

Bohemian Interior Design

FOUNDATIONAL STYLE GUIDE

About this Style Guide



This foundational style guide explores the defining principles, layered materials, and expressive spatial language that shape Bohemian Interior Design — a creative blend of global influences, artistic freedom, and relaxed living.

Developed as part of the SampleBoard Studio Foundational Style Library, this guide supports both the study and practical application of interior design styles across residential spaces.

For a deeper editorial exploration — including mood boards, trend insights, and curated design references — visit the full article on SampleBoard.

Read the full [Bohemian Interior Design Guide](#) →

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STYLE GUIDE ○

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INSPIRATION ○



CORE PRINCIPLES ○ *of Bohemian Design*



Bohemian interior design, or “Boho,” is all about creating an eclectic, free-spirited space that reflects a carefree lifestyle and a love for art, culture, and unique treasures.

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ECLECTIC MIX OF COLORS + PATTERNS

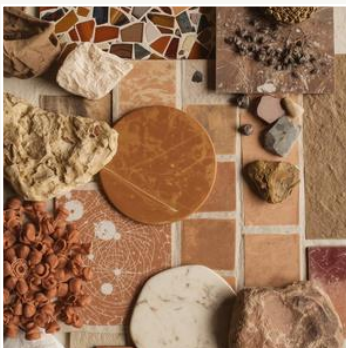
Boho style is known for its bold and vibrant color palette. Think deep jewel tones like rich reds, purples, emerald greens, and golden yellows, combined with soft neutrals like beige, ivory, and brown.

The key to Bohemian design is layering these colors and patterns in a harmonious yet spontaneous way. Mixing florals, geometric patterns, and ethnic prints is essential for achieving the boho look.



LAYERING TEXTURES + MATERIALS

Layering different materials creates visual depth and makes a space feel inviting. Think plush velvet cushions, woven throws, shaggy rugs, rattan furniture, and embroidered textiles. Natural materials like wood, leather, and stone are often paired with soft, tactile fabrics like cotton, linen, and wool to add variety and warmth to the space.



MATERIAL ○

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PERSONALIZATION + COLLECTING

The boho aesthetic encourages displaying art, photographs, souvenirs from travels, and other meaningful items that reflect your unique personality. This design style feels curated rather than styled—each piece should tell a story.



FREE-SPIRITED, NON-CONFORMIST VIBE

Bohemian interior design isn't about perfectly matching pieces. Instead, it embraces a sense of freedom and individuality. It's about creating a space that feels relaxed, inviting, and full of life.

You won't find rigid furniture layouts or overly symmetrical spaces in a Bohemian room. Everything is intentionally chosen but allowed to mix and mingle organically.



INSPIRATION ○



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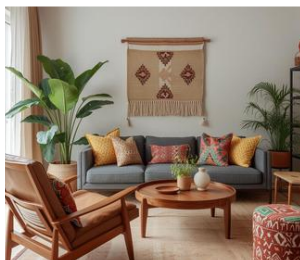




DESIGN VARIATIONS

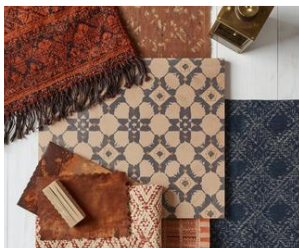
*Modern
Moroccan
Global*

MODERN

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- Color Palette: Soft neutrals with pops of vibrant colors.
- Key Features: A more refined, polished take on Boho, using sleek lines and contemporary furniture alongside eclectic textiles and wall art.
- Materials: A blend of mid-century modern furniture and vintage textiles, such as leather chairs paired with handwoven blankets.

MOROCCAN ○

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- Color Palette: Bold colors like terracotta, deep blue, and gold.
- Key Features: Intricate Moroccan rugs, poufs, and leather furnishings. Lantern-style lighting and tilework with geometric patterns add a North African touch.
- Materials: Handwoven textiles, leather poufs, intricately carved wood, and tiled surfaces for a rich, boho atmosphere.

GLOBAL

*MoodBoard*

- Color Palette: Earthy tones with pops of vibrant accent colors.
- Key Features: An eclectic mix of global influences from Africa, Asia, and South America, often through textiles, art, and furniture. The combination of travel-inspired items creates a worldly, diverse look.
- Materials: A variety of textures and materials from different cultures, including rattan, cotton, jute, and brass.





ESSENTIALS ○

LookBook

ROOM BY ROOM ○
Styling Guide





Living

- **Seating:** Opt for low, plush seating such as floor cushions, bean bags, or a comfy sectional sofa. Mix and match different chairs and cushions for an eclectic feel.
- **Accent Furniture:** Include vintage wooden pieces, woven rattan chairs, and low coffee tables. Add in a mix of cultural influences through unique, one-of-a-kind pieces.
- **Lighting:** Use string lights, hanging lanterns, or brass pendant lights to create a warm and inviting ambiance. Floor lamps with bold, decorative shades are perfect for adding to the boho vibe.
- **Decor:** Layer colorful throw pillows, textured blankets, and large, abstract art pieces on the walls. Houseplants are essential to adding life and a sense of connection to nature.





Kitchen

- **Cabinetry:** Opt for vintage or reclaimed wood cabinetry with open shelving to showcase colorful pottery, glassware, and unique trinkets.
- **Countertops:** Choose natural stone or wooden countertops, which add warmth and texture to the space.
- **Backsplash:** Use vibrant tiles in geometric or mosaic patterns to create a focal point in the kitchen. Tiles in earthy tones or ethnic prints give the space an eclectic flair.
- **Lighting:** Hang bold, decorative pendant lights or chandeliers made from natural materials such as rattan or glass to brighten the space while enhancing the bohemian aesthetic.
- **Accessories:** Add plants, vintage crockery, and woven baskets for an earthy, well-traveled touch.







