

The art of layering **TEXTURE:**

WHERE DESIGN COMES TO LIFE

by MARIAM ABOUTAAM



TIPS FOR LAYERING TEXTURE AT HOME

- **Let colour lead, and texture support:** Choose your palette first, then layer in materials that enhance and ground it
- **Mix natural materials:** Combine stone, wood, linen and plaster finishes for a balanced, organic feel
- **Embrace imperfection:** Handmade and natural materials bring character and authenticity
- **Layer, don't match:** Contrast textures to create visual interest rather than uniformity
- **Use wallpaper to build atmosphere:** Ideal for bedrooms, dining rooms or powder rooms
- **Invest in textiles:** Quality fabrics in upholstery and drapery elevate both texture and colour

Design is evolving in a meaningful way. While colour has made a confident and welcome return to our homes, what we're seeing now is a more refined approach, one where texture works alongside colour to create spaces that feel layered, expressive and complete. It's no longer just about what we see, but how a space feels.

Texture has become an essential part of that conversation. Think limewash walls that softly catch the light, reeded wood that introduces quiet movement, plaster that softens every edge, and stone that feels as though it was carved directly from the earth. These elements don't compete with colour, they enhance it, grounding bolder palettes and adding dimension to even the most subtle tones.

In pre-construction homes especially, where spaces can often feel new and uniform, texture is one of the most effective tools to introduce warmth and individuality. It transforms a home from something that simply looks beautiful into something that feels lived in and considered.

TILE

Tile is leading this shift in a very intentional way. We are moving away from overly polished finishes and toward materials that feel organic and nuanced. Zellige, limestone, travertine and handmade ceramics are becoming

the preferred choice for kitchens and ensuite. What makes these materials so compelling is their variation, such as the subtle tonal shifts, irregular edges and a natural movement that adds depth without overpowering the space. When paired with colour, whether it's a deep, moody cabinet or a soft neutral palette, these tiles add richness and complexity. The beauty lies in the imperfection; it reads as layered and quietly luxurious.

WALLPAPER

Wallpaper has also evolved beyond bold prints and feature walls. Today, it's less about statement pattern and more about dimension. Designers are leaning into grass cloth, linen weaves, plaster-inspired finishes and soft, textural murals that add depth without overwhelming a room. These materials often carry subtle hues that shift with the light, creating a dynamic yet understated backdrop. In a dining room or bedroom, wallpaper becomes an atmospheric layer that supports both the architecture and the

colour palette, allowing the space to feel cohesive and intentional.

TEXTILES

Textiles complete the story, bringing comfort and tactility into the home. We are seeing a shift toward heavier, more substantial fabrics, such as nubby linens, wool blends, bouclé and velvets that feel soft yet structured. These materials work beautifully with colour, enriching it and making it feel more grounded. Upholstery, drapery and soft furnishings are no longer just accents; they are essential layers that define how a space is experienced. It's less about sleek perfection and more about softness, warmth and livability.

Together, these elements reflect a broader movement in design: Homes that feel personal, expressive and deeply considered. Colour sets the tone, but texture gives it depth. In today's landscape, luxury is defined by how thoughtfully these layers come together.

Texture is where design becomes experiential transforming a home into something that feels warm, inviting and entirely your own.



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