

HOTEL CHIC AT HOME

INSPIRED DESIGN IDEAS
FROM GLAMOROUS ESCAPES

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Power Colors

There was a time when I painted everything a different shade of light blue. My bedroom? Very pale, cloudy sky blue. My living room? A deeper shade that looked fun paired with a red couch and curtains. My son's room? Teal. Something about blue felt beachy and relaxed, and I wanted that vibe despite being in New York City. However, eventually it started to feel like a safe—and completely boring—choice. I wanted to go bolder, and I found inspiration in hotels. I'll admit that my living room is now navy, which I acknowledge is still blue, but the rich color was inspired by the glamorous living space at the J.K. Place Capri. For my bedroom, I took note of the deep gray/green hue at the C.O.Q. in Paris and copied the dark shade—I swear I sleep better in that astonishing color.

So many forward-thinking designers are experimenting with color in fresh ways. At The Merchant in Salem, Massachusetts, it's impossible not to be impressed by designer Rachel Reider's deft combination of a circular brown wallpaper, an abstract black-and-white headboard

fabric, green curtains, green leopard-print pillows, a purple throw, and black trim on the walls and ceiling. Even if you just extracted a few elements of the room to re-create—brown, purple, and kelly green—it's still a sophisticated and unusual spin on a color palette. Looking to hotels for different color ideas will always yield some unexpected palettes—whether it's the glamorous pairing of bright green and gold at Casa Fayette, in Guadalajara, Mexico, or the soothing shades of pale pink and gray at The Chequit on Shelter Island.

OPPOSITE: To give a room filled with different prints a sophisticated edge and a unifying element, paint the doors and trim a glossy black. It's a design trick that works beautifully in this guest room at The Merchant in Salem, Massachusetts.

ABOVE: Geometric pattern La Fiorentina by design legend David Hicks never gets old. The pink-and-wine, diamond-print curtains command the room at the Captain Fairfield Inn in Kennebunkport, Maine.



LEFT: Pops of green in riffs on different classic patterns enliven the neutral, grasscloth-covered walls of a suite at The Merchant.

OPPOSITE, TOP: The rooms at The Chequit Hotel show how effective colorblocking can be. If designer and owner Kevin O'Shea had painted the guest rooms all gray, they would have appeared too severe; entirely in pink, they would have felt too girly. Paired together, however, they play off each other in a fresh and sophisticated way.

OPPOSITE, BOTTOM: A heavily lacquered, green headboard with a built-in, gold-painted shelf combines a contemporary profile with glamorous color at Casa Fayette in Guadalajara, Mexico.



One Bold Move

Hotels are the best source of fearless decorating ideas because they often use design to differentiate themselves from the competition. When translating major design moves from hotel to home, remember not to re-create the look exactly, but to scale it to everyday reality: what works in a space with high ceilings and lots of square footage may not work in the burbs. The trick is to focus on re-creating just one impressive exclamation point from a hotel, not ten.

This group of hotel spaces showcases the power of making one bold move. Sometimes all it takes is one confident choice to make a memorable or emotional impact. In a living room, that could be going with an unexpected piece of art, a powerful color, a showstopping print on upholstery, or standout furniture.

Casas del XVI in the Dominican Republic, decorated by Patricia Reid, is a great example of how to make a commercial-scale design statement work in real life. The conversation-starting poppy-red hue of the walls avoids

being overwhelming because it's paired with shades of brown. The instinctual move would be to inject a neutral by keeping the furniture white, but that would actually contrast too much with red. Furniture in neutral and brown shades and in linen and leather balances out the color while keeping the look sophisticated and exotic. An embroidered fabric panel hung as art features the same shade of red in its pattern—by having the art echo the bold color, rather than introducing yet another hue, the art works with the vibrant red, not against it.

OPPOSITE: A deep gray-blue makes a large lounge area feel cocooning and intimate for guests coming in from the Manhattan streets at the Baccarat Hotel and Residences. Paris-based design duo Gilles & Boissier incorporated custom Baccarat crystal chandeliers with pleated shades to punctuate the dark envelope with some dazzle.

ABOVE: In a room otherwise filled with earth tones at the Hotel Jerome in Aspen, adding a vibrant red rug might seem counterintuitive. However, not only is the design of the Navajo-inspired rug eye-catching and thematic for the Western location, the pattern adds color and is a good choice for a high-traffic area.





