



7 ways to use wallpaper

Wallpaper can transform a room, changing its look and feel by adding pattern, colour and texture to the walls. Don't feel held back by the size or shape of the room, as the right paper can bring a space to life.

Like fabric, wallpaper can vary in price and quality, and although papering a room looks fantastic, it is a much more expensive option than paint. As with paint and fabric, always get samples before choosing and purchasing. The wallpaper samples are often too small to get a good overall feel for the pattern and its repeat. For a small fee, some companies will offer you returnable larger samples that will give you a better idea of your space's overall design and colours.



Wallpaper, The glasshouse collection 216660, Sanderson



Using wallpaper can also be a great way to cover up any imperfections in your walls, which may be especially relevant in older homes. Wall cracks can be well hidden, avoiding lining paper, which may have been needed if painting. There is an incredible array of wallpaper finishes, including wipeable options and shiny, matt and textured finishes such as seagrass and fabric.

Use wallpaper to tell your story, for example, if you love the birds in your garden, decorate your study with beautiful bird-design wallpaper, a perfect way of bringing the outside in and surrounding yourself with something you love as you go about your everyday.



Matthew Williamson Deya meadow wallpaper for Osborne & Little



Think about how the colours will tie together with the rest of the room. Do you want the walls to be the dominant feature or provide a more muted background? Remember that the other fabrics, textures or furniture in the room will balance out bold prints or bright colours – don't let it put you off going for a wallpaper you love.

For samples, visit department stores and small local decorators' merchants. Many brands are also represented online, where you can request samples to be sent to you.

8 examples showing how wallpaper can enhance a room to trigger ideas for you to use as inspiration in your room scheme.

1. **Create an eclectic contemporary kitchen** – Look for geometric prints, nature-inspired plants and floral prints. The image below is a clever trompe l'oeil of a replica tile print.



Wallpaper, Mixed folk by Louise Body



2. Enhance a period-style room—using subtle patterns, stripes, and large floral prints, vintage-inspired with a modern twist.



Wallpaper, The brook by William Morris

3. Romantic and dreamy bedroom design with Damasks and gentle floral patterns in pastels, textured silk paper and french toile.



Wallpaper, Stag toile in Moss, Little Greene

Where to use wallpaper in a room?

As mentioned earlier, wallpaper can be expensive and even more so if you choose an unusual or hand-printed design. This means that you may have to be selective about how much wallpaper you use and where you use it.



4. Wallpapering all walls with a textured fabric effect – This has become a modern trend creating quite a statement in a room, also making it feel cosy.



Wallpaper Tramonto Amber by Graham and Brown

5. Wallpaper panels - creating a sophisticated feature with Asian-inspired wall panels.



Chinoiserie wallpaper, image from Collins interiors, Texas



6. Create a Feature wall – This can hide an awkward angle or lift a featureless space and often works well as a backdrop behind a sofa, bed or desk space.



Wallpaper mural Giadino Segreto scene I by Designers Guild

7. Papering the ceiling – A fun Victorian-inspired idea. A metallic tin tile print is used in this image below, creating the illusion of a lower ceiling and, therefore cosier space.



Tile effect wallpaper to imitate vintage ceiling tins