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by Shauna Rudd photography by Curtis Comeau  
styling by C. Marie Hebson produced by Susan Meingast

We turn a simple fireplace  
into a sublime Bohemian  
retreat and an edgy,  
Goth-inspired sanctuary

# Home is Where the Hearth is



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**THE LOOK: BOHO CHIC** p. 74–75

The Inspiration: **Calypso Crimson and Capri Lime upholstered armchair by Cobistyle**

Imagine a 1960s wild child who does what she wants and tosses trends to the wind. That's the essence of Boho Chic. Whimsical and carefree, this look is characterized by bold, saturated colours and patterns that should, by all rights, be hideous together — yet somehow they work.

President and principal designer of interiorsByDesign, C. Marie Hebson attributes this phenomenon to the skillful use of basic design fundamentals that stitch together seemingly incongruent elements in a way that complements rather than clashes. “It's like thoughtfully painting a picture with your mix of materials and colours so that it feels balanced and harmonized.”

**>> Play Up the Accent Colours**

Instead of designing around the prominent crimson and lime in her inspiration piece, Hebson pulled the orange, purple and pink from its cushion pattern. “Find the tiny fleck of colour in [your inspiration piece] and highlight *that*. It makes the look richer and more satisfying,” says Hebson. “It makes the room come alive.”

**>> Tame the Palette with a “Neutral”**

Neutrals are typically calming shades defined by the absence of colour — charcoals, creams, and beiges. But within the wild jungle of intense pigments and patterns that define Boho Chic, this serenity can (and should) be created with colour. Here, green acts as the neutral by dotting various shades of it throughout the room; this “neutral colour” gives the eye a place to rest and ties the palette together.

**>> Cheerfully Mix Patterns, Materials, Genres and Styles**

A brass Japanese koi meets a white resin country-chic doe head. Clean, modern geometric shapes in the fireplace grill, area rug and floor lamp meet an ornate, South Asian-inspired wooden carving. Almost anything goes with this look, although Hebson advises against using more than two metals “to prevent the look from getting too overwhelming.” In this room, only chrome and brass are used.

**>> Make it Your Own**

Find unique pieces that resonate with you and try them in your space. The beauty of this look is that it's not so much a defined “look” as it is an expression of your personality. As such, Do-It-Yourself decor feels right at home with Boho Chic. In this case, strips of wallpaper stapled to a wooden frame create a colour-blocked wall panel that livens up the decor (you could use fabric, too).



**The Source: Boho Chic**

HOME DECOR FROM CHINTZ & COMPANY  
(10502 105 Ave., 780-428-8181, chintz.com)

1. Serena mirror **floor lamp** (\$2,222)
2. Mirrored chrome **coffee table** (\$489)
3. Pyra patina **fire screen** (\$798)
4. Spikey driftwood **globes** (small, \$36.98; large, \$62.98)
5. Green berry-ball **globes** (small, \$17.98; large, \$32)
6. White **artichoke** (\$10.98)
7. Silver log **coffee table** (\$1,198)

FROM HENRY'S PURVEYOR OF FINE THINGS  
(10216 124 St., 780-454-6660, henrysfine things.ca)

8. Cobistyle upholstered **chair** in Calypso Crimson and Capri Lime (\$905)
9. Cobistyle white cane **chair** and seat **cushion** (\$815)
10. White resin doe head **wall mount** (\$115)
11. White resin **pinecones** (\$15 ea.)
12. Tall white **floor vase** (\$169)
13. Maren orange **candleholders** (small, \$55; large, \$81)
14. Aluminum pillar **candleholders** (\$41.50)

FROM CRATE & BARREL  
(Southgate Centre, 780-436-1454, crateandbarrel.ca)

15. Monroe decorative **pillow** in cypress (\$44.95)

FROM 29 ARMSTRONG  
(105, 10180 101 St., 780-758-4940, 29armstrong.com)

16. Bank in the Form of a **pig** with chrome finish by Harry Allen (\$285)
17. Brass **koi** (\$480)
18. Thai Teakwood **hand carving** (\$530)
19. White ceramic *Dancing Lady* **sculpture** (\$289)

FROM THE AREA RUG GALLERY  
(17834 106 Ave., 780-483-1992, thearearuggallery.com)

20. Purple Highlights **area rug** (\$699)
21. Wooden **spheres** on floor (small, \$65; medium, \$85; large, \$175)

FROM KATWALK SHOES  
(18336 Lessard Rd., 780-481-1936, katwalkshoes.ca)

22. Fringe **moccasin bag** (\$195)
23. Bene **shoes** (\$330)
24. Rosary **necklaces** (\$70)

FROM CALLINGWOOD FLOWERS  
(6655 178 St., 780-481-2361, callingwoodflowers.com)

25. Green crochet **pillow** (\$212.50)
26. **Floral arrangement** (\$100)

**THE LOOK: VICTORIAN PUNK** p. 76–77

The Inspiration:

**Hand-embellished wall art with bird motif**

Commonly referred to as Modern Industrial or Steam Punk, this melancholy genre takes Victorian-era styling as its muse with a nod toward the traditional. Naturally, antiques fit in nicely with this look, but it's the balance of industrial masculine elements with delicate feminine touches that spark the magic, creating tension that is pleasantly gratifying.

