DESIGN DILEMMA

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Can you offer some insight into ways that I can bring that "new" Western look to my interiors without starting from scratch?

1. COLOR

The color palette of the West is comprised of rich, warm, earthy tones of brown, red, orange, cream and green, with touches of turquoise, yellow and blue. Emphasize your favorites with rugs, accessories and fabrics in these hues, or choose one to paint the walls of a room to attain that New West flair.

2. TEXTURE

Strong texture is an important component of Western-style rooms. It can be introduced in a variety of ways, including items fashioned from hand-tooled leather; weathered reclaimed wood from old barns used on walls or repurposed as furniture; and with hammered metals, such as copper for sinks and iron for lighting.

3. MOTIFS

Both classic Native American motifs and contemporized versions inspired by Navajo weavings and Hopi baskets can be found in rugs, throws, toss pillows and fabrics. Also, look for rope and star motifs in tilework and accents. Whether muted or rich in color, these items will bring a sense of regional relevance to rooms.

4. ARTWORK

Fun and funky or refined and serious, artwork offers a great way to express yourself. Options range from painting and sculpture to mosaics, metal art and collections of handcrafted pottery, baskets and even cowboy boots. The important thing is to buy what you like and have fun with it.

See Sources.