

Decorate with the latest home-fashion trends

We've seen decor trends come and go over the years, but according to home décor expert Karl Lohnes there are a few that have held the test of time and become classics.

In the 1980s natural sea grass carpeting became a classic that never went away. In the 90s stainless steel kitchen appliances appeared on the domestic market and stabilized as long-term investments. So what recent and new decorating trends are making their way into the hall of fame to be around for the next five to 10 years? Lohnes shares his insights:

Grey: This solemn neutral was very popular in the mid 80s; back then it was a steely blue grey and used only to achieve a modern aes-

thetic. Its return to the decorating world was a nice way to ease us away from all the golden taupe that we had grown so fond of. But this time around the grey is a bit warmer (think grey flannel) and is used for both traditional and modern decorating. Look for this neutral to stick around and watch it warm up a bit more to an elephant, or driftwood colour. This will be the new taupe; cooler than what we remember and looking great with off-white, gold metallics and shots of strong colour. Progressive décor companies like Hunter Douglas has included a fresh grey in its new Parkland wood blinds collection. Called Salt and Pepper, it is a mid-tone that adds layering

and depth at the window.

Chevron pattern: Whether you call it zig-zag, herringbone or chevron, this angled linear pattern has come in and out of décor fashion for decades. Currently, the design is highlighted by contrasting coloured stripes, which add punchy patterns to wallpaper, bedding, fabrics and carpets. Look for this pattern to calm itself down by being shown more as a texture than an obvious print. Tone-on-tone is the way to go with the classic chevron pattern if you want to live with it for a while. Use it in large doses or small. To illustrate, designer Katie Leede trimmed her Provenance woven-wood shades in a tone-on-tone chevron pattern in her

designer showhouse bedroom.

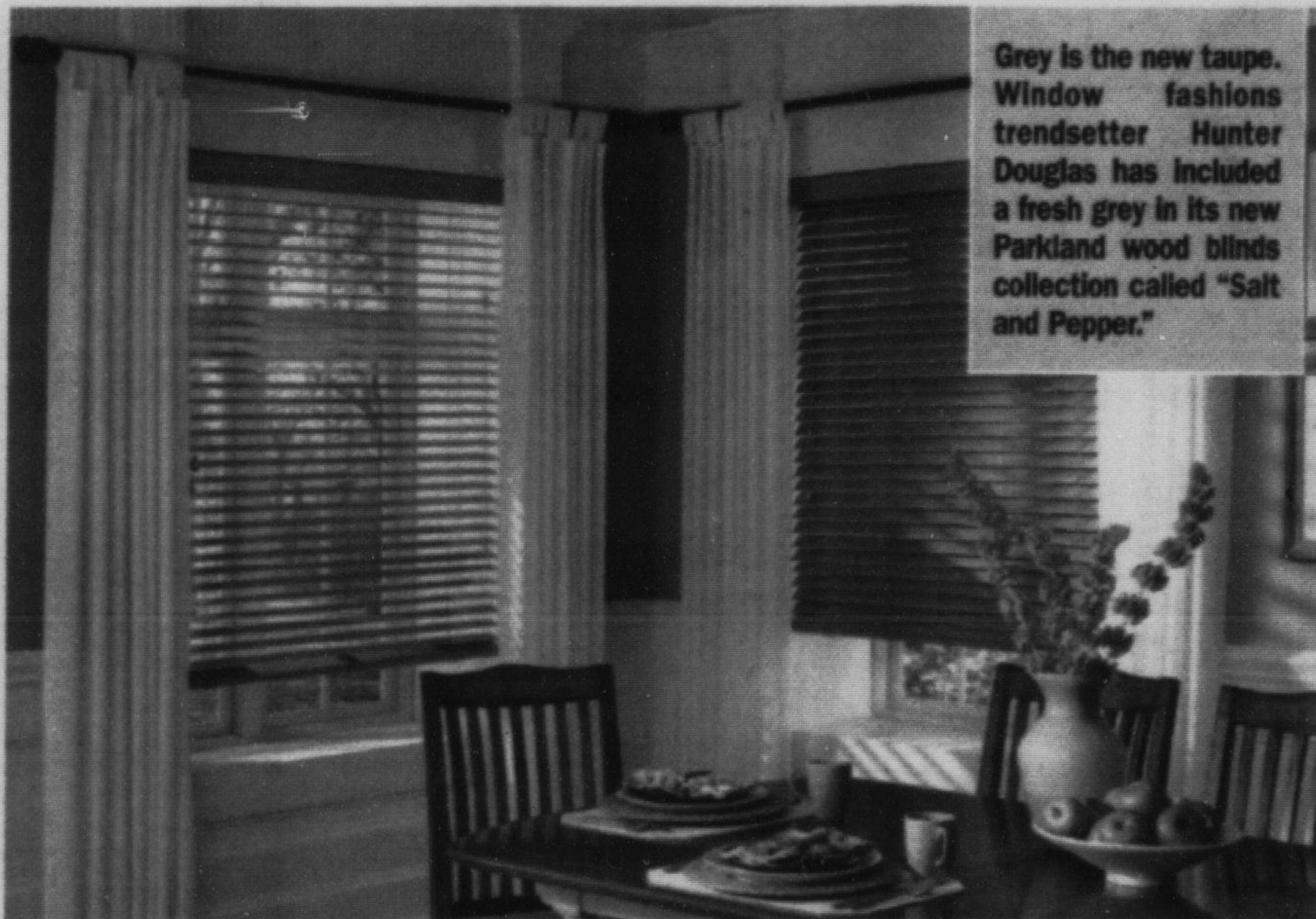
Farmhouse style: It goes without saying that country-style decorating is still the most popular form of décor. Country has been transformed of late into "Farmhouse Chic". This new country style allows us to mix humble, worn furnishings with a touch of industrial chic in order to make it cool again. The style can look very upscale when fancy antiques become part of the mix.

More information is available online at www.hunterdouglas.ca.

www.newscanada.com



Farmhouse style: A modern lamp and Luminette Privacy Sheers at the window, which offer sheers with rotating vanes for privacy, ramp up the chic in a farmhouse-style living room.



Grey is the new taupe. Window fashions trendsetter Hunter Douglas has included a fresh grey in its new Parkland wood blinds collection called "Salt and Pepper."

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