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# HEARTH & HOME

## THIS YEAR'S TOP DESIGN & DÉCOR TRENDS

As 2022 grows ever further away in our rear-view mirrors, this is the ideal time to splash out on some home upgrades to give your interior space a much-needed revamp.



**IN FLIGHT**  
28



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✕ Kim Williams, Cape Town interior designer, behaviour specialist, and owner of the Kim Williams Design Studio unveils the top trends for 2023.

### COLOUR IS BACK WITH A BANG

The muted tones that had a calming and healing effect on us during the pandemic are being replaced with brighter colours and bolder designs.

We will likely see a significant uptick in rooms filled with mood-boosting colours that reflect personal style and taste. Yellow shades are especially associated with feelings of happiness and optimism, and Plascon's colour combination for 2023 really captures the different stages of light and cheerfulness of this time of year.

### CREATE AN EXPERIENCE

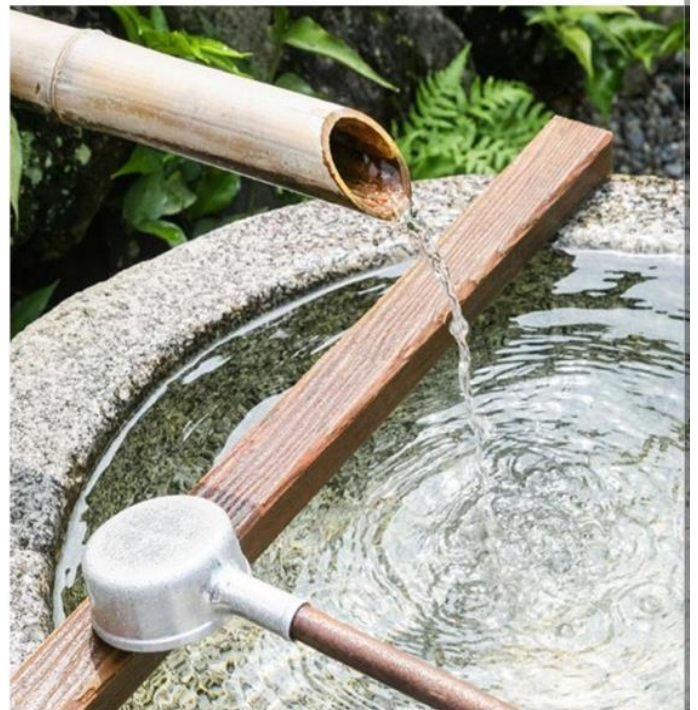
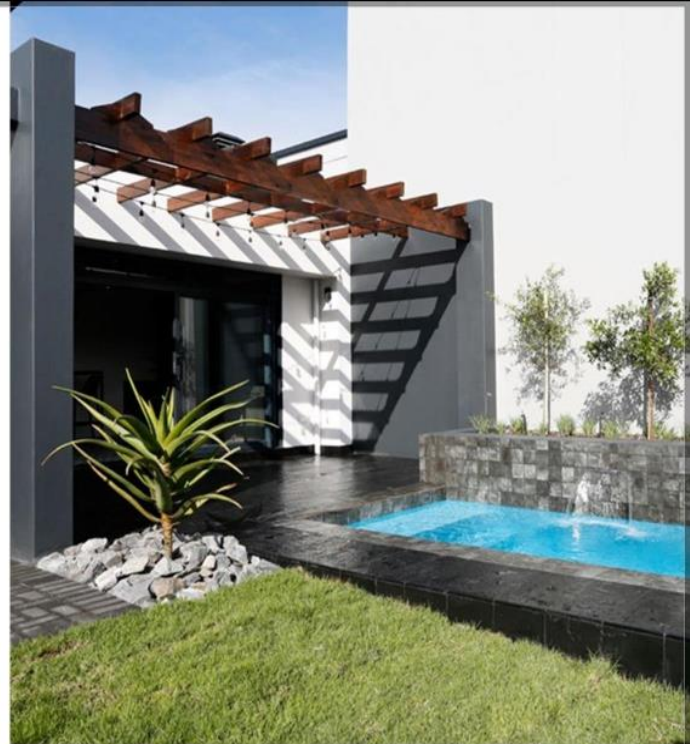
Thanks to social media, we are now all mini-celebrities with our own brands and aesthetics, and the best way to articulate this is in our interior décor. It's a trend mainly driven by a much younger generation wanting to express themselves but also comes off the back of isolation and lockdown restrictions which brought mingling and memory-making to a grinding halt.

Expect bold art pieces and expressive accent colours on fabrics and wallcoverings. They might not conform to typical design and interior décor conventions, but they are effective in adding pops of colour, an element of intrigue and interest, and celebrating different voices, cultures, and individual personalities.

### REPAIR, RECYCLE & REPURPOSE

Deepened healing is a huge behavioural trend. This inclusive design essentially looks at humans' desire always to be connected to nature, and it continues to gain traction.

One reason for this is the strong drive to repair and repurpose items and reduce waste, especially given the current supply and demand constraints caused by the war in Ukraine. We are also seeing a fantastic emerging trend where old, cherished memories from past generations are brought to life in beautiful quilts and wall hangings that act as bespoke décor pieces in the home. It is such a unique way to tell a story and evoke interest.





### EMBRACING OUTDOOR LIVING

In the last few months of summer, most of us want to be outside, barefoot and carefree, sipping drinks and enjoying garden games with loved ones. Merging our outdoor and indoor living spaces will be huge this year, as it brings in light, improves flow and balance and keeps our living area bright and spacious.

Remember, an outdoor space only works if it exudes a bright and breezy feel, so don't add too much. Transparent ghost chairs are a great practical outdoor solution, and you can easily swap out the cushions and throws from season to season. From a décor perspective, this is where you can properly express elements of deepened healing. Consider adding repurposed or repaired items of furniture, previously loved design pieces in soft curves and shapes, and appealing pieces of artwork.

### BE WATER WISE

This year is about reconnecting with all aspects of planet earth, and we don't just mean dotting a few plant pots around. Our connection with water continues to be a rising phenomenon worldwide, especially in places like Cape Town, where cold-water

swimming and general ocean awareness are growing in popularity.

Expect to see plenty of water features this year, both in the home and the garden, that promote feelings of calm, tranquillity and balance.

### CONSCIOUS MATERIALS

Our desire for sustainable, eco-conscious living transcends all parts of the design and décor sphere. We will likely see more use of locally sourced materials, such as rattan, wood, stone, and weaves interspersed with soft furnishings and décor pieces made by local craftspeople.

There will also be a more substantial effort to be deliberate with décor, with every item carefully considered for the value it will add to the overall objective, feeling or experience before it is added to a room. We're likely to see people not just using décor for its aesthetic appeal but to help create or contribute towards the entire energy and experience of the space.

For more tips from Kim Williams, sign-up for her blog at [www.kimwilliams.co.za](http://www.kimwilliams.co.za) or follow her on Facebook and Instagram @kim\_williams\_design. ✂

