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# Interior Design Trends in 2021

[You cannot afford to ignore them!]

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A sustainable space does not only consider the origin of the materials used for the interior design project, but also the impact that the various object shave on the environment at the end of their life cycle. In order for the design to be truly eco-friendly it is therefore good to make sure that we choose materials that are 100% transformable or recyclable, preferring those that promise strength and durability.



## Spaces that go smart

The Internet of Things is another important pillar of Interior Design 2021. Spaces in the home are becoming increasingly connected and smart devices are gaining a prominent role in different rooms.

Virtual assistants, remotely controllable appliances and home automation systems simplify the management of domestic spaces and contribute to improving the well-being of those living in the home. With this in mind, 2021 is the year to integrate home and work environments with home automation systems. These systems constantly monitor and analyse the situation to ensure the perfect balance of room or office brightness, temperature and air quality at all times.



## Warm colours inspired by the Earth

The colours that will dominate interior design over the coming months are warm colours that inspire tranquillity, well-being and relaxation. They are earthy colours, with shades ranging from beige to dark brown. To complete the palette, there is the range of greens inspired by the plant world and the range of blues that recall the colour of the sky and water.

This “natural” palette can be used both to decide the colour of the walls and to define the colour of accessories and furnishings, such as cushions, lamps or vases.



# The cottagecore style with a dash of vintage

It made its appearance as early as 2020, but the **cottagecore style** is likely to explode in the coming months. Inspired by a rustic and bucolic atmosphere, this style allows you to step back in time and rediscover the rhythms of life and furnishings of old country houses.

With its **slightly nostalgic, warm and richly detailed character**, the cottagecore style is in stark contrast to other styles that have been the protagonists of recent years, such as the minimalist and Nordic styles, which are characterised by a decidedly more essential approach.



**Hand-painted ceramics, hand crafted cotton house hold linen, floral wallpaper and wooden furniture that does not need to hide the signs of time** are some of the elements that will make their way into interior design projects throughout the year. Antiques, vintage accessories and dishcloths from grandmothers' trousseaux complete the picture.



## Modular home offices

In 2020, many people had to move their work activities from the office to the home environment. In order to meet the needs of those who want or need to work from home, ingenious solutions have emerged that make it possible to create comfortable and flexible working environment even in the smallest of domestic spaces.

**Concealed desks and modular wall** that can be moved around to define work spaces are just some of the options available to those who need to build a functional home office. There are a number of different solutions to delimit the work area and separate it visually from the rest of the domestic space. For example, curtains or designer bookcases can be used. Or you can create a sort of green barrier, created with plants and flowers.



## Tailor-made spaces for wellness and fitness

More and more, the home is becoming a place where you can also take care of your body and mind. This is why an increasing number of interior design projects include saunas, private spas and gyms.

**Wellness spaces** are designed to meet the training or relaxation needs of all family members. Rooms dedicated to fitness are filled with multifunctional machines and benches, chosen to satisfy those who aim to train their muscles. They are also populated with spaces that promote concentration, i.e. environments tailored to those who choose to practice yoga and mindfulness meditation.

Designer equipment is an interesting solution for exercising without sacrificing style. Yoga mats, exercise balls and dumbbells have a well-thought-out look and elegant lines. This makes them objects with a great ability to furnish, even in the moments between workouts. This option is also ideal when the gym is in an open room or is close to the busiest areas of the house.

**What is the trend for the bathroom?** The bathroom is becoming the place to create your own home spa. Hydromassage baths, Turkish baths, chromotherapy and aromatherapy are a valid option for maximising relaxation. All you have to do is immerse yourself in the water, abandon yourself to the massage of the water jets and let colours and scents promote relaxation to regain a pleasant feeling of well-being.

## Optimal use of energy, at home as well as in hotels

The role of technology is increasingly central to ensuring efficient use of resources and avoiding waste. Smart systems installed in homes and hotels make it possible to control consumption and optimise the comfort level of each room.

