

About Country Interior Decorating

By Karen Yvonne Ellis

Overview

Country interior design in a home says "welcome" even if there is no literal wall-mounted sign. It's warm, comfortable and seems to invite you to have a seat in the overstuffed chair by the crackling fire and enjoy a Jane Austin novel.

Flooring

Although it's not a golden rule that country decor should have **hardwood** floors, they do add to the warmth that this **style** of design embodies. Any wood shade that appeals to the owner is fine. However, darker colors ground the seating areas and make the room feel more cohesive. A lighter **pine flooring** will go well with a pastel or pale color palette. Area rugs, whether they are braided, rag or just colorful florals, will cement seating areas and create the comfortable look that country interior design works toward.

Lighting

Ceiling fixtures in a country design should be round and smooth while giving off a warm glow. Consider antique chandeliers or lighted ceiling fans that appear as though they've dated back to an earlier time. Incandescent bulbs will cast a warm and pleasant light and are often used in country interior design. Lamps should be tailored toward an antique style. A trek to antique stores for lampshades and fixtures can come up with the perfect solution, or at least ideas on how to transform a newer lamp.

Walls

Country interior design chooses warm tones for walls. A neutral paint can be chosen but it should have yellow or pink undertones as apposed to gray. This will add to the inviting charm of a country-designed room. Many

handmade country **wall hangings** can be found at craft shows. However, art prints with nostalgic themes, country landscapes or a floral still life can be used to decorate walls.

Furnishings

Patina on an iron bed, pleats and gathers at the hem of a sofa, spindled legs on a coffee table or an old steamer trunk are all furnishings you might expect in interior country design. If an alternate furniture style is already in place, it can be made comfortable, overstuffed and lacy through furniture throws, plump pillows or wood distressing. An interesting country decor look for **wood furniture** is to paint with one color then paint again with an alternate color. When you sand the furniture edges to distress it, the two colors as well as the bare wood will show through in different spots.

Accents

Nothing says country decor like quilts. If older quilts from the '30s and '40s can be found, they will make the ideal accent. But, with careful choices in fabric, a new quilt can be just the touch that completes the room. A simple hand-pieced patchwork finds a perfect home in country interior design. Simple clear vases with soft hued flowers or a collection of antique glassware make perfect accents as well.