

ENGLISH INSPIRATION for summer

British designer Kate Forman shares her design principles for turning a humble English summer-house into a picturesque storybook cottage.

By Jo-Anne Coletti • Photography by Zara Hart

There is nothing more English than the coziness

of interior designer Kate Forman's summer cottage, located in the beautiful pastoral district of Hampshire. Kate's renowned aesthetics are very much true to her English heritage, yet she anchors the traditional style with a subdued, modern twist. Bright-and-bold patterns and stately furnishings that make English décor so regal are muted into hushed tones of watery pinks, grays and soft beiges. Floral textiles and wall coverings are quieter, less dramatic and collectively pull a room together in modest harmony.

Kate's expertise comes from many years as an interior designer and working with vintage textiles. Her obsession with fabric paved a path to launching her own collection of 19th-century-French-inspired designs, fabrics, wall coverings and home accessories. Printed linens, hems, faded-floral cottons, velvets, tailored draperies and pillows are Kate's signature staples for an updated old-English décor that's comfortable and luxurious.

GET THE LOOK

Kate's vision for a room begins by choosing a fabric for pillows and

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SPRIG, A DELIGHTFUL ROSEBUD FABRIC used here for the drapes, works beautifully with many of Kate's complementary designs.

