

# Floored!

Sleepy solids are on snooze for the moment, letting daring patterns dazzle underfoot

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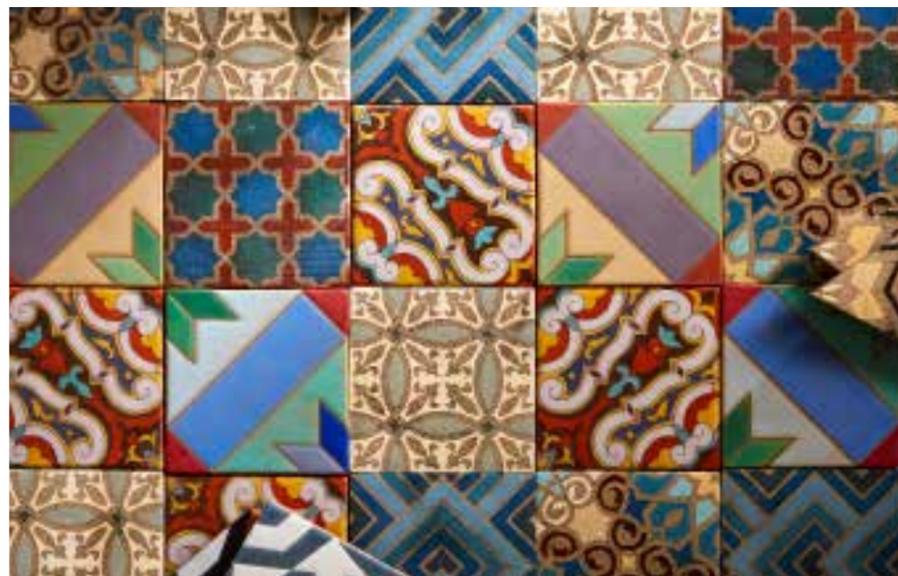
old pattern on floors is hardly new. Black-and-white marble made its mark harlequin-style on many an English manor entry hall. Italian palazzi charmed with expressive geometrics in the Renaissance era.

In recent years, though, choices underfoot have often been safe rather than striking. Get ready for a change. Not only do the newest rugs boast artful patterns with pizzazz, other flooring categories do, too. Broadloom carpets in stripes and plaid, high-quality vinyls

depicting historic medallions, and cork and tile in trend-forward geometrics have elevated flair to the same level as function.

“The floor is intended for pattern—history says so,” says Annie Selke, who has added floor tile (page 24) to the rug designs on her résumé. “The trend to celebrate floors with bold pattern falls into ‘what is old is new again.’ We’re recycling a traditional practice with a modern twist.”

Capel “Metropolis” and “Izmir Persian Cedars” dusty-blue rugs. Surya “Zeus” and “Hillcrest” wool rugs, which shine in red and pink. Spicher and Co. “Intellectual Life” and “Blue Mosque” vinyl floorcloths.

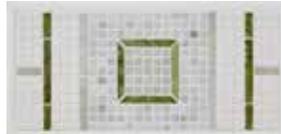


(Opposite, from bottom layer) **Stanton Carpet** The “Starry Gleam” rug in onyx boasts a subtle shimmer; its quiet pattern makes it perfect for layering. **Lee Jofa** The “Oswestry” in peacock features hand-knotted wool depicting elements from old-world design. **Fayette Studio** The “Chevron Shearling” rug by Pampas Leather offers a soft foundation beneath the nubby texture of Paulig’s “Salsa Swing Stripe” felted-wool rug in blue-and-gray stripes. **Crate & Barrel** The “Sherwood” exposed-frame chair. (Above) **Surya** The “Gemini” rug calms with abstract blue-and-gray waves. **Century** The “Boheme” ottoman is covered in a gold-and-ecru Greek key-inspired embroidered fabric. (Left) **KJ Patterson** Encaustic tiles in colorful geometric motifs are stained to imply age and history; all styles available through Filmore Clark.





**Artistic Tile**  
Micro-mosaic designs in natural stone modernize retro colors.



**Stark Carpet** Squares in abstract neutral motifs. **Dash & Albert** “Shiloh” hand-knotted jute rug. **Fayette Studio** Hand-knotted in Nepal, “Modern Trellis” in pumpkin is neutralized by a soft gray ground. **Century** In a sleek white frame, the “Vienna” cocktail ottoman wears a lettuce-green linen and nailhead trim. **The Tile Shop** Oversize stars in a weathered finish make “Star Ceramic” ideal for a dramatic bathroom statement. **Globus Cork** Alexa Hampton’s “Cortina” collection features a striking black-and-natural geometric pattern. **Patterson Flynn** **Martin** Brown and tan wind through Mary McDonald’s “Arabesque Maze” wool-and-silk rug; the “Stella” rug is a happy, color-blocked menagerie of red, gray, blue, yellow, and pink. **Stark Carpet** Made of luxurious silk, the “Bleeker” rug mixes deep shades of purple and pink. 

