

# BLACK BEAUTY

From inky wallpaper to skulls on furniture, vamp it up for a taste of the gothic

**H**ALLOWEEN may have passed, but the witching hour — or season — is still upon us. Taking its cue from the fashion world — where everyone from Balmain to Versace and Yves Saint Laurent is going for the studded, zipped and black vibe this autumn — the interiors world is steeling itself for the gothic revolution.

'I love the Victorian period, Gothic Revival architecture, taxidermy and curiosities,' says Georgina Brett Chinnery of Bombarock, whose store is filled with skull-emblazoned chairs, red leather mannequins and skull-and-crossbones shades. 'I tend to use a colour palette of black, red and white, which work beautifully together.'

Too much of a good (or in this case, bad) thing, and your home resembles a cross between a bat cave and Marilyn Manson's closet. As Georgina says: 'The skull furniture is best used on its own as a statement piece in a room.'

Even used sparingly, this look is dramatic and daring, but it can also have overtones of unbridled passion and romance. Try the Sassy Boo collection of chairs, dressing tables and beds from The French Bedroom Company — a decadent mix of charcoal wood and velvet — or the intricately carved, inky-black Rococo bed from Newtons for the most opulent silhouette.

There's Graham & Brown's ([grahambrown.com](http://grahambrown.com)) Skulls wallpaper, designed by Barbara Hulanicki of Biba fame. The magnificent flock paper reflects her mischievous side, and would, she says, look particularly good in a guest toilet.

Or opt for Daniel Croyle's ([danielcroyle.com](http://danielcroyle.com)) super-evocative black and silver Headache paper, covered in skulls.



Skull chair, £495, Bombarock, bombarock.co.uk



Forest Fairy chandelier, £46.99, hiccupgifts.com



Marimani clock, from £57.99, wheredidyoubuy.com



Chateau Noir bed, £499, Newtons furniture.co.uk

Pumpkin stool, £299, Juliettes Interiors, 01789 721911, juliettesinteriors.co.uk



Sequin headpiece, £6, TI Huanes

