

Style underfoot

Vibrant MCM-savvy area rugs that bring splashes of color and texture to your world

By Tanja Kern

IF YOU'VE EVER SHOPPED FOR A RUG, you've probably discovered that finding one that steals your heart can also steal your pocketbook.

A little window-shopping reveals that it takes quite a bit of research to find the perfect rug. Thinking through material, size, design, and location will help you narrow down which rugs can best suit the space you are decorating.

Thankfully, there are a few simple rules of thumb that designers use to help get rug selections right the first time.

First, always get the perfect size rug. In dining rooms, the rug should extend at least 18 inches beyond the edge of the table so that the rug accommodates the dining chairs.

In open floor plans, use rugs to help configure the furniture and set up conversation areas.

Consider using runners in kitchens and along the sides of the bed.

Cost-wise, you're smart to budget at least the same amount for a rug in your living room as you do for your sofa. Save up until you can afford it, and the rug will probably last a lifetime.

But the most important rule? Pick what you love. We've rounded up a few MCM-savvy options that might sway you.



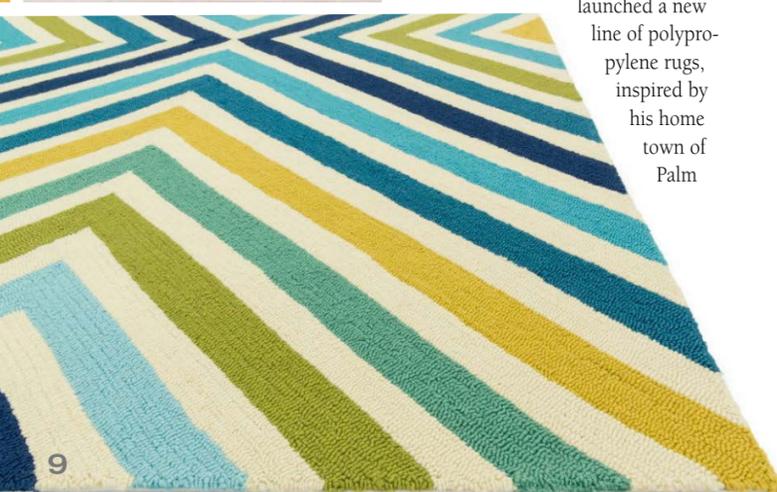
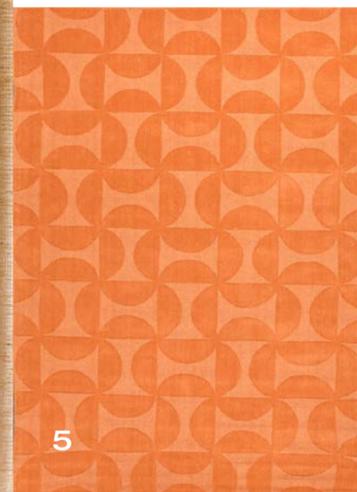
1 Collector's Item

San Francisco artist Rex Ray, whose work has been featured in art galleries, commissioned by corporations like Apple, and featured on tour posters for the

Rolling Stones, designed his own line of rugs with his trademark whimsical designs. The limited production pieces are hand knotted in Jaipur, India. \$4,500 for 6'x9'. Rugsandcarpets.com

2 Faux Hide

This DIY rug set includes all the carpet tiles you need to create this rug with a carpet knife. The pattern is on the back, and the rug comes in more than 30 colors. \$300. Flor.com



3 Labyrinth

Despite its name, this rug will set you on a clear path to a cohesive design scheme. The hand-tufted wool rug cleverly combines hues for an updated palette. \$359 for a 5'x8'. Surya.com

4 City Rug

Oversized, sharp geometrics characterize this striking contemporary hand-tufted rug. The high/low construction in wool and art silk creates both a matte and shine texture. \$598 for a 5'x8'. Rugstudio.com

5 Metro Cool

This wool rug boasts simple modern geometrics and comes in a rainbow of of-the-moment colors. \$338 for a 5'x8'. Wayfair.com

6 Fables

Caramel and soft white come together in a frothy rug that will be warm underfoot. \$283 for a 5'x7'. Thefind.com

7 It's the Bees Knees

Constructed with a smooth, flat weave, the reversible honeycomb dhurrie is perfect for entries and other areas that will see heavy traffic. \$322 for a 5'x8'. Rugs-direct.com

8 Parallel Reality

Soft, varied textural bands of colorful stripes span the rainbow. Available in several palettes, use them alone or mix them up—they'll definitely brighten any space. \$16 per square. Flor.com

9 Patio Paradise

Designer Dan Foley, contestant on the NBC show 'American Dream Builders,' launched a new line of polypropylene rugs, inspired by his home town of Palm

Springs, that are specially treated to be fade resistant. \$339 for a 5'x9'. Loloirugs.com

10 Pet Friendly

A graphic print pops with a sophisticated color combination. This versatile polypropylene rug is at home both indoors and outdoors. Just hose down and keep moving. \$219 for a 5'x8'. Ruglots.com

11 Shagalicious

A super-plush shag rug might just transform your floor into the most sought-after surface to nap on. Made of a unique combination of wool and jute. Starting at \$916. Modernrugs.com

12 Organic Modern

Designer Lotta Jansdotter weaves together Scandinavian design influences with handmade designs to create organic patterns that are at once retro and modern. Shown here in 2014's popular orchid hue. \$499 for a 5'x8'. Surya.com