plaza Hotel in New York, she covered the entry in metal leaf and then stenciled it with floral motifs, left. "Stencils are a great way to get an unusual scale into a space." For a simpler version, try starting with metallic wallpaper, she says.

• As designer **RICHARD NISHAAN** sees it, the dazzle is in the details. For bolsters and pillows, he sources sumptuous fabrics, Chinese closures, and leather trims. "They bring a lot of interest and beauty," he says, "and you see the hand of the craftsman."

• "It's time to revisit beautiful stamped velvets—gauffrage," says tastemaker **CAROLYNE ROEHRM**, who envisions the bold patterns on chairs, sofas, even walls. "It's all about texture."

• "Glamour is always a bit overdone or underdone," says decorator **ORLANDO DIAZ-AZCUY**. In addition to the usual vehicles (mirror, gilt), he points to the unexpected—a cadmium-yellow table in a monochromatic room. As he explains it, "At an over-the-top party, a woman in a dress by Jil Sander is very chic."



SITTING PRETTY

Arne Jacobsen's Swan chair is the latest in a line of iconic furnishings to be reimagined for a good cause. Suite New York asked 19 designers to put their stylish stamp on the classic midcentury-modern seat, including Madeline Weinrib, who chose an ikat in candy-cane colors, left. The chairs will be auctioned off at charitybuzz.com through October, and proceeds will benefit Breast Cancer Research Foundation (suiteny.com).

WHAT WE LOVE

Anyone for tennis? Superstar decorator Jonathan Adler has teamed up with the perennially preppy fashion line Lacoste to create an exclusive collection of limited-edition polo shirts that takes his obsession with needlepoint off the sofa and onto the courts. The polos come in a range of vibrant hues, complete with an outsize version of the company's grinning crocodile, and are packaged in splashy matching tennis-racket sleeves and pillow covers. For Lacoste fanatics, 12 individual needlepoint shirts, handcrafted by French nuns and boxed in ceramic crocodile figurines, are on offer (lacoste-usa.com).