The hallmark of Victorian Punk is a neutral palette. Hebson's interpretation is brighter and more refined than what's typical of the genre, which tends to be dirtier: Think raw burlap fabrics and more smudged charcoal (as with the inspiration piece). To achieve a look that's closer to pure Victorian Punk, Hebson suggests stripping out some refinement by opting for creams and charcoals rather than white and black.

>> Discover Your Dark Side

The dark, masculine elements seep into this space like an ominous shadow. The black iron crows, charcoal pillars (which are air purifiers), latticed metal table and the slightly creepy munchkin perched on the hearth all add to the effect, while the iron gears on the mantel deliver the required dose of industrial grit. Hebson explains that the darker and more industrial you go, the more haunting and Gothic it will feel.

>> Sprinkle a Bit of Sparkle

To offset the darkness, add clear, sparkling feminine flourishes. Here, the glass globe on the table, chandelier crystals and polished chrome in the lamp and silver candlesticks lend contrast. This is all about infusing a sense of purity; the more feminine elements, the more delicate and refined the room becomes.

>> Embrace Natural Materials

Raw metal, warm wood and cold stone are the building blocks of Victorian Punk. The trick is to retain their rustic souls while keeping the look upscale — super natural, so to speak — which lends texture and creates another point of tension exemplified in the silver log stump. Combining four or five metals in the same space is perfectly acceptable: Antique brass, chrome, steel, copper, forged iron or matte black metal and pewter are all good choices.

>> Texture, Texture, Texture

This is essential for Victorian Punk — or any decor style that hinges on a neutral palette. Creating texture by working with pattern and layering tone-on-tone — as with the area rugs in this room — transforms a potentially dull palette into something extraordinary. Says Hebson, "It's how you put 'wow factor' into a neutral palette, and it makes the look cleaner and more current." ■



The Source: Victorian Punk

HOME DECOR FROM CHINTZ & COMPANY

(10502 105 Ave., 780-428-8181, chintz.com)

27. *For a Moment* hand-embellished giclée wall art (\$498)

28. Pyra patina fire screen (\$798)

29. Annika floor lamp (\$2,598)

30. White artichoke (\$10.98)

31. Silver log coffee table (\$1,198)

32. Black-and-white zebra rug (\$498)

33. Black terrazzo globe (\$298)

34. Barbara Barry clear globe (\$179)

35. Sleepy hollow nickel candleholders on side table (set of two, \$249)

36. Solid mahogany lion table (\$900)

FROM HENRY'S PURVEYOR OF FINE THINGS

(10216 124 St., 780-454-6660, henrysfine things.ca)

37. Wire birdcage (\$62)

38. Iron gears (small, \$33; large, \$44)

39. Aluminum pillar candleholders (\$41.50 ea.)

FROM CRATE & BARREL

(Southgate Centre, 780-436-1454, crateandbarrel.ca)

40. Braiden coffee table (\$499)

FROM 29 ARMSTRONG

(105, 10180 101 St., 780-758-4940, 29armstrong.com)

41. Hakutan Activated Charcoal air purifier by Sort of Coal (\$349; set of three)

FROM SHANGRI-LA EXOTIC HOME DECOR

(17034 90 Ave., 780-443-2829, facebook.com/shangrilahomedecorwest)

42. Thai porcelain monk doll (\$159)

43. Silver Grammy photo frame (\$36)

FROM THE AREA RUG GALLERY

(17834 106 Ave., 780-483-1992, thearearuggallery.com)

44. Black and grey Highlights area rug (\$1,099)

FROM WELLINGTON GARDEN CENTRE

(13648 142 St., 780-455-2281, wellingtongardencentre.com)

45. Glass finials (small, \$75; large, \$95)

46. 35 Argyle sign on hearth (\$185)

47. Paper book bundles (\$4.95)

FROM KATWALK SHOES

(18336 Lessard Rd., 780-481-1936, katwalkshoes.ca)

50. House of Harlow shoes (\$295)

51. Birds and bees necklace (on monk doll) (\$160)

FROM CALLINGWOOD FLOWERS

(6655 178 St., 780-481-2361, callingwoodflowers.com)

52. Floral arrangement (\$100.00)

53. Charcoal pillar candles (\$15)

CUSTOM ORDERS

54. ELTE black toss cushions (\$150)

55. ELTE Tufted white wing chairs (\$1,800)