



**DESIGN DETAILS THE CLOAKROOM**

Impress your guests with a small space that demands attention

How can I add character to such a tiny room? If you've fallen in love with a bold wallpaper pattern – such as the iconic 'Martinique' by Beverly Hills Wallpaper (above) used by interior designer Robin Strickler of Design Works – but fear it will overpower a large space, the cloakroom is the perfect place to showcase it. 'Small spaces are easy to update – plus, they're some of the less frequented places in the home,' says Carley Bean, head of design at Cole & Son. 'They become fun little pockets of design.'

What types of pattern should I use? 'Conversational wallpapers work well in the cloakroom, as it's one of the few places where a guest might pay attention to detail and appreciate it,' says Paul Simmons, co-founder of Timorous Beasties. In wet spaces, it's wise to coat wallpaper with a layer of varnish to prevent damage – try Decorator's Varnish (from £9.26 for 500ml of gloss, Polyvine; polyvine.com). You don't have to stick with wallpaper, though – interior designer Kia Stanford is a big fan of Bisazza's mosaic tiles. 'Tiles are much more hard-wearing – geometric and flower patterns are two of my favourites at the moment,' she says. 'Use monochrome styles if you don't feel ready for colour.' Are there any other ways that I can create an impact? 'Adding decorative accessories and artworks is another easy way to add instant character,' says interior designer Afroditi Krassa. Whether you opt for a statement mirror, oversized, checked floor tiles or a piece of taxidermy, the more unique the pieces you choose, the better.

Are there any practical considerations? Since you're dealing with such a small area, it's best to keep your floor space uncluttered. Look for a sink with a lot of built-in storage – Burlington Bathrooms has an ideal corner vanity unit (£849; burlingtonbathrooms.com).

WORDS: KIERA BUCKLEY-JONES PICTURE: RYAN GARVIN

**FIVE OF THE BEST STATEMENT WALLPAPERS**

**BEST FOR VICTORIANA**  
House of Hackney

This brand is inspired by the past, but its large-scale motifs and pattern-on-pattern style creates a modern look. 'Artemis' from the 'House of Hackney x William Morris' range, £185 per roll (houseofhackney.com).



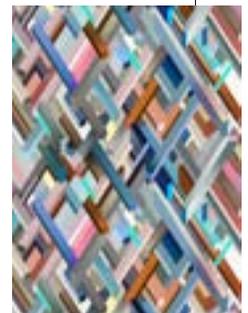
**BEST FOR JUST ABOUT EVERYTHING**  
Cole & Son

Check out the 'Icons' collection, which features the brand's best-known designs reworked in new colours. 'Miami' in 'Pastel' is inspired by the shades of the city's buildings. £325 per roll (cole-and-son.com).



**BEST FOR ABSTRACT GEOMETRICS**  
Kit Miles

Designer Kit Miles sees pattern everywhere, and interprets it with a surreal twist. Motifs include floor tiles and city skylines, which he distorts into something weird and wonderful. 'Kubrick', £1,400 per roll (kitmiles.co.uk).



**BEST FOR MODERN CHINOISERIE**  
Witch & Watchman

Founder and designer Helen Wilson says she is inspired by the flora she imagines would take over a crumbling mansion in a classic Hollywood movie. 'Siberia Light', £240 per roll (witchandwatchman.com).



**BEST FOR GRAPHIC ILLUSTRATION**  
Pierre Frey

This family-owned Parisian company is known for its fantastic hand-painted patterns, such as this 'Sonora' design in 'Vert', which is inspired by the sun setting on cactus plants. £156 per metre (pierrefrey.com).

