

# HOMES & GARDENS®



JUNE 2018

## STEP OUTSIDE

**STYLISH HOUSES READY TO EMBRACE THE SUMMER**

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ROMANTIC FLORAL DESIGNS

**CLASSIC LINES IN A FORMAL SCHEME**

A BOTANICAL ARTIST AT WORK

*Delicious  
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IDEAS FOR WHITE INTERIORS

# BLUSHING BEAUTY

A classic dusky pink hue and contemporary touches are deftly combined in this inviting guest room



## DESIGNER

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## Can you describe the project?

This is the main guest bedroom of a beautiful Grade II-listed Georgian property on a country estate in Oxfordshire, which has been in my client's family for generations. The owner was keen to inject new life into the scheme while respecting the classic style of the architecture; he also wanted to include existing pieces of furniture and artwork.

## What was the starting point for the scheme?

I arrived with a big sample of Farrow & Ball's Setting Plaster, a dusky pink shade that looks particularly wonderful in historic homes. This room is at the front of the house and is south facing, so the colour takes on a more peachy tone as the day progresses, making the room incredibly inviting. I then chose mossy green as the accent colour, picking it out in fabrics and trimmings.

## Are there areas you prioritise when working to a budget?

I always like to challenge my clients as to where they put the money: my advice is to spend on fabrics and upholstery and pull back in other areas. In this scheme, for example, we've mixed some fantastic high-street finds, including the mirrored dressing table and linen-upholstered stool, with the client's existing furniture.

## How did you choose the fabrics?

The key design is the curtain fabric, a hand-printed linen with a pineapple motif that is classically English yet has a contemporary edge. I used a smaller detail of the pattern on the armchair and to line the curtains of the antique four-poster bed. The sofa was reupholstered in an off-white linen and I added green piping for interest. The striped cushion also features mossy green.

## Can you tell us about the window treatment?

I chose chunky wooden poles that are reeded like the antique bed posts, as I wanted them to look as if they'd always been here. The windows are not huge in relation to the room, so I centred the poles between the cornice and the top of the window to visually improve the proportions. The windows are also asymmetrical – I had to run the pole into the wall on the left-hand side, without a finial – but I detracted from this with the balanced arrangement of the dressing table and lamps, which becomes a standalone feature.

## Which details make guests feel particularly cosseted?

At the weekend, this house is always full of guests, so it's important that the rooms are luxurious and welcoming. I've used wall-to-wall carpet with a silk content, which feels wonderful underfoot. The sofa at the foot of the bed is important visually as it helps to compensate for the lack of a rug, which would have provided interest; it also invites guests to retreat to the room to relax.

## WHERE TO BUY

**FURNITURE** Bed, sofa and armchair, client's own. **Versailles dressing table**, £985, Oka, [oka.com](http://oka.com). **Emmanuel Empire stool** in Oatmeal, £199, Swoon Editions, [swooneditions.com](http://swooneditions.com). **FABRICS** Curtains in Pineapple Frond in Olive; **armchair** in Pineapple Silhouette in Olive; both linen, £158m, Soane Britain, [soane.co.uk](http://soane.co.uk). **Sofa** in Highland Linen in Crema, £61m, William Yeoward at Designers Guild, [designersguild.com](http://designersguild.com). **Cushion** in Zelda Stripe in Green, linen mix, £90m, Paolo Moschino for Nicholas Haslam, [nicholashaslam.com](http://nicholashaslam.com). **Upholstery**

and curtains, Westcot House, [westcouthouse.co.uk](http://westcouthouse.co.uk).

**WALLS** Setting Plaster estate emulsion, £45 for 2.5L, Farrow & Ball, [farrow-ball.com](http://farrow-ball.com).

**FLOORING** Similar carpet, Seasilk in Ebb 06, £56sq m, Kersaint Cobb, [kersaintcobb.co.uk](http://kersaintcobb.co.uk).

**ACCESSORIES** Fluted corded 51mm curtain pole in dark oak, L150cm, with ball finials and antique brass brackets, around £365 a set, Hunter & Hyland, [hunterandhyland.co.uk](http://hunterandhyland.co.uk). **Similar lamps**, Cavendish nickel lamp base, £375, India Jane, [indijane.co.uk](http://indijane.co.uk).



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