

Mixing It Up

Martyn Lawrence-Bullard designs boho-elegant rooms for his celebrity clients. Just how does he achieve polished results with a funky mix of objects? Read on



DESIGNER
Martyn Lawrence-Bullard
WORKS WITH Elton John,
Eva Mendes, Ellen Pompeo

LAYER ARTFULLY
“You can give an interior instant, exotic flair and warmth by overlapping rugs,” says Lawrence-Bullard. “Make sure they share at least one color, and use that on the walls to pull it all together. It’s absolutely OK to contrast rug weaves and thicknesses.”



Medium finial, \$60; crateandbarrel.com. Bronze head, \$165; store.metmuseum.org. Bowl, \$10; william-wayne.com.

2 PLAY WITH SCALE

“A collection of pieces that’s all on one level looks like clutter, but a grouping with different heights and widths appears balanced and beautiful,” he explains. With that in mind, “combine influences from Africa, Italy, Target and Tiffany. They can be from all time periods—it’s a very modern way of living.”

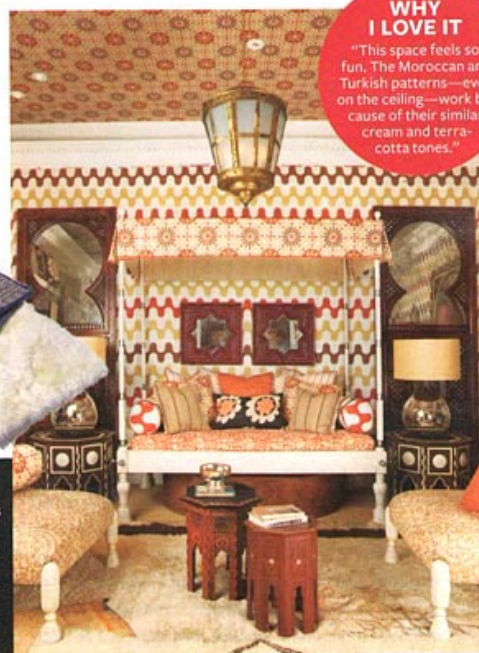


TIP

“Always give objects room to breathe. Avoid cramming too much in!”



From top: Blue tile and reversible stripes throw rugs, Pottery Barn, \$129 each/3' x 5'; potterybarn.com. Sheepskin rug, West Elm, \$159/3' x 5'; westelm.com.



WHY I LOVE IT

“This space feels so fun. The Moroccan and Turkish patterns—even on the ceiling—work because of their similar cream and terracotta tones.”

3 PILFER A PALETTE

Fashion designers do it all the time with their lines, and you can too: Create a unified story using colors inspired by art. Lawrence-Bullard turns to Matisse, Mondrian and Warhol (especially his silk screens) for novel hues. “Mediterranean blue walls, lime linen club chairs, and mandarin accents recall the exotic look of a Matisse,” he says.

Matisse, *His Art and His Textiles*, \$65; abramsbooks.com.