Through the use of sensors, air quality can be monitored at all times and automatically filtered when needed. Water consumption can also be optimised, through systems that avoid waste and dispersion.

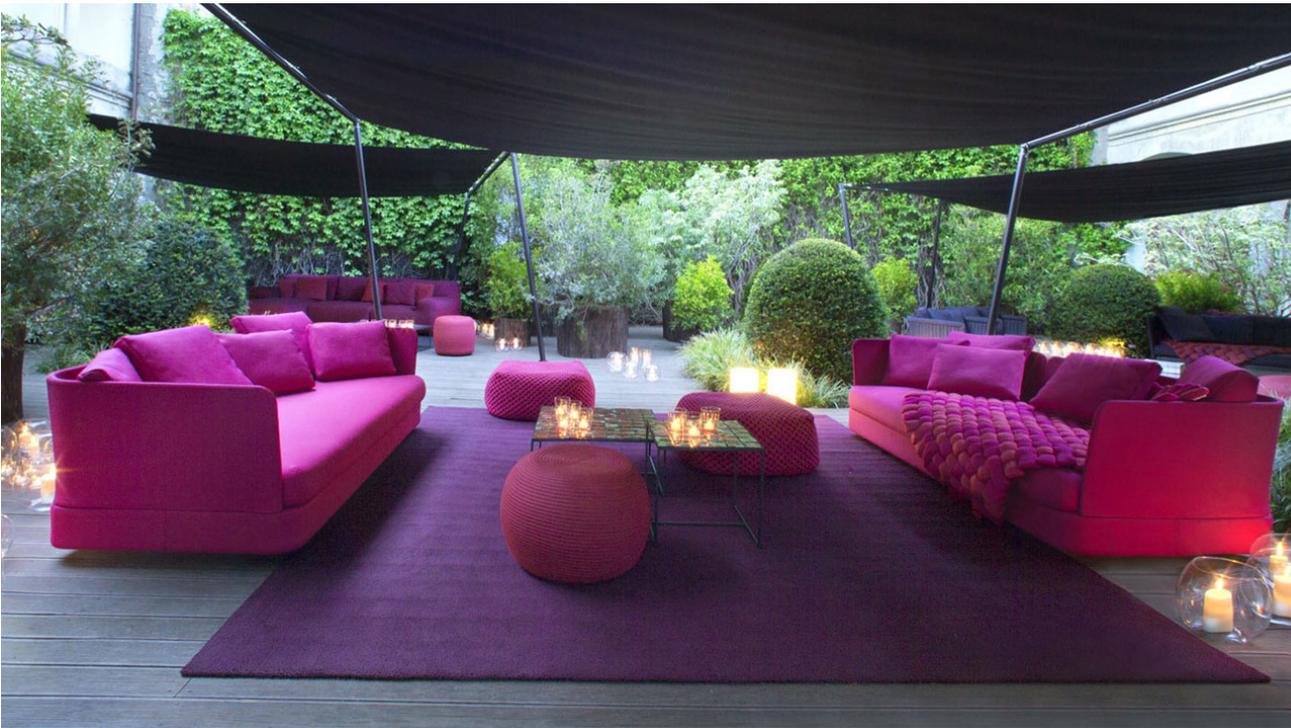
Technology can also help with sleep. Sleep monitoring systems can analyse people's sleeping habits to recharge energy during the night. This allows you to wake up immediately ready to face the next day's tasks.

In hotel rooms, technology is the best ally of those who want to offer their guests the best possible stay experience. Smart hotel rooms allow guests to adjust the temperature and the intensity of natural and artificial light, so they can easily find the ideal configuration to maximise their comfort. These are the trends for 2021.

## Bars and restaurants? The need for an increasingly precise identity

**Interior design in the restaurant sector** is aimed at making the establishment recognisable and unique. The spaces are shaped according to the identity of the bar or restaurant, using colours and materials that are consistent with the style and philosophy of the offer.

