

A highly practical guide that shows readers how to create a tailor-made Bohemian home one room at a time

Provisional

Bohemian Style at Home

A Room-by-Room Guide

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Illustrated throughout

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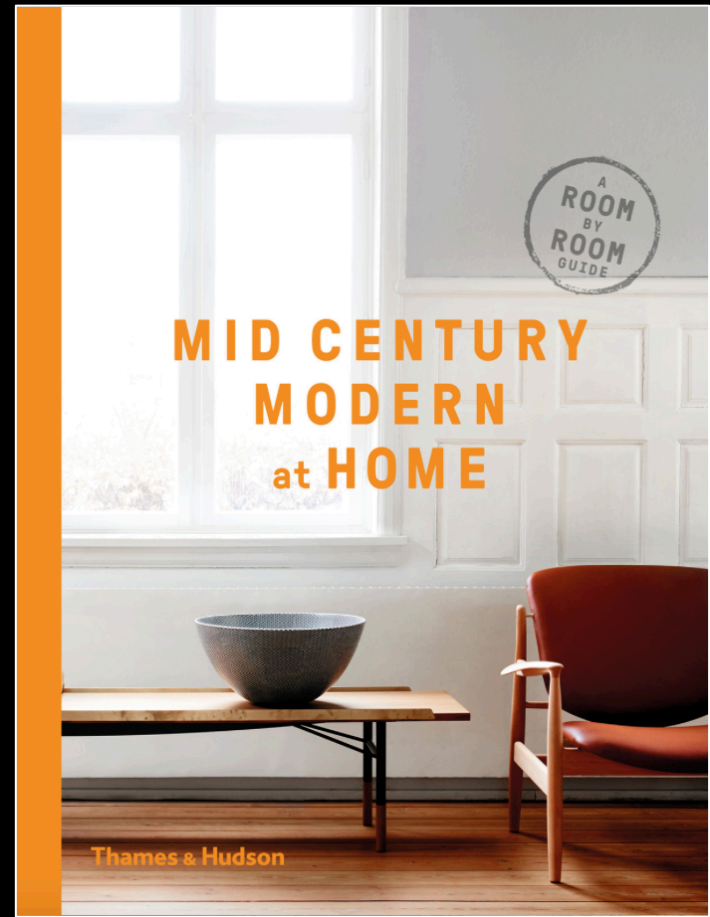
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Also in this series



Key Sales Points

- Includes in-depth case studies to demonstrate the essential elements of Bohemian style
 - A style that is characterized by free-flowing fabrics, bright colours and a multitude of clashing patterns
- ‘Signature Colour’ spreads explore combinations and provide inspirational colour palettes
- ‘Key Piece’ spreads highlight classic items of furniture and accessories
- Anyone who hankers after the Bohemian look and is eager to bring it to their own home will find this book a valuable resource

What is Bohemian style?

Bohemian style is characterized by free-flowing fabrics, bright colors, and a multitude of clashing patterns. Heavily inspired by the 1960s and 1970s free-spirited way of life, it is one of the most versatile styles of decoration. Sometimes rule-breaking and always personal, it could be best described as an effort to live in complete harmony with your surroundings. Forget about famous designers and carefully planned decorating schemes, boho is a style often built up over time and is the antipode of trend-following.



▲ A typical bohemian home will reflect the personal tastes and travels of its owner — each room will be unique.

► Not every boho home will include pinks and reds. Rich blues and greens can help draw out the nature theme.

The key elements of Bohemian style

While bohemian style is based around a certain “anything goes” attitude, the idea of having no rules to abide by can be daunting when trying to recreate the style. There are a few key elements that define a true Bohemian home:

Vintage

An essential component of boho, vintage furniture and accessories are a must. Every piece should tell a story.

Texture

We often think of bohemian design as a feast of color, but texture features just as heavily. In fact, it is possible to achieve a fabulous Bohemian look with even monochrome color as long as you pile on the texture.

Plants

In a bid to blur the boundaries between outside and inside and be completely at one with nature, plants are almost always present in a Bohemian interior.

Soufulness and creativity

Boho style is about following your heart and gut instinct. Infuse your decor with your personal taste and you will have a freestyling home as individual as you are.



The importance of soft furnishings

It is impossible to talk about Bohemian design without mentioning the abundance of textiles that feature in it. Think multi-tonal ikat, tie dye, lace, crochet, brocades, the possibilities are endless when it comes to layering fabrics. There is no one-size-fits-all solution. Walking into a Bohemian home is a visual and tactile feast where no color or texture is off-limit.



▲ Heaping texture, pattern, and color is a hallmark of boho styling.

