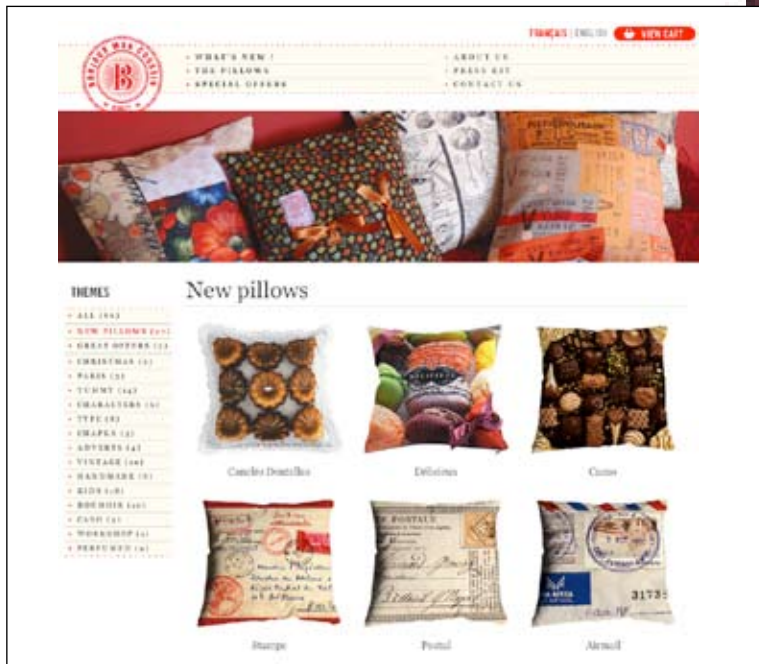


text RUTH CHAN

softSERVE

CUSHIONS ARE GREAT FOR A QUICK AND EASY INTERIOR UPDATE. WE PICK OUT SHOPS OFFERING FUNKY DESIGNS IN VIBRANT HUES.



FRENCH FUN

www.bonjourmoncoussin.com

Look here for loads of original and quirky cushion covers with a French twist.

WHAT WE FOUND Made in France, these are a mix of vintage, collage and trendy. There are even scented options! Made with a secret technique, they make for a wonderful conversation starter. The shop ships direct to Singapore.

WHAT WE LOVE Our favourites are the yummy Choco and Macarons from the candy-themed range. All the covers fit standard Ikea cushion sizes.



GROOVY STYLES

www.jonathanadler.com

American star designer Jonathan Adler is best known for his handmade pottery, but he also creates home accessories with a groovy 1970s vibe. His works have appeared in hit shows like *Sex in the City*.

WHAT WE FOUND Loads of chic accent pieces for the home – there's everything from furniture to soap dishes to pet accessories.

WHAT WE LOVE The hand-embroidered cushion covers feature colourful geometric patterns that add a 1980s Missoni-style Italian vibe, while being very modern. The happy colours, bold lines and long stitches say ultra-chic. >

STREETWEAR FOR THE HOME

www.laidbackhome.com

Textile designer Tina Shoulders creates unusual soft furnishing designs with a gritty Manhattan street vibe.

WHAT WE FOUND Trendy cushion covers and totes inspired by street fashion and hip hop. The shop ships direct to Singapore.

WHAT WE LOVE The OI Play cotton denim covers add definite attitude to the home and are a great alternative for those who want something different.



checkitout

WEBLOGS FROM AROUND THE WORLD THAT OFFER DECOR INSPIRATION AND MORE...



tip!

READ SMART
Don't be overwhelmed by the flood of information available on the Internet. Be selective in the number of blogs you subscribe to!

KNOTTY IDEAS

www.bloomize.com

A home-grown blog featuring fun finds from the Internet and information about the Japanese-inspired Zakka lifestyle, where one seeks to find sensory pleasure from mundane things in everyday life.

WHAT WE FOUND The author Clara's decor picks, Zakka items from around the Net and simple DIY projects. Bloomize has a section on knots and knotting techniques as well.

WHAT WE LOVE There is eye candy galore, including works by French Illustrator Alain Gree.

ZEN STYLE

www.evalunda.blogspot.com

Eva Lundgreen, a Swedish designer for Ikea Children's collection who is living in Tokyo currently, is the author of the blog.

WHAT WE FOUND A peek into Eva's work at Ikea, her home and decor inspirations, insights into Japanese design, and the works of other international designers.

WHAT WE LOVE Eva's blog is simple, but it is filled with inspiring and beautiful pictures and packed with lots of information in a quiet manner. A real pleasure to visit every day. ●

EVERYTHING IN ITS PLACE

Designate a place for every item that you own. You can even label them with where they should be positioned to make it easier for you to remember. Then, simply put things back where they belong when you're done using them. This can save you lots of time and energy!



NEAT SWEDE

www.chezlarsson.typepad.com/myblog/

Benita Larsson, a visual merchandiser from Sweden, shares great tips on keeping an organized and visually appealing home, as well as handy craft tutorials.

WHAT WE FOUND The tips are real-life – straight from Benita's home – which makes them easy for us to relate to.

WHAT WE LOVE Benita's step-by-step guides to recreate her easy-to-follow DIY projects, plus the inspiring pictures of her own home.

