

Home at La Maison: Covering the Bedroom

Written by David M. Brown

This month is Valentine's Day — but the designers at La Maison also know that every day, especially those weary, weary nights, is Valentine's Day with our bedrooms.



"We begin and end each day in the bedroom, with all of its intangible (and tangible) functions, so we must consider it to be more than a room with a bed," says Janessa St. John, a designer for La Maison Interiors, a full-service design studio and furnishings and accessories showroom, 15450 N. Scottsdale Road, founded by Alan K. Reinken and Davinder Chawla.

The bedroom, at home or, just as importantly, on the road, is our oasis, haven and refuge from the cares, stresses and burdens of the workaday world. "Designed for rest, retreat, relaxation and intimacy, our bedrooms fulfill a variety of our physical and emotional needs," she says. "At best, a bedroom must soothe the body, refresh the mind, rekindle the spirit and calm our ruffled senses. It must pamper our soul."

To do so, people are looking to complete their master bedrooms, guest rooms and casitas with the finishes, ambiance and accoutrements they have experienced in luxury hotel rooms while traveling on business or diversion.

"Today's finest hotels recognized some time ago that upscale travelers expect the finest amenities and will pay for them, either out of their pockets or through their companies, who know that good rest means good business," Janessa explains. These include high-thread-count sheets, lush mattresses, many fitted with pillowtops, ultra-soft duvets and colorful luxurious pillows.

"Unashamedly, luxury hotel rooms cater to and satisfy these personal needs, and, after experiencing these levels of hospitality, we're finding that our clients usually try to transfer that luxury to their most intimate environment," she says.

Given that their clients increasingly request luxury, La Maison designers consider a variety of factors when orchestrating a bedroom: personal tastes, lifestyles, room architecture, lighting, storage, floor coverings, wall and window treatments and seating. Janessa: "All of these elements contribute to that wonderful place, that wonderful space, we revere as our 'sanctuary.'"

One of the most romantic aspects of the bedroom begins, of course, with the bed, she explains, noting that La Maison offers many varieties: four-foster beds with contemporary flair, low-slung platform inches off the floor, traditional 17th-century styles and ornately carved or beautifully upholstered headboards and footboards.

After the bed, and sleeping comforts, is aesthetics — dressing the bed with beauty as well as functionality. Luxury linens are a trend in dressing the bed — hand-painted silk duvets, luxurious sheets and pillowcases, accessory pillows of all sizes and shapes to complete the bed, Janessa says.

"At La Maison, we excel with beautifully artistic duvets in tactile fabrics, luxurious sheet sets, and, of course, many deliciously decorated pillows to complete the bed adornments," she adds. "And, because it is such a private room, we can incorporate a variety of personal indulgences to fit the self-portrait of the inhabitant."

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