Bunks

It's pretty much impossible to resist the appeal of a bunk bed. Even kids who aren't fans of going to sleep are eager to experience the high perch of a top bunk or the cozy cocoon of the lower one. Bunks are practical too, since they allow for accommodating more kids. Plus, by stacking beds you're maximizing the floor space—always a plus. Bunk rooms are usually designed for groups of kids, of course, but many hotels and hostels use them to offer inexpensive lodging for adults, too. These spaces can offer design inspiration for making the most of even the smallest quarters. At the Ace Hotel in Portland, Oregon, for example, the clever bunk room layout shows how to make a tiny room into a space for three with an L-shaped configuration.

Hotels provide an abundance of creative design ideas for those who are handy enough to build something rather than go the standard catalog route. The simple bunks at the Field Guide in Vermont are examples of how bunks can be built into a small nook. Scarp Ridge Lodge in Colorado provides a template for how to design a room for five—

complete with a triple bunk. At Chalet Pelerin in the French Alps, the bunk design is so chic anyone between the ages of three and a hundred and three would want to spend the night there. Designers Blake Pike and Jane Hines of No. 12 Interiors placed wood slats at the foot of each bed to make the lower beds feel doubly cozy, while providing a built-in ladder to the top.

LEFT: Half the fun of bunk beds is climbing up into them. The topmost bunk at Scarp Ridge Lodge in Crested Butte, Colorado, is accessed via a metal ladder, then a platform, then a short flight of steps..

ABOVE: The bunk room at the Ace Hotel in Portland, Oregon, shows how to make a small room sleep three. The wall also features a collection of band posters that are affixed using wheat paste—a groovy art idea for a teen's room.





Doubling Up

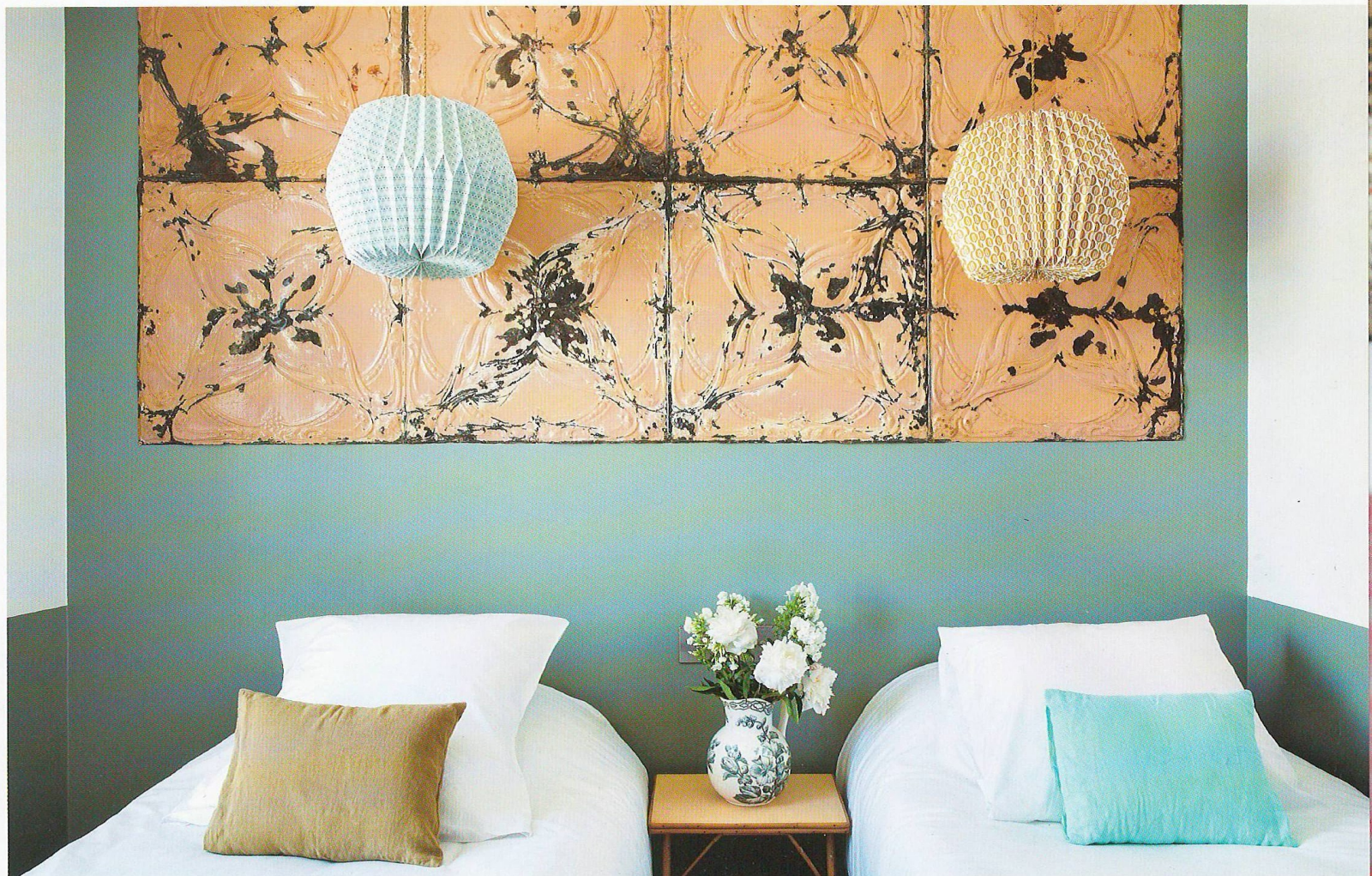
Whether you are designing a bedroom for siblings or a guest room, it always poses a bigger challenge to create a space for two than for one. Hotels, which often have double beds, offer some solutions for how to make this work visually. Having a uniform backdrop, matching beds, and coordinating bedding helps rid the space of too much visual clutter. Think symmetry—a design trick that works to give the impression of a larger space.

