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Walls with Dimension

How to make textured walls work for your home

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Impressions 1,187,000



Mansion Global tackles an interior design topic with an elite group of designers from around the world who work on luxury properties. This week we look at how to incorporate textured walls into a home's decor .

It's easy (and expected) to think of the walls in your home as one-dimensional canvases—vessels for coats of paint that live in the background of your space. But when you let your walls come to life in more dimensions by adding texture, it opens up a world of possibility.

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Consider the Effect

"We generally choose a textured wall finish once all other design details are thought out; i.e. furniture, art, and accessories; so as to complement the full story. If we were to work in the opposite direction by choosing the wall covering first, it can be quite limiting, as we're forced to making dozens or hundreds of independent components work with one feature, rather than put a finishing cohesive touch on a fully thought out design.

"Grasscloth tends to provide a natural and grounding feeling in an otherwise stark or spare space; suede and leather often add notes of luxury and refinement; plaster or concrete and other hand-troweled finishes lend a sense of history and depth, as well as an overall calmness. For the living/dining room at The NOMA condominiums in New York City, for example, we chose a grasscloth, which added warmth and grounded the uniquely shaped space, which has multiple functions (living, dining), as well as a very active city view. In the foyer and hallway leading to the bedrooms, we included a graphic geometric patterned wallpaper to foster a sense of personality and interest in an often-overlooked space, making this relatively thin, efficient mode of circulation a more exciting and energizing place to be.

"Consider art placement in a room that has textured walls, since any holes made are much more permanent/ difficult to close up than if made on a simple white sheetrock wall, which can be easily spackled later on. For us, we tend to limit art on a textured wall to either zero or one piece/group, and let the wall speak for itself."

—Andrew Bowen, director of staging for ASH NYC

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