



HOME BEAUTIFUL - June, 2011

Rugs

Anything goes in small doses, so opt for a rug with bold hues, pattern or texture

Prefer hard floors? Use rugs to soften timber or concrete floors or to create zones within open-plan layouts. "Rugs are more interchangeable than broadloom carpet and will add colour and texture to a room without dictating the space for the next 20 years," says Corinne Bolton of Elm Interiors. Rugs are available in all the same materials as carpet (see previous pages), but we can't go past silk for a soft, formal rug with a rich sheen. "Kashmir silk rugs are among the finest in the world, made from cocoon silk on a cotton warp and weft," explains Rebecca Somerville of Hali Handmade Rugs. You'll pay about \$3000 for a 150cm x 90cm genuine Kashmir silk rug, but the good news is, it will last a lifetime. Not recommended if you have pets or children, silk rugs should be cleaned by a skilled professional.

TREND
alert
CARPETS
& RUGS

ECO-FRIENDLY SYNTHETICS

The new Godfrey Hirst Eco+ range is made from a polymer sourced from natural corn sugar, placing less reliance on non-renewable resources



'Band Stripe' 140cm x 200cm wool rug in Crimson/White, \$416, Armadillo & Co.

foot notes

Carpets and rugs bring comfort and warmth to living spaces. Here's the lowdown on the latest

WORDS LEESA MAHER

CARPET OFFERS MORE than just toe-tickling luxury. A solid foundation for any decorating scheme, it retains heat in winter and stays cool in summer, absorbs excess sound, offers a non-slip surface and, thanks to the latest stain-resistance technology, requires little more than a regular vacuum to keep it looking good >



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COLOUR "Carpet is going green, with hues inspired by our natural bushland," says Graeme Durran of Godfrey Hirst Carpets. "Honey, gum green, natural earth and faded beige are all on-trend." Smoky greys and charcoals are also fashion forward.

CHIC SHAPES "Geometric shapes are making their way onto floors," says Graeme. Look for diamond and square patterns in level cut and loop carpets, and pin dots in loop pile. **SHORTER SHAG PILE** "People love felted yarns, but prefer the shag piles to be shorter," says Yosi Tal of Designer Rugs, which now produces rugs with 20-25mm shag heights as well as the traditional 30-40mm. "The shorter height looks very smart."

Stockholm 'Rand' 170cm x 240cm wool rug, \$249, Ikea



Greg Natale 'Manhattan' 200cm x 300cm wool rug, \$4350, Designer Rugs



'Adum' 133cm x 195cm polypropylene rug in Green, \$169, Ikea



'Band Stripe' 140cm x 200cm wool rug in Crimson/White, \$416, Armadillo & Co.



Himalayan 270cm x 180cm handknotted wool rug with art silk inlays in Grey, \$2500, Hali Handmade Rugs



'Heide' wool rug in Mage from \$1200, Tsar

Handtufted 240cm x 170cm wool rug in Waterfall Purple, \$750, Hali Handmade Rugs