

# Get the gloss on the latest interior design trend

## Bring a bit of polish to your home with these shiny lacquers

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Enter the house of gloss. Statement walls glisten, brightly coloured side tables reflect low-hanging lamps, and sunlight bounces through shady corridors. Even the ceiling has a mysterious sheen.

The secret? Lacquer, a lustrous finish for wood that has been used decoratively in east Asia for some 2,000 years.

“I just love the richness of lacquer,” says designer Suzanne Sharp, whose 16-piece collection for The Lacquer Company launches this month (from £195 for a small Castello tray).

Unlike highly decorated traditional lacquerware, Sharp’s set of furnishings is driven solely by colour. She views each item as “the equivalent of an amazing pair of shoes or socks”, designed to give the finishing touch to an otherwise classic room. “I wanted to put colour in unexpected places,” she adds, pointing to a set of bottle-green desk accessories.



*The Lacquer Company bottle-green high-gloss lacquer small Castello tray*

For interior designer Susie Atkinson, it’s about balancing texture – “particularly when a scheme is reading too matte”, she says. “Lacquered pieces bring things to life by adding

movement, shine and contrast.” Recent updates to her furniture collection include four geometric side tables finished with 16 layers of high-gloss resin (from £1,040 for a cube design). Atkinson suggests contrasting them with historic pieces, a tip echoed by design studio Yellow London. “Contemporary lacquer furniture marries well with most antiques,” explains co-founder Cath Beckett, whose own bedroom places bespoke glazed tables either side of a floral headboard designed by the Vienna modernist Josef Frank.



*Pol Potten stools and tables*

It's also a finish that lends itself to curves: Pols Potten has created its jolly lacquer stools and tables (£253 for the Tam Tam design; [madeindesign.co.uk](http://madeindesign.co.uk)) for the past 20 years.



*Roche Bobois collection with Eugeni Quitllet*

New for autumn is Roche Bobois' collection with designer Eugeni Quitllet, where a sinuous dining table with lacquer legs takes centre stage (£3,780).



*Enostudio's Brandy Table*

But for Priya Khanchandani, head of curatorial and interpretation at the Design Museum, the object she's lusting after is ENOstudio's Brandy table (from €1,689). Its appeal, she says, lies in its "glossy finish, which catches the light, feels richer than plastic, and is also pretty practical."

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