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ELLE DECOR'S LOOKBOOK

Inspiring Rooms for Every Taste

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ELLE DECOR Ultimate Getaway Sweepstakes

We asked top designers to share their secrets for creating a sexy bedroom. And their answers? Let's just say these sultry solutions are the way to undeniable romance. The pros go through the room essentials piece by piece: bedding, flooring, window treatments, lighting, and color, as well as some all-important personal touches. Go ahead: Show some passion for the bedroom. Bedding to Spend All Day In

Crisp white sheets in thread counts ranging from 450 to 650 create the sexiest tactile experience in terms of bedding. Keep the sheets plain; go no fancier than a top sheet with embroidery. And don't go overboard with too many pillows.

"Even if you're watching your wallet, the place to spend the money is the bedding." -Cathy Hobbs, founder of Aphereä

"People will over-pillow the bed," warns designer Eric Cohler, of Eric Cohler Design Inc. It's not sexy to have a romantic interlude put on pause while all the pillows are removed.

"For a two-person bed, you need at most two Euro-sham-size pillows (placed against the headboard), and four sleeping pillows."

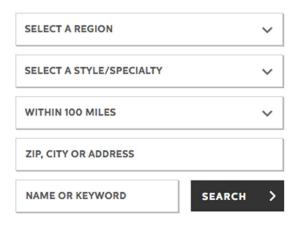
—Designer Rebecca Cole, Rebecca Cole Design **Seduction Must-Have:** Pure linen sheets

Color that Flatters

To create a womb-type nest, paint the walls a rich color, then keep everything else in the room light and neutral. Body-flattering choices for bedroom wall color include: pale hues of rose, blue, lavender or gray. Avoid green or yellow: No one looks good in a green reflection; yellow can make skin appear jaundiced. "Go with your favorite color because a bedroom should have the things you love." — Cathy Hobbs, of Aphereä Design (whose own bedroom has burnt-orange walls)

"A wallpaper with depth and dimension can add color and spice to the bedroom." -Designer Amy Lau

"For the bedroom, I like a slightly shiny wall with a Venetian plaster finish." —Harry Heissmann, senior designer, Albert Hadley Inc. Seduction Must-Have: Passionate sun-kissed reds or apricots for wall color



Flooring That Makes You Weak in the Knees

Wall-to-wall carpeting, in either 100% wool, or a wool-silk blend, will give the most sumptuous landing to your feet—or to your entire body if the mood strikes.

"For anything but a beach house—where wood floors are fine—you should have wall-to-wall carpeting in the bedroom." —Harry Heissmann, Senior Designer, Albert Hadley Inc.

"A wool rug with silk

Lau Seduction Mus

Window Treatmen For total relaxationParting Thoughts

"A sexy bedroom should be like a romantic French boudoir, with lots and lots of luxury bedding."

—Cathy Hobbs, founder, Aphereä Design, apherea.com.

blackout curtains or layered window treatments. A three-fold layering such as wooden blinds, topped by sheers, topped by floor-to-ceiling draperies will create the most soothing effect.

"I love the elegance of a whole wall of drapery, ceiling to floor." —Designer Rebecca Cole

"Blackout curtains are a must in the bedroom so you can stay in bed as long as you want."

-Designer Eric Cohler

Seduction Must-Have: Silk or matte velvet drapery fabrics

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