If the idea of a kids' room teeming with color and pattern isn't your thing, take note of the twin rooms at The Dean. The all-white space uses simple beadboard as headboards, then pairs it with sleek lighting and mirrored walls to amp up the crisp, bright space with natural light. All these features make it more intriguing than your basic white box while still retaining the calming, easy qualities of that color.

The twin room at the Hotel Henriette shows that you don't need pricey beds—or even headboards—to make a room intriguing. Instead, mattresses covered in plain white duvets are set against a green headboard wall, but the interesting twist is that the same color wraps the bottom third of the adjacent side walls, to add dimension and structure to the room. Vintage ceiling tiles hung above as art create the illusion of architecture and furniture.

One of the dreamiest children's spaces can be found at Kurland Hotel in South Africa. Their kids' loft features floral sheets and pillows paired with plaid. Bright touches of red and pink in lampshades, pillows, and blankets punctuate the space. The loft also comes with the most personal and fun part of any children's room—toys. Teddy bears, puzzles, and safari animals are ready to play.

This magical children's room at the Kurland Hotel in South Africa features a charming pattern combo of different plaids, florals, and a hit of red on each white bed.





Playful Patterns

Statement-making patterns featuring interesting motifs and lively colors are perfect for kids' rooms. If you're ready to go bold on walls, take inspiration from the eye-popping, shell-festooned Sunshine wallpaper from Lulu DK at 76 Main on Nantucket. If you prefer a more graphic look, note Vivienne Westwood's Squiggle print for Cole and Son at No. 38, The Park and No. 131 in the Cotswolds. The blue-and-white colorway would be great in a younger child's room, while the orange-and-brown print has a little more of an edge, making it an option for a teen's space.

Themed motifs in children's rooms often get dated quickly when—much as parents dislike admitting it, the child will outgrow his or her favorite animated characters. However, patterns that reflect their passions are a more sophisticated and long-lived option. The bird wallpaper at Field Guide, fish wallpaper at The Attwater, and the book wallpaper at Generator Hostel in Paris all could work beautifully for children who show an interest in those topics.

ABOVE: Eye-catching colors and playful patterns are givens for creating a cheery children's room. At Main on Nantucket, Lulu DK's Sunshine wallpaper—festooned with drawings of sea urchins, coral, and shells—is paired with Christopher Farr's Carnival pillows.

OPPOSITE: Whether you live in Brooklyn or Brussels, you can bring the spirit of the outdoors inside with this A-Twitter wallpaper from Schumacher at the Field Guide in Stowe, Vermont.

OVERLEAF: When choosing a wallpaper for a nursery or young child's room, go with a pattern that they won't age out of too quickly. This whimsical cow and tree print at Suján Rajmahal in Jaipur, India, strikes a good balance between sweet and sophisticated.





OPPOSITE, TOP: Although there are four bold prints in this bedroom at The Attwater in Rhode Island, they work seamlessly together because they're linked by a crisp palette of blue, orange, and white.

