

VERANDA

◆
2020
OUTDOOR
LIVING
AWARDS
◆

Ireland's
Majestic
Mansions

The Romance of
SPRING

Classic Gardens, Wild Patterns
& Party-Ready Porches

SYMBOLISM *in Bloom*

The centuries-old cross-cultural tradition of creating pattern from allegorical natural imagery is as alive as ever. Here, a new crop of fabrics, with their bold yet delightfully abstracted botanical perspectives, beckons a closer look.

A NEW OLD LEAF

KNOWN TODAY AS PAISLEY, this leaf-like motif is one of the textile world's most enduring designs, with roots stretching back to ancient Persia and India. Miniature paintings from the 17th-century show Moghul royals donning Kashmiri stoles with stylized flowers along the borders. Over time, these delicate stems grew into something resembling a pear-shaped bouquet or flowering plant. By the turn of the 19th century, luxe shawls from the region embellished with *boteh* (Persian for shrub, flower, or cluster of leaves) made their way west, where they became coveted status symbols for European women who sought to emulate the fashions of style icons such as Empress Josephine. Soon, weavers in Paisley, Scotland, began creating less expensive copies of the Indian textiles, and the town's name inspired a new moniker for the pattern. Today, paisley has become so intertwined with Western culture that the motif, which has sprouted anew in contemporary printed textiles, is as associated with Jane Austen heroines and 1960s hippy-chic style as it is the historic Eastern art from which it first emerged.

Paisley

SIMPLE

The original *boteh* is loosely based on a leaf, bush, or tree, suggesting new life.

ORNATE

Over time, they grew more intricate with profuse flora, as seen in wild Victorian examples.

1. *Fariba*; lisafinetextiles.com. 2. *Udaipur*; borderlinefabrics.com. 3. *Kashmir Paisley Large Scale*; quadrillefabrics.com. 4. *Kashmir de Josephine*; clarencehouse.com. 5. GP & J Baker *Bukhara Paisley*; leejofa.com. 6. *Mughal Gardens*; katieleede.com. 7. *Aryan Bara*; namaysamay.com. 8. *Tiger's Eye*; borderlinefabrics.com. 9. *Aryan Chota*, namaysamay.com, trimmed with *Strata cord*; samuelandsons.com. 10. *Paisley Stripe*, \$450/meter; soane.com. 11. *Cordoba* (also shown as border at right); schuylersampertontextiles.com. All fabrics to the trade unless noted otherwise. Bamboo *daybed*, \$595; onekinglane.com. Moroccan *side table*, \$549; wisteria.com. Antique Kutahya *vase* (\$210) and Turkish delight *bowl* (\$350); shop-tamam.com. Antique Tuareg *mat*, to the trade; fjhakimian.com.

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