

BRITAIN'S BEST-SELLING PERIOD HOMES MAGAZINE

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PERIOD LIVING

TRADITIONAL HOMES, INTERIORS, GARDENS, ANTIQUES & RENOVATION

HOMES RESTORED WITH LOVE

From a Georgian Cotswolds cottage to an Edwardian semi

STUNNING BEDROOMS

French opulence and country style

BUYER'S GUIDES

- Benches and Settles
- Bathroom Storage

BLUE HEAVEN

A hidden garden in a Dorset valley

Light & Shade

COLOUR SCHEMES IN SOFT NEUTRALS

Salvage Chic

Give your home instant character

RENOVATING KNOW-HOW: DEALING WITH RISING DAMP

• REVAMPING A CORNER CUPBOARD • REPLACING OLD ELECTRICS





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'Ornate furnishings have been working their magic in French bedrooms for centuries'

...ence is sometimes all you need to achieve the look. Try an oversized gilt mirror, a lit brazier or heavy armoire,' she suggests.

For a more rustic French flavour, head to rural France for inspiration, where terracotta or flagstone floors, cool linens and farmhouse furniture lend an earthy charm that's unquestionably Gallic and shouldn't be confused with English country style. Designed to suit Mediterranean climates, the French country look includes heavy window treatments and colour schemes in rich reds, rusty browns and dirty greens. For an instant Provençal-inspired

bedroom choose lace bedlinen matched with distressed painted furniture and shutters,' advises Leonora Beaubois, owner of French bedlinen specialists L&B.

The French flair for drama is evident in both urban and rural schemes, so feel free to embrace sparkly crystal chandeliers, wallpapers and fabrics with bold Toile de Jouy prints, plus baroque accessories. 'Don't worry if your furniture and accessories are in different tones or finishes – ideally you want to create something that is eclectic, not where everything matches, says Jill Paterson, interior designer at Sweetpea & Willow. ▶

3 Juliettes Interiors' St Tropez Collection is a luxurious range hand-carved from mahogany and silver leafed by hand. Beds start from £1,745; headboards from £399; armoires from £1,999 and bedside tables from £477. 4 For an original take on a classic four-poster design, pick this fabric from Harlequin in a sizzling pink and white. Curtains and headboard in Elodie 3587 and 3584, £46 per m; Etienne throw £30 per m; wallpaper in Elodie 30201, £39 per roll. All Harlequin 5 Make a statement with the Hortense four-poster bed from Roche Bobois' Les Provinciales range, from £2,559. 6 Mix rich tapestry canopies with romantic French-inspired bespoke furniture for a luxurious suite. This Clive Christian Regency bedroom in Classic Cream has Gold Leaf and Portrait No1 fabric and wallpaper in Sepia. 7 Christy's Ghislaine duvet covers in Soft Gold have an elegant jacquard top cover with 100% cotton reverse for comfort. Prices start from £80 for a single duvet cover.

ROOM SOLUTIONS



STAR PIECES

Free-standing furniture offers good storage potential and is the ideal way to finish off your dream design

Furniture designs to look out for when you're aiming to recreate a French boudoir in your home include the traditional Rococo and Louis styles, with flamboyant flourishes such as decorative gilding and intricate carving. For a more rural French flavour, choose plainer, chunkier painted pieces with stencilled detailing, chairs with natural rush seating and solid oak dressing tables.

For a country look, popular designs include furniture in the classic Shaker style, which is characterised by simply framed doors, peg detailing and painted finishes. For a more rustic feel, don't forget to include wrought-iron bedsteads, daybeds and even bedside nightstands, which look effective in a warm cream or black finish with brass accents.

For stockist details, turn to page 160



1 Invoke the glamour of Parisian interiors with mirrored furniture.

Camille Chest of drawers, £1,295; Camille Bedside table, £395; Madison Armchair in Perry Alabaster, £1,395; Hampton Round Mirror in Silver, £115, all Raines & Willow 2 Edwardian iron daybed in glossy ivory, £539, The Original Bedstead Company 3 Classic Shaker lines suit country-style rooms. Camden Painted two-door wardrobe, £349.99, Kingshall Furniture 4 This Simon Horn Louis XV cane bed frame starts at £2,995 for the single and can be supplied in any finish 5 Gilt French two-drawer table, £205, The French Furniture Company 6 Recline in style with Soane Britain's Pompadour Day Bed, £5,900, covered in linen with mahogany legs and brass castors



Our favourite bedroom furniture shops

FRENCH

- **Juliettes Interiors**, Stratford-upon-Avon, Warwickshire (01789 721911; juliettesinteriors.co.uk). Reproduction French furniture and mirrors that can be adapted to suit bespoke requirements by the company's in-house carpenter and specialist painter.

- **Lucy Willow**, Standish, Wigan (0845 803 0908; lucywillow.co.uk). An impressive choice of 14 French bedroom collections, including opulent hand-carved armoires and shabby chic distressed finishes.

- **Wild Wood Antiques**, Heyshott, West Sussex (01730 816880; wildwoodwood.co.uk). Restored French country-style furniture sourced from farmhouses in Provence and Brittany.

COAST AND COUNTRY

- **Corndell**, Witney, Oxfordshire (01993 776545; corndell.com). Independent furniture-makers with stockists across the UK specialising in solid, classic furniture made using traditional techniques.

- **New England Lifestyle**, nr Arundel, West Sussex (0870 872 6292; newenglandlifestyle.com). Nick Burrin designs and creates New England-style bedroom furniture inspired by seaside clapper board houses.

- **The White Lighthouse**, Dundonald, Belfast (02890 480200; thewhitelighthousefurniture.co.uk). An array of pretty painted bedroom furniture, including the covetable Daisy Cottage range with embossed daisy motif, scalloped edges and a slightly distressed finish. Delivery is free to addresses in the UK on all orders over £100.

