

# Home notes

We want this now...



The new At Home with Ashley Thomas collection for Debenhams takes its inspiration from British woodlands. We love this cute tea set for one, £20, complete with cup and mini teapot. The pretty flora and fauna pattern in deep bramble hues is beautifully complemented by vintage lace details.

## OUR FAVOURITE DESIGNER MAKER

Suzie Lee

From her farm cottage studio in the Kent countryside, Suzie uses pure wool in a choice of beautiful shades to create her range of luxury knitwear, including scarves, wraps, cushions, blankets and more.

**How did you get into knitting?** My nanny taught me to hand knit from an early age. I then moved on to machine knitting - I still remember the first thing I made, a crazy scarf with multicoloured tassels! I wish that I still had it.

**How did your business come about?** I studied fashion and textiles at university so was always making things. When it came to the end of my studies in 2008, I just carried on! I focused on bringing a knitwear collection to market that winter and I've never looked back since.

**Tell us what inspires you?** Nature's colours and patterns are my main source of inspiration. I try to spend as much time outdoors as I possibly can to take in my countryside surroundings as the seasons change. I always have my phone at hand to snap pictures, which I refer to when deciding on new designs and colourways.



**What's your studio like?**

It's such a warm and happy place. Colourful yarns and cosy knits cover the walls for a lovely backdrop to my vintage knitting machines.

**Do you have a favourite piece?** Anything with my signature Fair Isle pattern (shown - cushion, £70; scarf, £55; mittens, £25) as it reflects my Scottish roots.

**Sum up your creative style in three words.** Colourful, cheerful and cosy.

**To find out more, visit** [suziekaylee.com](http://suziekaylee.com).



Curtain, Vilda, col Chambray, £14 m; cushions, Gotska, col Indigo; Klaudia, col Indigo/Cranberry, both £26 m; tablecloth, Trad, col Indigo/Cranberry, £14 m, all Wilderness collection, Studio G at Clarke & Clarke.

Woodland motifs in country colours...

## Into the wilderness

This season sees textile collections influenced by nature's silhouettes, with bold outlines and simple shapes featuring on fabrics for a modern country feel. The new Wilderness collection from Studio G at Clarke & Clarke epitomises the look with its two-dimensional woodland and wildlife motifs. Colourful and captivating, the designs are brought to life through textured weaves and embroidered details, while clean lines are repeated in co-ordinating stripe, chevron and geometric patterns. Take your pick from five multi-tone colourways, ranging from sage greens and chalky blues through to rich cranberry reds.

## BASK IN THE GLOW

These cute candle shades, £18.50 each, are handmade in Jim Lawrence's Suffolk workshop using a new range of tweeds exclusively woven by artisan craftsmen at Lovat Mill on the banks of the Teviot river in the Scottish border town of Hawick. This traditional wool check is called Stirling and was inspired by the surrounding landscape.



*Pile them up*

Create a bedding set ready for overnight guests. Include thick woven blankets, a handstitched quilt, a knitted hot-water bottle cover and plump cushions. See page 80 for details. »



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