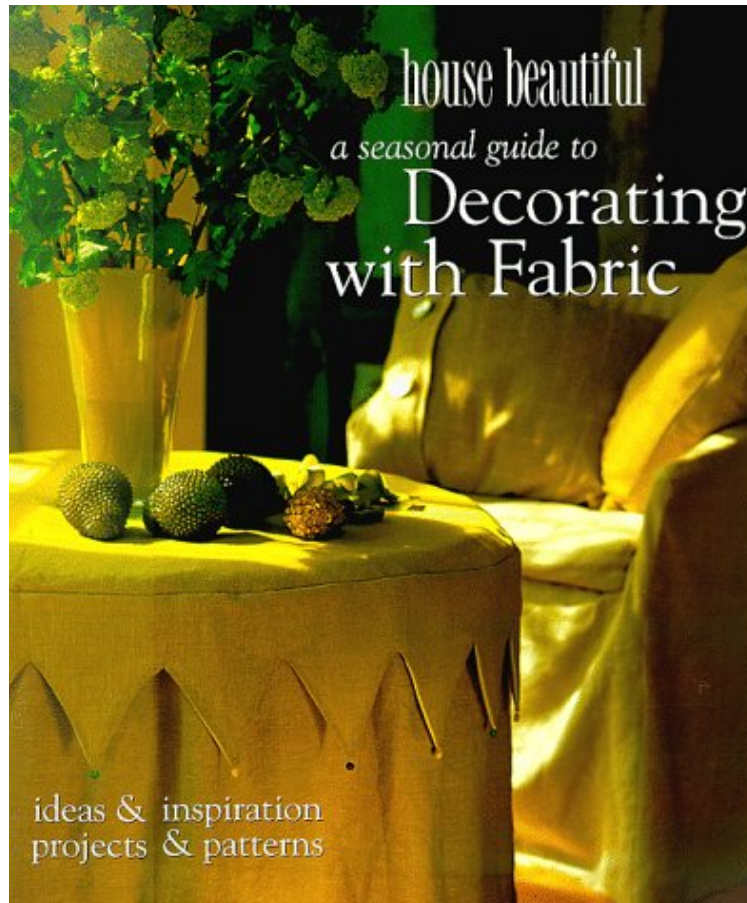


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## A House Beautiful Seasonal Guide to Decorating with Fabric: Ideas and Inspiration, Projects and Patterns

*House Beautiful, Allison Barratt, Rhoda J Murphy*  
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Inspirational decorating ideas plus detailed instructions for more than 30 projects to create a new look for your home. Slipcovers, blinds, curtains, table linens, lampshades, and screens.

.com You can have a new decor for every season if you're clever with a sewing machine. Just a few yards of luxe fabric can be transformed almost instantly into something that will change the whole character of your room: a tablecloth, sofa pillows, a bed canopy, or slipcovers for your occasional chairs. The editors of House Beautiful have assembled a number of patterns suitable for the intermediate sewer, and their sophisticated fabric suggestions create an English-country-manoir atmosphere of richness and comfort.About the AuthorFor five years, Gabi Tubbs was Home Design Editor of Country Living in London; she is now Deputy Editor of Homes and Gardens. She has also worked as editor, consultant, stylist, and art director for a number of leading magazines and book publishers and is the Series Editor of The Country Living Needlework Collection. She lives in London.Excerpt. Reprinted by permission. All rights reserved.Striking Companions - Crisp Soft Just as juxtapositions of pattern and color bring a room to life, so do a variety of fabric textures. The most surprising combinations of textiles can bring out the best in each other when placed side by side. Delicate laces appear ethereal next to more earthbound cotton duck. Regal silks appear less lofty when teamed with unpretentious mattress ticking. Be sure to balance high-sheen fabrics that reflect light - such as polished chintzes and taffeta - with matte fabrics that absorb the light such as linens, cottons, and wovens. Character Study Contemporary pattern for an old-fashioned room Plaid, known as tartan in England, has a long and colorful history. As early as Roman times, Celtic people wore gaily colored plaids. This classical pattern - now in countless color permutations - continues to delight us today, especially in interiors. Their reputation to the contrary, plaids do mix easily with other patterns. Team a plaid with an overscaled floral chintz for a charming room, or mix plaids with stripes or a simple two-color print such as Napoleonic bee pattern. Be cautious combing different plaids - they can easily clash. The key to combing plaids with other patterns is making sure the colors are the same. Solid shades that draw out the colors in the plaid are always enchanting.