OPPOSITE, BELOW: At the Hotel Fabric in Paris, brown and white stripes covering one wall are paired with an oversize orange headboard, which provides a lively focal point. Curtains in a happy pink and orange print add some softness to the intense color scheme.

RIGHT: The Attwater in Rhode Island adopts fresh twist on nautical-themed wallpaper—this fish print would work equally well for a kid's bathroom, playground, or bedroom.

OVERLEAF: All you need is love and groovy décor. At the Hotel Dylan in Woodstock, New York, The Novogratz went with a 1960s-era scheme that would be an inspired design for a teen's room or a basement hangout space. Tapestry wallpaper by Cavern Home offers a graphic backdrop in black and white that lets bright colors like turquoise, yellow, and red stand out even more.





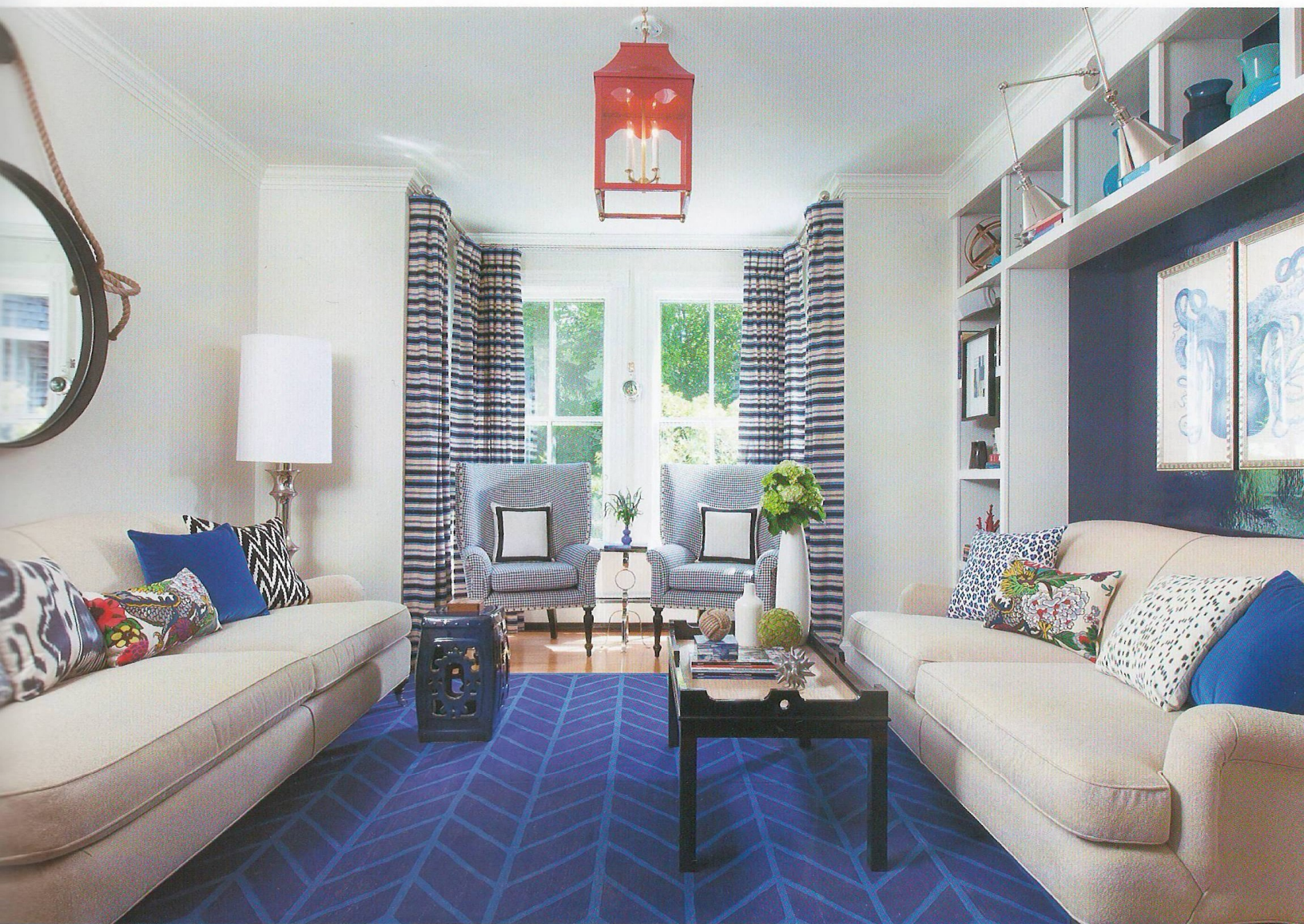
Secluded Spaces

Hotels love to wow visitors with grand entry lobbies, but they also know they need to offer guests quieter spots where they can truly unwind, do a little work, or take a phone call. Their ideas for living areas in suites and cozy nooks carved from otherwise unused public spaces are full of ideas for designing a smaller room or den at home. Some, like the Hotel Bachaumont in Paris, play up the teeny proportions they have to work with by incorporating a dark palette for the walls and furniture that feels all-enveloping. Other hotels serve as examples for how to make the most of tight—even awkward—proportions. For example, at the Hotel Jerome in Aspen, a narrow living room is arranged to entertain multiple guests, thanks to a custom, 18-foot-long couch matched with several cocktail tables and well-placed chairs.

As the trend toward constructing enormous living and great rooms continues, ironically the appeal of having a smaller space to use occasionally feels that much more compelling. While larger layouts are wonderful for group gatherings, a cozier, more intimate spot for conversation, reading, working, and lounging feels warm and inviting in a way an oversize space simply doesn't.

Rethink that empty corner in your home by building a bench and piling it high with pillows, enclosing it in dark walls, and lighting it with reading lamps, like at Morocco's Riad Meriem. Try out design moves that are not adaptable to vast settings, like the confident vertical stripes at Singita Sasakwa. Or use power patterns and color to draw your eye away from a room's tight size. At 76 Main on Nantucket, the bold print on a carpet and curtains keeps the focus on the design details, not on the square footage. Whether you are looking for a glamorous den or just to make the most out of a small city living room, hotels yield dozens of innovative ideas—they're experts at making the most out of whatever space is available, and at using every square inch.

