

Industrial Edge April 2021 Edition

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ookes

LIFE well furnished



Industrial Vibes...

Characterized by the use of metal and wood in its construction, alongside minimalist. Pared-back design, the industrial vibe is a perennial interior design trend. Often this look is informed by the architecture and style of a building - think canal-side loft apartment, docklands penthouse or converted mill. Here, the fabric of the building and its former incarnation will offer a strong industrial backdrop. High ceilings, tall windows, exposed brick and steel girders, all create a very cool, edgy feel and it can be natural to complement the architecture with your decor and furnishings.

But what about if you don't live in a loft with exposed brick walls and industrial joists? - can the industrial look work for your home?

It's all about how far you want to take the look...

Furniture and Decor

If you love the look of your home and aren't planning any major redecoration then you can achieve an industrial vibe with a few key pieces of furniture. Perhaps a concrete-top coffee table, a parquet top dining table or a statement bookcase with matt black metal and chunky oak **shelving**?













Cookes Collection Texas Sideboard

Consider Materials & Finishes

You don't need to remove the plaster from your walls and rip up your carpets, but if you're starting with a new build or are self-building a new home, you have plenty of options from the outset. Could you live with a polished concrete floor, for example (perhaps with underfloor heating)? Would a statement wall in exposed brick or with a slate cladding add some wow factor?





If you're not starting from scratch, you have other options - look for reclaimed timber for floors or worktops. Pallets are a very trendy way to combine up-cycling and the industrial look. They can be used for cladding or for creating furniture, for example and you'll find plenty of inspiration on Pinterest.

Create a statement...

If you don't fancy bare concrete and rough hewn wood on the walls, take a look at Trompe L'Oeil wallpapers which look like panelling, girders or patinated metals. Andrew Martin's 'Engineer' or 'Navigator' collections are a great place to start for distressed-timber effects especially. Paint walls in a dark colour and play with high contrast light and shadow for drama. If you have exposed brick, or highly textured walls it's great to play light across it with 'wall washers' or angled recessed down-lights



Andrew Martin Timber Driftwood Wallpaper

Andrew Martin Lumberjack Timber Wallpaper

Lighting

Lighting is another key way to introduce the industrial look. Rather than have cables chased into the wall, your electrician can install exposed metal conduit for your wall lights. Take a look at Industville's nautical-inspired lights and easily change the look of your room. Angled spots can be suspended on tensioned wire in your kitchen or pendants suspended low with braided cable. And you won't need to hire an electrician if you opt for decorative floor or table lamps. Go playful tripod floor lamps styled like old movie cameras or reflective umbrella lamps.







Soft Furnishings

You'll want to go for simple window treatments and soft furnishings to coordinate with your industrial furniture and decor. Avoid florals, small, delicate prints and fine fabrics and choose heavyweight textured fabrics, linen or add seagrass rugs. Venetian blinds or shutters will work well and can be combined with simple blackout roller blinds for bedrooms.



So the industrial look can work for any home, it's all about how far you want to take it.

A centrepiece table, or a collection of fascinating industrial objects can be enough, or layer with lighting, wallpapers and accessories. If you're going all-in, you can create a feature wall of exposed brick, with accent lighting. And don't forget there are different types of industrial style, Aviation, boats/shipping/ fishing, agriculture, factories and industries such as pottery can all be a great starting point for the industrial look. Take your cues from your local area and have fun sourcing reclaimed pieces, antiques and curios to accessorise your new pieces or decor with.