

# Eastern promise

Richard Randall shows you how to incorporate the ever-stylish Oriental theme into your home



The Oriental trend is all over the high street this season – I simply love it, as it works so well in any room.

The main reason the Oriental theme excites me so much is the amount of inspiration you get from it, plenty of pattern... blooming flowers, fish and bamboo for instance, and of course you can use a whole spectrum of lush colours.

Reds, golds and blacks will create a traditional, perhaps more masculine feel, whereas blossomy pinks, silvers and light wood tones will create a more contemporary, feminine look.

There really are heaps of Oriental-themed products flooding the high street from wallpapers and fabrics to bed linen and accessories, so see what catches your eye!

As with all trends it's vital that you consider your personal likes and dislikes and adapt them to work harmoniously with your own home interior – select only the colours you love or think suit your home best – choose images, like flowers for instance, that you are fond of. The one thing you won't be short of is inspiration!

Whether you are simply investing in new bed linen, or redecorating a whole room, the Oriental theme is a designer's delight, bursting with colour, pattern and interest, so your home will be too.

**Richard Randall**

See Richard on the new series of 60 Minute Makeover on ITV1



Curains: Willow 255 fabric, £34 per m; sofa: Tamika Plains 4957 fabric, £39 per m; cushions on sofa: Entwine 2562 fabric, £49 per m; Mineral 2575 fabric, £39 per m; Willow 2551 fabric, £34 per m; chair: Mineral 2575 fabric, £39 per m; cushions on chair: Entwine 2562 fabric, £49 per m; Fusion 2545 fabric, £34 per m; wallpaper: Willow 75473, £38 per roll, all Bakari collection at Harlequin

Be careful not to overdo the Oriental look as it can cheapen the theme, instead just use subtle references

Blinds: Lori Cranberry fabric, £25 per m; Ella cushion, £38; Henshaw black desk, £1,000; Henshaw black desk chair, £350, all Laura Ashley



## Japanese garden

Choose patterns inspired by the outdoors in subtle shades for a peaceful scheme

Superfresco Honesty wallpaper in Taupe, £23 per roll, Graham & Brown. Fan painted in Persian Rose chalky emulsion, £18.98 per 2.5l, 1829 collection at Craig & Rose. Lanterns Crocus fabrics, £20 per m, John Lewis. Albany Thistle vinyl matt, £21.31 per 2.5l, Brewers. China Clay acrylic matt emulsion, £25.50 per 2.5l, The Little Greene Paint Company.



## Modern Oriental

For a contemporary take choose simple patterns and fresh hues of duck egg and mustard yellow

Zoso 08 fabric, £18.39 per m, Malabar. Tatami wallpaper in Eucalyptus, £34.95 per roll, Chervil collection at Villa Nova. Wallflower Honey fabric, £20 per m, John Lewis. Rising Sap matt emulsion, £16.98 per 2.5l, Laurence Llewelyn-Bowen for Graham and Brown at B&Q. Stepping Stone matt emulsion, £15.99 per 2.5l, Crown. Yellow chopsticks from Urban Chic chopsticks set, £4.95 for five, Dotcomgiftshop.



Black lacquered furniture really makes a huge statement

Costilla sideboard in black, £199.99, Tesco Direct

## £ Spend vs Save

Punchy red cushions will liven up your existing sofa

Red teamed with black and gold is the epitome of an Oriental scheme. Try to add a few accessories around the room to complete the look

Three candle votives, £18, Rocha/John Rocha at Debenhams



Velvet ribbed cushion, £19, www.littlewoods.com

Baylis cushion in Tomato, £28, Laura Ashley





### Cherry blossom

Mix shades of jade and blossom pink for a pretty spring theme

Vitality floral wallpaper in pink/cream, £30 per roll, Graham & Brown. Emi in Duck Egg, £13.99 per m, Imperial collection at Prestigious Textiles. Ports of Call Jeff Banks Design paint in Silk Stocking, £19.99 per 2.5l, Focus. Light Blue Estate emulsion, £26.50 per 2.5l, Farrow & Ball. Expression Distressed white oak plank laminate 010462, £33 per sq m, Pergo. Goldfish cup and saucer, £20 for a set of two, Also Home.



