

Texture and Its Place In Your Home

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Among the top tools of design – both inside your home and in your outdoor spaces – are color, line and texture. Texture, however, is easily the most underused of them all. Embracing different textures in your home can add yet another dimension to the comfort and interest in your living spaces. It is much easier to accomplish than you think since texture is brought into a space by textiles, furniture materials and finishes and the choice of accessories.

A fun example of texture changing the feel of a room is in the mix of a sleek mod white designer chair with a funky lime green shag carpet rug: the chair by itself could be used in a Swedish design and the rug could be used for a '60s throw-back but together they create a modern space that is fun and unexpected. In a Spanish style home with smooth plaster or adobe walls, wrought iron accessories such as wall art, staircase railings, and cabinet hardware adds the classic texture interest which defines this architectural and design style. Stone or wooden board games such as a chess set can also add a touch of texture with a playful touch in a living or family room.

In the bedroom, texture is everywhere. In a room with rustic home décor, natural materials tend to lead the way in textures: solid, knotted woods and heavy, soft textiles are standards in this style. But a porcelain washbasin on a dresser adds another interesting element that keeps with the rustic theme while also bringing in a bit of elegance.

The dining room is another place that people don't think would benefit from texture differences. But it is the perfect place as it is a natural one for color and texture as it is where food is consumed. A wood cutting board with a wedge of cheese on it with a baguette surround by glasses of red wine presents half a dozen different textures for the senses to enjoy – smooth, soft, grainy, and knotted to name a few. Use these elements as inspiration to add textures that are both unexpected and yet fitting. In fact, that is the key to using textures in any room: consider the nature of the space and use that as inspiration for the different elements to be used in the space.