

DESIGN FOR THE WELL-LIVED LIFE

HOUSE & Garden

AUGUST 2007

What's In/What's Out

An Opinionated Guide to Summer Style

Easy Luxury Perfect Beach Houses,
Stone Walls, Barbecue Sauces,
Tropical Fabrics & Bed Linens

AT HOME WITH
SUPERMODEL
CAROLYN MURPHY
IN VENICE BEACH

+ EXCLUSIVE:
MARTHA STEWART'S
NEW HOME LINE

Fabric Obsession | Hawaiian Tropicals

DOMESTIC BLISS

IT'S NOT ALL TACKY TOURIST SHIRTS. TRY THESE BOLD PRINTS INSPIRED BY THE NATURAL BEAUTY OF OUR 50TH STATE BY SABINE ROTHMAN



The lush natural setting of Hawaii, that paradisaical archipelago, has long inspired vivid textiles, starting with kapa cloth, a traditional fabric made of fibrous bark from the paper mulberry plant and imprinted with geometric designs. After World War II, an appetite for all things Polynesian, from tropical drinks to tiki huts, brought bark cloth (now mostly cotton) into homes all over the American mainland. With Hawaiian statehood in 1959, tourism boomed, so the popularity of breezy, tropical designs flourished. Fantastic orchids, woody bamboo, and enormous palm leaves bloom when juxtaposed with grass cloth walls, retro rattan, or clean-lined modern furniture. Perfect for Mrs. Howell, if not Gilligan.

Background: China Seas' Sigourney, a linen-cotton blend in Jungle Green on White, from Quadrille. Left to right: Limu Lei solution-dyed acrylic in Kona Coffee, from Perennials Outdoor Fabrics; Celeste linen in Mole, from Raoul Textiles; Home Couture's Haight Ashbury in Fig on Natural washed linen, available through Quadrille; Jamaica linen in Olivine, from Raoul Textiles. For grass cloth wall coverings, try Phillip Jeffries Ltd., Stark, and Zoffany. Custom upholstery by Chelsea Workroom, NYC. 212-243-0023.