



Home sweet hotel

There's nothing like staying in a luxury hotel with designer furnishings. Get the luxe hotel look at home with a few key pieces inspired by The Blackman, Melbourne's newest boutique hotel. By Luisa Volpato.



Get stuffed
 Cushions are one of the easiest ways to add colour, texture and style to any room. With the quick switch from velvet or faux fur to crisp linen or colourful print, you can also easily adapt your décor from winter to spring/summer. The Carina Sherlock range of soft furnishings is made for the modern Australian lifestyle influenced by Indonesian culture and craftsmanship. From \$39.95. www.carinasherlock.com.au



A Stylish Life

Georgie Leckey
 Position: Director, Heatherly Design Bedheads
www.heatherlydesign.com.au



Bed with edge

The Blackman, which opened its doors last month, is the third in a series of art hotels opening around Melbourne, combining boutique luxury with edgy interiors and original artworks. Imaginatively designed in the spirit of figurative artist Charles Blackman, regarded as one of Australia's greatest living artists, it boasts a bright jewel box of colours and furnishings. The Art Series Hotels include The Cullen, already listed in the US *Conde Nast Traveller's* 2010 Hot List, and flagship hotel, The Olsen. www.artserieshotels.com.au



Light fantastic

A couple of designer bedside lamps will add sophistication to any bedroom. Popular among interior designers, lamps by Kartell are available online from top3 by design. The Cindy table lamp takes on a stylish yet playful bauble-like look with a mirrored surface. The reflection of the room in the lamp adds another depth to the design. In bronze, platinum and gunmetal, \$340. www.top3.com.au



Best seat in the house

Sink into a comfy armchair for some uninterrupted bliss. The "essence of beautiful living" is La Maison's design concept for their furniture that mixes classic styles borrowed from Old England, the Hamptons or a charming chateau in Provence. Relax in the Missoula chair in bronze or black velvet for \$739. www.lamaison.net.au

Your sanctuary

You spend a third of your life in it, so why not make your bed as luxurious as any you will find in a five-star hotel? Heatherly Design custom-make beautiful bedheads and beds to suit any colour, theme or decorating style. From the Soho in velvet to Kensington in leather, choose from their designs or create your own. When it comes to fabric, you're only limited by your imagination. From \$1150 for a queen-size bedhead. www.heatherlydesign.com.au



STYLE MOTTO: I love a layered approach to decorating with items gathered over time. Create texture and warmth through beautiful fabrics, rugs and cowhides with walls adorned with special pieces including black and white family photos that tell a story.

MUST HAVE: Of course I'm a strong believer that an upholstered bedhead adds that finishing touch to a bedroom! It's a way to create artwork whether it's in the colour or texture of the fabric or the buttoning design. Teamed with a feature wallpaper from Florence Broadhurst, you have created a sanctuary to retreat to with your own personal stamp.

MY INSPIRATION: I look to nature for the perfect colour combinations. Living and designing on a farm, I don't have to look far for inspiration. Whether it's the delicately woven bird's nest under the jetty on the lake which reminds me of a raw Belgian

linen, or the colour of the purple Cootamundra wattle with its smoky blue leaves, aubergine foliage and seed pods that hang like chandeliers.

FABULOUS FIND: To find something that is practical and beautiful at the same time is a bonus, like the striking deer hooks with their large antlers that hold my children's school bags at the front door. Morris Brown has a fabulous mix of old and new, vintage and designer and yes practical pieces that one must have. www.morrisbrown.com.au

ON TREND NOW: Trends now encourage us to create our individual style. Stylists like Sibella Court and Shannon Fricke are giving us the confidence to mix contemporary elements with antiques and junk shop finds. After all, it is in the grouping of artwork on a wall or the piece of furniture adorned with a favourite fabric remnant that makes a house a home.