The art of layering

Unlike other styles of decor, the boho mantra is definitely "more is more." Whether you are dressing a window, a floor, a sofa, or a bed the same theory applies: layer and mix colors, patterns, and most importantly textures to create interest and depth in the scheme. Heap up cushions choosing contrasting textures like velvet, silk, and wool. Mismatched rugs can be used to cover the floor of a bohemian home. Look out for vintage Berber, block print Durie, braided chindi rugs, rag rugs; pile them up thickly, and add floor pillows to create a casual seating area.



Repurpose

The essence of Bohemian design is non-conformism and individualism. A lace tablecloth found in a thrift store can be hung up as a curtain. A sari from India can serve as a tablecloth or get made into cushions; rugs can be hung on the wall and blankets can double up as curtains. There is no place for matching bedding and curtains and it is best to seek out artisan makers or search for vintage items that you can repurpose yourself. That said, some high street stores do sell a good selection of interesting textiles which, when mixed with a few carefully chosen individual pieces, will work just fine.



▲ Mix textiles sourced from far flung places with heirloom pieces and carefully chosen high-street finds.

◀ Pile different shaped cushions in varied patterns and colors to turn a day bed into a relaxed seating area.



Case study

Owner Lucas De Vries > Year(s) 2016 > Place Amsterdam, The Netherlands

The bohemian living room is always a very social one. It says come on in, kick off your shoes and stay a while. This space is bursting with personality and a feast for the senses.

The key here was to create a room that appears to have organically evolved rather than one that has been carefully thought out. From the vintage Kilim cushions to the Tretchikoff painting casually resting on the hand painted sideboard, every item has a history that intensify the overall eclectic look. In true bohemian style this space appears to have been furnished over years of careful thrifting. The owner gave a nod to the 70s here with the rather iconic rattan peacock chair and it works well with the abundance of plants and greenery.

The play of brightly coloured pillows and patterned throws are typical of the boho look. The white walls are rather soothing against such bold textiles and draws attention to the unusual art on display where the emphasis is on texture rather than colour this time.

The Moroccan poufs strewn across the antique rug can provide additional seating and add to the overall relaxed vibes.



Carved Indian wall hanging Much beloved by festival goers the world over, Moroccan style bunting hung across windows or door frames successfully creates the sensation that you camping out in your own living room.



Wicker furniture When it comes to plants in a bohemian style interior, do not hold back. Large hanging ferns such as these, which would normally be found outside, provide the perfect way to bring the outside in and, usefully, are very low maintenance.



Kitsch statuary The classic paper lantern shade has never quite gone out of fashion and works really well with this interior. If your furnishings are less colorful than this example, try painting your shade in bright signature colors.



Hand painted furniture Moroccan prints and textures are arguably one of the key ingredients of any bohemian style interior. Color is of course important, with warmth and a sense of luxury provided by the rich hues, but limitless combinations of patterns and stripes mean you can easily make your interior look as eclectic as you like



Colorful soft furnishings If your seating is set at a low level you'll need some low tables to match the height. Generally speaking a standard height coffee table will work perfectly well. Like the furnishings, furniture does not have to conform to a particular style for a bohemian interior, evidenced here with a table made and sold by Ikea.



Woven rugs If your seating is set at a low level you'll need some low tables to match the height. Generally speaking a standard height coffee table will work perfectly well. Like the furnishings, furniture does not have to conform to a particular style for a bohemian interior, evidenced here with a table made and sold by Ikea.



The glass chandelier

There are many lighting fixtures which can be associated with Bohemian Design, but none bring such a strong sense of theatrical drama into a room as the glass chandelier. It is steeped in history that takes us as far back as the 15th century in Bohemia (now known as The Czech Republic). Home to the world's first glass factory, Bohemia soon became the world's leading manufacturer of glass also referred to as Bohemian crystal. The first Bohemian chandeliers were created by glass cutter Joseph Palm in 1724.

When it comes to sourcing a glass chandelier there are a multitude of designs, shapes, and sizes to choose from. Most are made from brass or bronze and crystal and are sometimes adorned with glass beads. Nowadays, while it is still possible to find glass crystal chandeliers, several more affordable options are available such as wood or clay beads, shell and even paper. This staple of Bohemian design can be purchased second-hand or new from all kinds of sources.

The three-tier chandelier (opposite) features crystalized glass pendants hung from an aged bronze frame and bears all the characteristics of a vintage piece. The understated design evokes times past and maximizes the boho vibes, adding a touch of glam to an otherwise relaxed décor without being gaudy. It gives the room another layer of texture and otherworldly dimension so typical of bohemian design.

Source

Eve Chandelier by Venice Beach House, venicebeachhouse.co.uk

Materials

Crystalized glass, bronze

Dimensions

Height – 24cm

Diameter – 29cm

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