

Weekend THE NEW NEUTRALS



Neutral color schemes don't have to be limited to that old standby, beige. Just take a look at some new options

A room (above) inspired by that champion of neutrals—the late, great designer Billy Baldwin—features a pale palette that extends from wall color to furniture fabric. But neutrals don't have to be flat. The distinctive raffia that covers the sofa and chairs proves that neutrals can also provide texture.



Often the beauty of natural wood (above) can work as the most effective neutral. Both the dark-stained mirror and the cabinet's warmer tones are all the more dramatic set against a pristine white wall. The vase adds emphasis.

Changing patterns of light (left) can alter the look of neutrals, from paint to window treatments to home furnishings. Here, even the artwork has neutral tones.