The interior and atmosphere of the premises are designed to take customers by the hand and lead them to discover the place and the experience. **For café and bistro projects**, solutions that combine vintage elements with modern solutions are an excellent option. At the same time, for elegant restaurants it is preferable to focus on essential furniture made of wood, stone and metal.

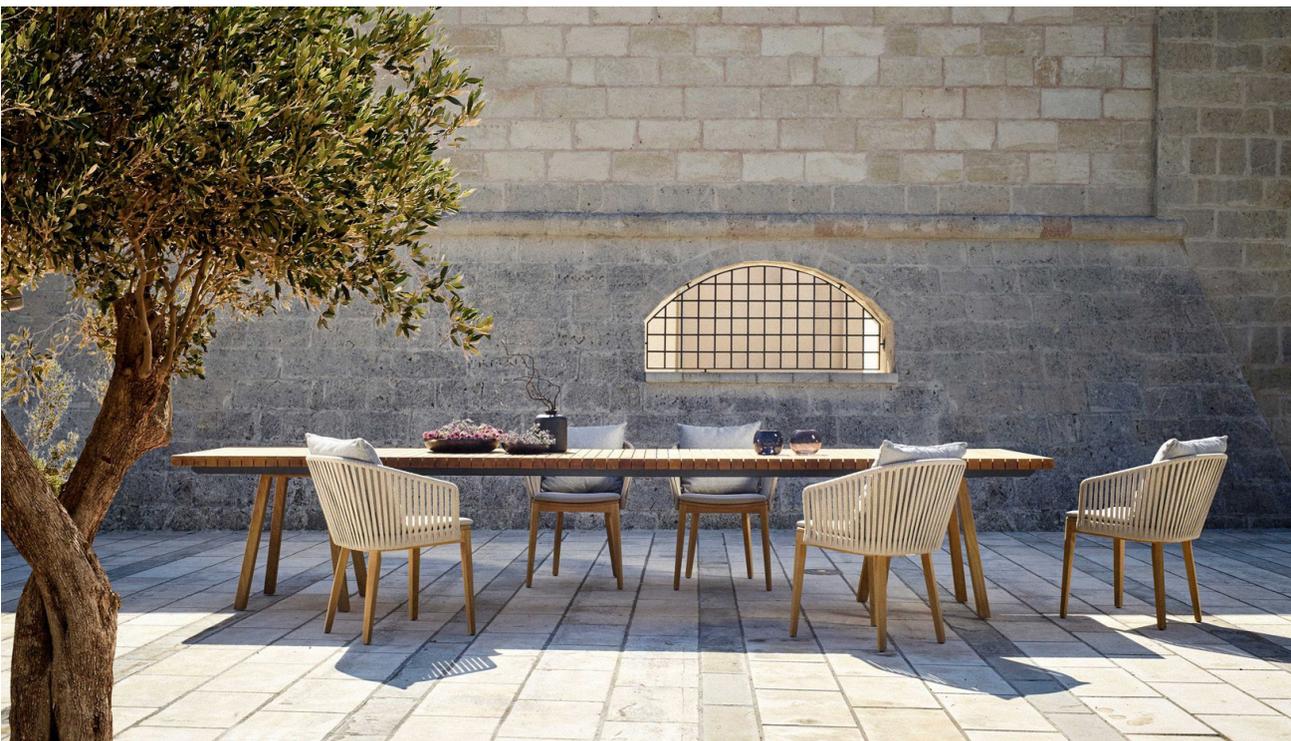


## Natural atmospheres and bright colours for outdoor spaces

Among the interior design trends of 2021, we cannot forget the design of outdoor spaces. Verandas, patios and gardens become an extension of the interior or a separate space to be transformed into an oasis of tranquillity.