### Pomegranate & gold

Glossy black and red, teamed with touches of gold make for a classic Oriental theme

Shantung Ruby wallpaper, £30 per roll, Laurence Llewelyn-Bowen at Graham & Brown. Mink luxury matt emulsion, £16.79 per 2.5l, Indulgence range at Crown. Jack Black acrylic matt emulsion, £25.50 per 2.5l, The Little Greene Paint Company. Antique Bronze paint, £11.98 per 500ml, 1829 collection at Craig & Rose. Pure 2552 fabric, £32 per m, Bakari collection at Harlequin. Black chopsticks from Urban Chic chopsticks set, £4.95 for five, Dotcomgiftshop.



Floors: Garnet Symphony 1 gloss, £14.49 per l; left wall: Frayed Hessian 1 flat matt, £22.49 per 2.5l; right wall: Mercury Shower 2 flat matt, £22.49 per 2.5l; table: Venetian Crystal 1 satinwood, £15.99 per l; door: Celestial Cloud 1 satinwood, £15.99 per l, all Dulux Tailor Made Colour



Rich reds are perfect for creating an Oriental scheme and will give your home a warm and welcoming feel

Blinds in Rosa Claret fabric, £25 per m; Hayworth sofa, £1,700, both John Lewis

Paper lampshades are a brilliant way of bringing the Oriental feel to a room, for a sophisticated look choose a ceramic lamp base for table lamps

Boule Japonaise pendant shade, £4 for 35cmDia, Habitat



### Chinese simplicity

Keep your décor simple with calming blues, clean lines and soothing textures

Anneli fabric, £5.99 per m, Ikea. Thai Sapphire acrylic matt emulsion, £25.50 per 2.5l, The Little Greene Paint Company. Senso XXL flooring in Silver, £19 per sq m, Gerflor. Crown wallcoverings textured vinyl Mantra Weave in Grey, £11.99 per roll, Homebase. Bone China Blue acrylic matt emulsion, £25.50 per 2.5l, The Little Greene Paint Company. Red chopsticks from Urban Chic chopsticks set, £4.95 for five, Dotcomgiftshop.



Use a mixture of colours and textures for paintwork – light and dark, gloss and matt, keeping the colours you choose rich and warm

A piece of artwork or wall art is a really simple way of adding a finishing touch to this look. Keep an eye out for large floral prints of blossom, orchids or chrysanthemum, or carved wooden wall plaques

Carved wall panel, 50cm x 25cm, £14.99, Homebase

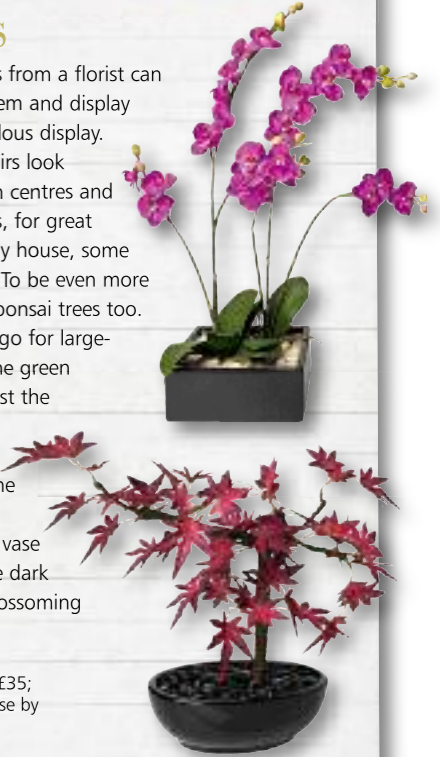
Black butterflies duvet set, £22 for a double, Matalan

Cushions and bed linen are a simple way of introducing the Far Eastern theme around your home.



### Stylish blooms

- Orchids are a must. Cut stems from a florist can be pricey so just invest in one stem and display with some steel grass for a fabulous display.
- Potted orchids displayed in pairs look fantastic, check out large garden centres and DIY stores, or even supermarkets, for great deals. I display faux orchids in my house, some look so realistic and last forever. To be even more authentic try pairs of miniature bonsai trees too.
- For more inexpensive blooms go for large-headed chrysanthemum. The lime green shamrocks look amazing with just the heads floating in a shallow glass bowl or vase.
- For ultimate drama get into the garden and grab some stems of blossom, display in a large glass vase and experience the drama of the dark twiggy stems against the soft blossoming petals... pure Oriental.



Red maple artificial bonsai tree, £35; artificial orchid, £35, both Grey Rose by Jane Packer at Debenhams