To make vintage finds—or just older furniture—look fresh, sometimes all you need is the right backdrop. At the Freehand Hotel in Miami, blue-painted trim warms up a light-filled sunroom and updates the look of the retro furniture.



OPPOSITE, TOP LEFT: Gorgeous colors and sumptuous textures at the Hotel Bachaumont in Paris offer glamorous inspiration for a diminutive seating nook. A deep coral velvet sofa provides comfortable seating in an unusual hue that is echoed in the prints of quirky pouf-stools. A navy carpet with a print that echoes the fan shapes found elsewhere is a complementary color that helps the lighter hues to stand out.

OPPOSITE, TOP RIGHT: The wing chair is a classic piece—and one that's often handed down in families—but making it feel fresh can be a challenge. Designer India Mahdavi came up with a stylish solution for recycling the Connaught's many wing chairs leftover from the London hotel's 2007 renovation. For its Coburg Bar, she gave the vintage chairs a new look by upholstering them in a colorful array of velvets, then trimmed them with a cheeky black fringe.

OPPOSITE, BELOW: Cozy, velvet sofas, Eames Molded Plywood Chairs, rounded ottomans, and circular, low coffee tables that can double as seating offer an abundance of seating options at Altapura in France. The space provides inspiration for how to design a basement hangout space or a kid's playroom.

ABOVE: If you are wondering how maximize space in a long, narrow room, take cues from designer Rachel Reider's design at Main on Nantucket. A path of pattern on the rug and curtains leads your eye to the window and distracts from the tight proportions. Two long sofas are placed on opposite walls, one inset under built-in shelves. Two wing chairs offer even more seating, making the small room work for big groups.



Lounging

We all want to be more like our best vacation selves in real life—unhurried, worry-free, and mellow. So why not re-create a setting at home that led to a moment when you were completely relaxed? Start by recalling where you were during your favorite, most serene moments—the sleek daybed you lolled on for hours at a quiet beach, the afternoon spent poring over a new best-seller while swinging in a hammock, the wraparound sofa covered with pillows where you gathered with friends for cocktails. Bring an element of that into your own outdoor space—just having it available there will change your mindset, even if you don't get the chance to use it every day. Hang that embroidered hammock from Mexico up on the corner of your front porch. Set up that colorful hanging cocoon from the W in Vieques in your backyard. Take a cue from the Uxua Casa Hotel & Spa in Brazil and replace formal outdoor furniture from a catalog with floor cushions and low tables—a setup that will definitely inspire bare feet and lazy afternoons. You may not be able to be on permanent vacation, but this could be the next best thing.

