



hippy hippy shake

FOR THE FUNKIEST TAKE IN
DECORATING, GRAB SOME
GROOVY STYLE ICONS, THROW
DOWN A SHAG-PILE RUG AND
MAKE LIKE IT'S 1972



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CREATE A HAWAIIAN THEME USING
SEAGRASS MATTING, BASKETS, SHELLS
AND RETRO CANE CHAIRS





ACCESSORISE WITH ORGANIC SHAPED POTS – ROUND, OBLONG, GOURDS. THEY'RE EVERYWHERE



RETRO STYLE USES STRONG COLOURS – USUALLY ONLY ONE OR TWO IN A SCHEME – BUT YOU CAN LAYER THEM WITH NEUTRALS

Hey, baby! The sixties and seventies are making a comeback into our living spaces. Mixed up with a few contemporary pieces, it's an easy look to achieve and can be done reasonably inexpensively. It is a strong look, not for the faint-hearted.

COOL COLOURS

Retro uses strong colours – usually only one or two in a scheme – but you can layer them with neutrals such as white, black, or beige. Texture will add depth, so rough it up a little with a shaggy rug, baby. Stainless steel gives a seventies scheme a fresh approach, so add in handles, chair legs and accessories.

Start seventies scheming by peering into the dark depths of Nana's cupboards; add finds from your local thrift store and you will have the bones of a funky, upbeat seventies style.

STYLE FILE

Within the realms of a retro look, you can also theme. For instance, create a Hawaiian style with seagrass matting, baskets, shells, and retro cane chairs. Get a more traditional theme by using flock wallpaper and gilt mirrors.

The patterns are geometric and organic, large and bold. Stripes in co-ordinating colours will reinforce seventies style.

WONDERFUL WALLS

Feature walls were also big in the seventies: wallpaper was hot. There are some amazing retro geometric patterns around in bright colours, metallics and flocks. Try using them instead of a painted wall.

FLOOR FLAIR

A shaggy rug, baby, anchors a retro scheme, especially if there is a lack of texture in the room. Rugs with big geometric circles, squares and shapes will work well. Warning: make sure the colours tie in with your scheme, and that patterns within the space don't

become too overwhelming. Rugs will also help define a seating area.

HOME IS WHERE THE ART IS

Search thrift stores for art pieces that tie in with your scheme, or paint your own geometric shapes on a blank canvas. Another simple idea is to staple a piece of geometric fabric in similar colours to your scheme to a frame. Just hang.

POTS OF STYLE

Accessorise with organic shaped pots – round, oblong, gourds. They're everywhere and come in an infinite range of colours. Pottery pieces are also hip, particularly Crown Lynn. Choose pieces to tie in with your colour scheme, and start a collection. A group of objects draws the eye and looks better than a lone piece. However, do not over clutter. Give objects room to breathe.

THROUGH A GLASS DARKLY

Mirrors in the seventies generally had thin frames, or were unframed but an interesting shape. A thin gilt frame is great for a 'traditional' theme, but looks funky in retro settings as a statement.

LIGHT FANTASTIC

Lamp bases can be gourd-shaped or straight and are most often teamed with a drum-shaped shade. Standard lamps were a hit back in the seventies, so try one above your retro chair in the corner. It makes the ultimate chill-out zone.

THRIFT SHIFT

You'll pick up inexpensive timber seventies furniture in thrift and second-hand shops. Restore the wood, or if it's too dated but a cool shape, paint it a funky colour. You may also stumble upon the odd kidney-shaped coffee table, or sideboard with splayed legs, both great for this look.

Whether you start with Nana's old vase, a geometric wallpaper, or a cool piece of furniture, just have fun, baby!

Stockist's details, page 166.



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