Wood is a central element in the furnishing of outdoor spaces, used on its own or in combination with metals and natural fibres for tables, armchairs and decorations. Colour is the great protagonist of outdoor furniture. The use of bright colours with personality is a growing trend in the furnishing of this area of the house. Coloured elements should be carefully measured and distributed to create a perfect balance between the different components of the space.

Depending on how the furnishing scheme is structured, you can decide to furnish the room with sofas, curtains or swings. For fabrics and accessories in this area of the house, give free rein to bright and intense colours, from yellow to red and blue. Used on their own, in combination with each other or mixed with white elements, these colours contribute to making the environment welcoming and even more pleasant moments spent outdoors.



*In short: the outdoors is now a precious environment and the object of consequent care. For example, we have gone from simple barbecues to fully-fledged outdoor kitchens. Even the relaxation area, from a simple conversation corner, has become a real living room, equipped with comfortable sofas, rockers and armchairs.*



## The terrace trend continues...

In interior design choices concerning wall coverings and flooring, we see the continuation of the terrace trend, both original and especially in variations made of gress and tiles.



These products imitate the beauty of the famous Venetian floor, adding the practicality of the industrial product so as to cut costs. They come in large formats, up to three metres in length. The colours are varied, from neutral to bold shades, with various sizes also available in terms of textures.

... as well as natural stones and marbles

In natural stones, a must is represented by the Lombard strain, rare and expensive, which expresses a minimal contemporary luxury. The reference marbles remain Calacatta gold, brown Imperador and the timeless Carrara white. A marble that has spread rapidly and was previously little used? Sahara Noir, which is being included in more and more collections.



## On the walls? Wallpaper, but not only

Wallpaper remains fashionable and extends its applications especially in the bathroom, in the fibreglass variant. There is no single graphic reference. In fact, all kinds of graphics decorate bathrooms, staircases and walls in the living room or bedroom.

Great use is also made of iron - natural black iron -, waxed or powder-coated, for a neater look. With thicknesses of just a few millimetres, it is able to create furniture that is both minimal and sophisticated, yet with an essential design.

Iron is also used for shelves, panelling in general and entire bookcases. It is a material that was once considered poor, especially when compared to steel and brass, but which is now back in vogue and no longer an economic choice. Iron is in fact considered increasingly chic and sought-after.

On the walls of living areas, a must-have is the faux electric or ethanol fireplace. The fireplace heats the room and becomes smart, controlled by a remote control. The beauty of fire and the practicality of use have made it a new success. No effort, no danger of fire and no chance of getting dirty. All just a click away.



# The sofa is transformed and acquires a new identity

As far as sofas are concerned, the trend towards curved or rounded compositions is gaining ground. The sofa becomes a markedly convivial element or - just as in the case of the round table - curves in on itself to be more cosy and intimate, allowing all the guests to look each other in the eye.



In addition, the sofa tends to become more and more an equipped island, including a table, coffee tables, bookcases and even lamps. In short: we are moving towards the idea of a super comfortable element, deep and fully equipped for reading, watching TV, using tablets, working or even having a snack. All with class and attention to design.



## High-end furniture complements more basic or ethnic designs.

The look of the house is layered, depending on the environment. In this way, along with very prestigious furniture you can find good design complements, but decidedly cheaper. This happens especially in secondary and less representative rooms. The common denominator, of course, remains a certain taste, to avoid the mistake of proposing out-of-place combinations.



## Extractor hoods take centre stage in the kitchen



In the kitchen, we are seeing a boom in cooker hoods that disappear from view. Or, in the opposite direction to the one just mentioned, the trend of hoods that become additional wall cabinets, where books and small aromatic plants for cooking can be stored.

In this area of the home, marble has been largely replaced by synthetic agglomerates that are stain and impact resistant. These are practical solutions that last a long time, to the delight of those who love objects that acquire a lived-in flavour over time.

It is also worth noting that metal is also becoming popular in the kitchen, especially satin-finished or coloured steel, even mixed with wooden shelving.

