



Retro Fun

July 2021 Edition

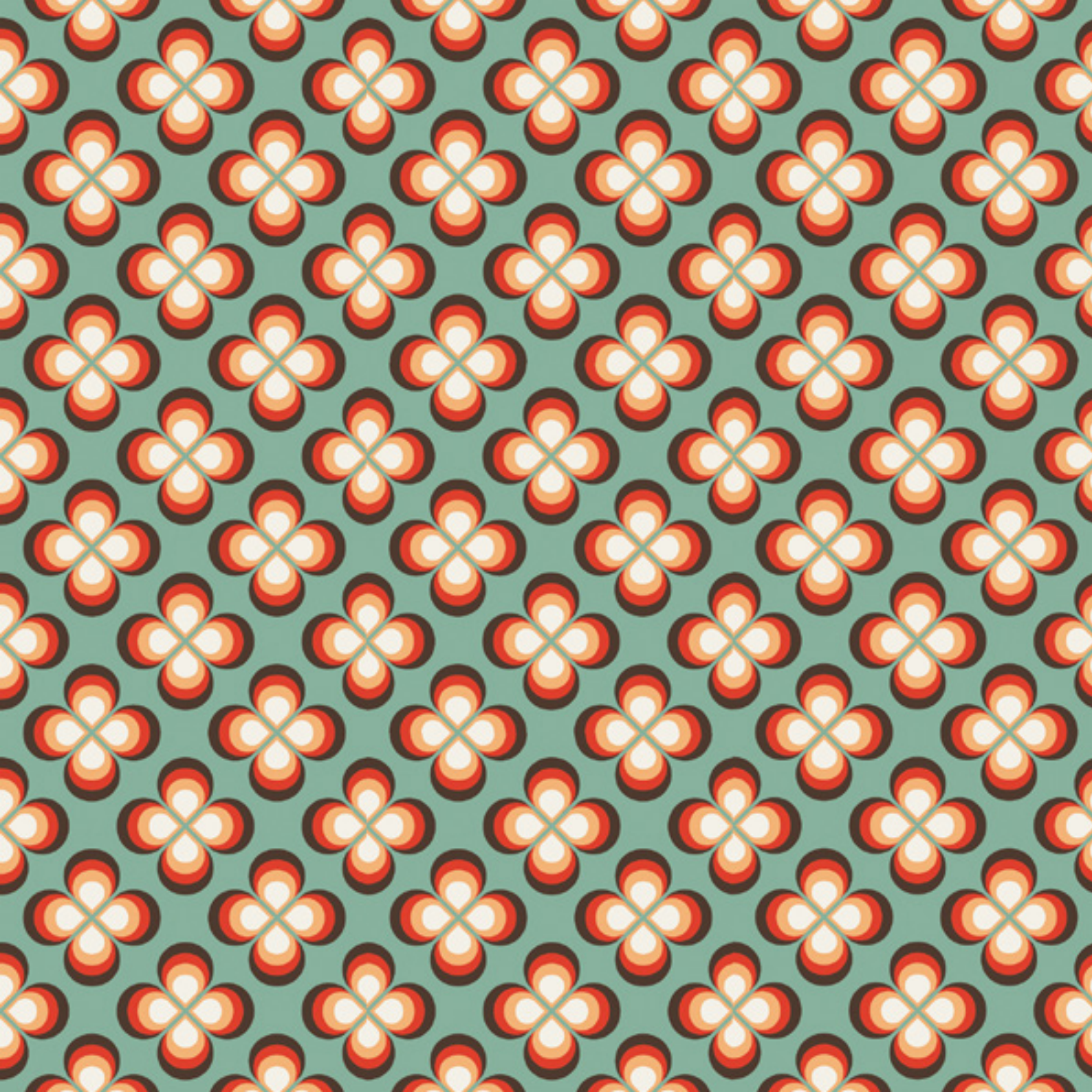
We all have a favourite era of interior design. Maybe it's the Victorian era or Art Deco, but there is always one period that we love more than any other.

We love to look back to the mid 20th Century, then the 50s, 60s and 70s when everything was just so darn cool!

Cookes

| LIFE *well furnished*

The
— *Edit* —
JULY 2021



Design Inspiration

There are quite a few architectural and interior design masters from that era (Le Corbusier, Eileen Gray, Charles and Ray Eames et al). Furnishing your home with vintage design classics gives your home some serious kudos and a timeless cool. But what if you want to add a playful, fun vibe to your home as well as showing off your impeccable design taste?.

Here are 10 ways to add a pop of humour and a dash of whimsy to your retro-inspired home:



1. Are you a bit of a collector?

Display a curated collection of vintage toys, or models, on your bookcase or a display cabinet (**depending on value and if small fingers may be intrigued!**) Ebay, vintage toy fairs or even car boot sales can be a dream for finding unusual, rare and quirky pieces.

Whether it's from your childhood or your grandparents, collections spark memories and conversation and they're well, fun to look at.

2. Vintage signs on your wall

Whether it's Americana, vintage British cartoons in frames, or tin signs with a cheeky message, these can all support your design scheme with a tongue-in-cheek feel.





3. Lighting

Lighting can be a great way to add fun and perhaps even a bit of kitsch to your home - think neon signs, a fun lamp with a velvet base and wild 60s shade, or some retro fairy lights for your garden bar.

4. Cushions

Logo cushions are huge, and with a retro font or styling, you can add a pop of colour and humour to your sofa or favourite armchair



5. Artwork

Go for a gallery wall, or an oversized focal point, propped up against the wall or on a shelf.

Galleries and online art stores will have the artists of bygone eras such as the king of Pop Art Roy Liechtenstein, or comic and paperback 'Pulp Art' book covers by artists like Glen Orbik.





6. Are you lucky enough to have a beach hut, or summerhouse?

This is a great place for quirky, kitsch and fun items. Bunting, flags, vintage trays, art and garden furniture all look completely timeless and in-keeping in a beach hut. And what says 'fun' more than a day at the beach or a BBQ in your garden?

7. Colour

Sure white or grey walls are great backdrops for bright works of art, but if you're a bolder type, show your personality with unapologetically saturated colours. Go all-out with mint green, baby pink, or bold Royal blue. Sure, you can stick to just one wall, but if it suits your personality and energy level, go high-contrast with bold art, a neon sign or contrasting feature walls.





8. Pattern

There are stacks of retro inspired patterns and these can be both soothingly nostalgic prints, or vivid bold designs.

Orla Kiely, one of the ranges we stock, is one of the most popular designers, with a bold retro look.




9. Vintage Clothing

If vintage clothing is your thing, style your space with a cool pair of shoes, a 70's hat and sunglasses on a mannequin head. And while you're at it, an original turntable and some 60s vinyl will really amp up the retro energy!

10. Trends

Of course, you can be retro and bang on trend..macrame, rattan, wicker, are all huge trends and on their second or third time around. How about a macrame plant holder or wall hanging teamed with a vintage hanging egg chair. Your Ercol sideboard and sofa will be the perfect complement





So don't feel design classics have to be serious, pared-back and elegant. Add fun and playful touches to make you smile when you enter a room.

Go as whacky, wild and colourful as you're comfortable with and relax, it's just a prop, or paint colour..it's not forever!