



The new neutrals

Lots of Living

Light, wooden, slightly distressed faux antique furniture is simply gorgeous, writes *Natasha Higgins*. It's easy to picture Marie Antoinette in the late 18th century sitting down at her bijouterie cabinet, in her tastefully designed bedroom; a pair of carved elbow chairs by the tall French windows, a small tea table in the middle, a commode chest filled with keep-safe objects, a pair of French walnut bedside tables on either side of her large four-poster bed, a chest, a small bookcase, a writing table and a nest of oak low tables with soft carved decorations. The antique look is reminiscent of 16th century Paris and exudes not only elegance but is weighted with history and culture.

Real antiques can of course be dear, and if you're looking to make some quick and fun transformations to a room, it's worth hunting around for something that looks similar but doesn't cost the earth.

This season, there are some fantastic distressed-looking elegant wooden pieces on offer, with 'neutrals and naturals' being the key shades.

If you're looking to spice up a bedroom or living room, an easy

addition is a footstool, an armoire, a set of lamps or new bedside cabinets. With this in mind, the *London Property Magazine* has selected a few stunning items on offer at ACHICA.com, the luxury interiors website, which always has a fantastic collection of inspiring pieces.

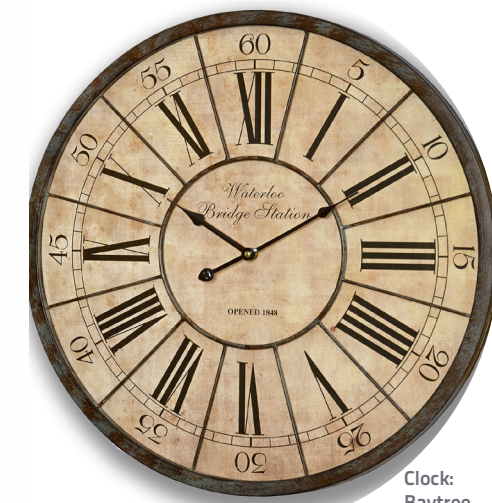
Here's what the interiors expert Emily Peck, Editor of *ACHICA Living*, has to say about the current trend: "When you're decorating, going back to basics with cool and airy neutral finishes and natural materials in their simplest form helps to create a serene backdrop at home. Choose simple yet stylish storage pieces, beautifully uncomplicated wooden furniture in natural and pale painted finishes as well as accessories in cool, ecru and earthy cream shades. These items will help reflect the light round your room enhancing the sense of space. This look also creates a base to the room scheme, which is easily adaptable season after season – when you tire of the look, simply introduce a pop of colour in soft furnishings to update the look in an instant. Neon yellow or zesty orange are on trend and would particularly work well with neutral shades".



Dressing Table Mirror:
Baytree Interiors, £89



Lamp:
Lots of Living, £26



Clock:
Baytree Interiors, £29



Console Table:
Baytree Interiors,
£109



Multiframe:
Nordal, £29



Two Drawer Unit:
Baytree Interiors,
£149



Stool: Baytree Interiors, £60



Country Chair &
Footstool: Baytree Interiors, £359

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*Please note that prices are correct at time of publication