Dining tables are made of marble, mainly oval, elongated oval or barrel-shaped. The most prestigious ones are made of rare and exotic marbles, which make the object unique and inimitable.

The dining room chair becomes a cosy armchair, sometimes with exaggerated shapes to emphasise its presence, design and comfort.

## Walnut remains the king among woods

As far as wood is concerned, the predominance of walnut remains absolute, the preference for it remains undisputed.

Generally speaking, warm or dark-coloured wood is much preferred to cooler, Nordic light woods. Vienna straw also reappears, evoking past times and ancient knowledge, emphasising the handmade product, since its processing cannot be industrialised. It is therefore a finish that puts the spotlight on the individual detail, thus increasing the perception of the value of the entire furnishing.

## Bookcases become more beautiful

Bookcases are becoming lighter and have a more aesthetic function than the function of storage. In other words, they become elegant shelves where books and important objects can be displayed.

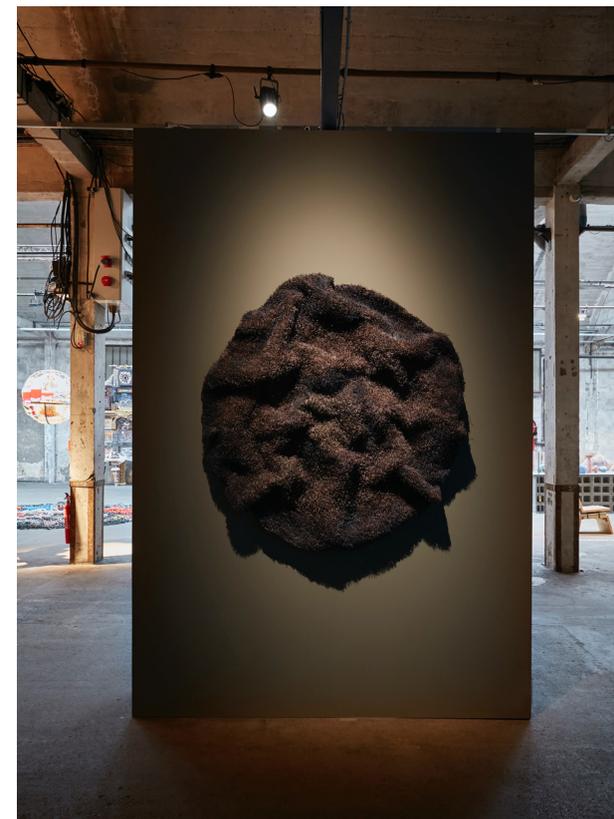
In most cases, they are inspired by the famous Albini bookcase, reinterpreting it in a minimalist way, with new woods and new finishes, so as to make it more precious, a real must for the living room.



## Art enters the home, to emphasize the primacy of aesthetics

Homes are also populated with objects of art, which help to give a cultured and luxurious accent to the interior.

Collectors of design objects are on the rise, i.e. people with good taste who choose furnishings that are true works of art. So make way for highly sought-after and expensive rugs, tables and sideboards. All products in limited edition or even unique pieces.



# The bathroom? A small home spa

The bathroom is increasingly seen as a personal mini spa and is populated with walk-in shower, which can also perform the function of a Turkish bath, chromotherapy and sauna.

The round mirror, better if backlit and large, is another distinctive element of the bathroom with a sophisticated design.





## Minimal and precious lamps

Lamps are increasingly minimalist and sophisticated. For example, they play with transparent crystals intersected by gold metal profiles.

The aim is to amaze with the lightness and perspective distortion created. Also of note are the modular ceiling systems, which allow the light fixture to be positioned where it is most desired, tracing graphic paths in the various rooms, playing with the power supply wires.



## Room for high-quality carpets (as long as they are modern)

Carpets are becoming increasingly modern and made to measure. Large carpets define the living and sleeping areas.

The shapes are often irregular and made of vegetable silk. Eco-sustainable choices such as banana silk or bamboo silk are becoming more popular.



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