

HOME AND GARDEN

Victorian look is in for home decorating says local merchant

"Anything English is in," says Main Street's Christmas House owner, Lucille Birchall.

The hot new fabric this Spring and one that looks fabulous all year round is Chintz - a glazed-printed English pattern, she says. In fact, "the whole Victorian look is coming back."

Anything English is in this year. The whole Victorian look is coming back

The age-old, highly-fashionable Victorian design, decor and setting is alluring, "very feminine, soft and romantic" and adds a special comforting and yet rich look to any room.

The Victorian room is bursting with personality and is as individual as you are.

Mystery, intrigue, and compelling allure - like a great novel - engulfs the Victorian room.

Scattered throughout the Victorian room is wicker - that versatile, sturdy, fresh and uncluttered look that only good-quality wicker can give.

"For winter and summer, wicker is big," says Mrs. Birchall.

A soft summer breeze dances through feminine lace curtains, their dainty and enticing fabric sways to the delicate breeze.

You curl up on a white wicker lounge as the faint and delicious aroma of pot pourri enhances the quiet mood.

All these combinations are big, big, big, she says.

The sky is the limit in creating rooms that say "You."

Using a dash of wicker, and a splash of Victorian and just the right scent of country flower pot pourri, a fresh new look is awaiting your taste buds at the Christmas House.

"Lace picture frames, and pot pourri in glass bowls with pewter tops and pewter picture frames are all very big," Mrs. Birchall says.

The specialty boutique owner says people often forget their doors when they re-decorate.

"Doors are 36-inch pieces of wood that sit there. Why not decorate, wall paper or paint them."

Welcoming guests does not begin on the inside but begins where they will feel at home right away - at the door.

Pastel colors - the soft mint greens, peaches, soft pinks and blues can do wonders to an otherwise drab door and can dress up the room in an imaginative fashion, she says.

Wreaths are also big. Dark wood wreaths, pine wreaths, flower, checkered cloth, pastel arrangements - wreaths are a fresh, new approach to the welcome mat.

A splash of nature, intertwined with lace, silk flowers and ribbon, a wreath will make your outside door dance with color and comfort.

A soft tangerine paint comes to life complimented by a dark wreath, decorated with spring

flowers, warmly greets a guest. Wreaths are endless in design and relatively inexpensive, but portray a thoughtout and original effect.

For all your Victorian, lace, wicker, picture frame or pot pourri ideas, come take a look at the Christmas

House's new selection of the hot new styles in home decorating or call Lucille Birchall at 640-6046.



Lucille Birchall, owner of the Christmas House and Victoriana on Main St. in Stouffville, advises the decor conscious consumer that Victorian is in. Here, she displays some of her wares.



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