Dining



- **Table and Chairs:** Choose a wooden dining table with mismatched chairs or benches for an eclectic, inviting look. Antique or vintage furniture adds character.
- **Lighting:** A large, dramatic chandelier or hanging pendant lights made from natural materials like wood, metal, or fabric will be the centerpiece of the room.
- **Centerpieces:** Use vintage vases filled with fresh flowers or create a rustic centerpiece using candles, small sculptures, or unique artifacts. Layering a textured tablecloth or runners will also add to the Boho atmosphere.



Bedroom

- **Bed Frame:** Opt for a simple wooden bed frame with colorful, patterned throws and bedding. You can mix floral, geometric, or ethnic patterns to give the space a more personalized touch.
- **Bedding:** Layer textiles such as linen, velvet, and cotton to create a rich, tactile environment. Pillows in vibrant, mismatched colors and textures are key to the boho look.
- **Nightstands:** Use vintage or repurposed items like wooden crates, stackable books, or mismatched lamps.
- **Lighting:** Soft, ambient lighting is key. String lights or hanging lanterns work well in a Bohemian bedroom. Bedside table lamps with intricate designs add to the eclectic feel.







Bathroom

- **Vanity:** Choose a wooden vanity with a distressed or reclaimed finish to maintain the organic feel. Brass or vintage hardware can add elegance.
- **Tiles:** Consider unique tiles with bold patterns or earthy tones. Use mosaic or patterned tiles to create a creative, artisanal look.
- **Fixtures:** Brass or gold-toned faucets and showerheads bring warmth to the space. Add an exotic flair with tribal-inspired accessories.
- **Decor:** Use open shelving to display candles, plants, and art pieces. Layer towels in bright colors or eclectic prints for added texture.





STYLING ○ *Small Spaces*

- **Furniture:** Choose lightweight and multifunctional furniture such as foldable tables, ottomans, and storage benches to maximize space.
- **Mirrors and Light Colors:** Mirrors can make small spaces feel larger and brighter, and using light walls paired with bold accessories adds personality without overwhelming the space.
- **Layering:** In smaller rooms, layering textures is key. Use rugs, pillows, throws, and tapestries to create warmth and comfort.





GUIDE ○

Lighting

- **Pendant Lights:** Rattan or brass pendant lights bring warmth and charm. Beaded or tasseled light fixtures can add texture to the room.
- **Floor Lamps:** Tall, elegant floor lamps with boho-inspired shades can add a touch of drama while casting a soft glow.
- **Table Lamps:** Opt for table lamps with unique, artistic designs, such as distressed metal or hand-painted ceramics, to bring a creative and free-spirited touch.





FOCUS ○

Sustainability

- **Sustainable Materials:** Choose furniture made from reclaimed wood, bamboo, and rattan. Using natural, eco-friendly fabrics for cushions, bedding, and curtains supports both the Bohemian aesthetic and the planet.
- **Upcycled Decor:** Repurpose old furniture or create your own DIY projects, like using fabric scraps to make throw pillows or rugs. Upcycled pieces are perfect for creating a one-of-a-kind Boho space.





BUDGET FRIENDLY ○

Decor Ideas

- **Wall Tapestries:** Use large, colorful tapestries to create a focal point on your walls. You can often find affordable options at thrift stores, or create your own.
- **Macramé:** Learn how to make macramé plant hangers or wall hangings to add texture and a handcrafted feel.
- **Vintage Finds:** Visit flea markets and second-hand stores to find one-of-a-kind pieces such as woven baskets, antique mirrors, or ethnic textiles.
- **Plant Displays:** Fill your home with indoor plants in hanging pots, macramé hangers, or decorative planters to bring life and nature into your space.



INSPIRATION ○

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ADVICE ○

Dos & Don'ts

Dos

- ✓ Mix and match different colors, patterns, and textures for a laid-back and creative look.
- ✓ Incorporate natural elements like wood, plants, and woven textiles.
- ✓ Use vintage, travel-inspired, and artisanal pieces to personalize the space.
- ✓ Layer soft, tactile fabrics like velvet, cotton, and linen for warmth and comfort.
- ✓ Allow your space to feel lived-in, with items that hold personal meaning.

Don'ts

- ✗ Overdo matching—Bohemian interior design thrives on diversity and uniqueness.
- ✗ Keep everything too neat—Boho design is relaxed and eclectic, not overly structured.
- ✗ Rely solely on one theme—embrace eclecticism and mix various cultural influences.
- ✗ Neglect functionality—while the style is carefree, it's essential that the space remains comfortable and practical.





CONCLUSION ○

Bohemian interior design is the perfect style for those who appreciate individuality, creativity, and a relaxed, free-spirited approach to decorating.

By layering colors, textures, and materials and adding personal, eclectic touches, you can create a space that is uniquely your own.

Whether you're transforming an entire room or adding a few Boho-inspired pieces, this style encourages you to embrace your creativity and make your space feel warm, inviting, and full of personality.



A hand is holding a large, dried pampas grass arrangement against a light-colored wall. The grass is a mix of light beige and cream colors, with long, feathery plumes. The hand is positioned in the lower right, with fingers wrapped around the stems. A tattoo is visible on the forearm. The background is a plain, light-colored wall with a subtle texture. A semi-transparent white box with rounded corners is overlaid on the left side of the image, containing text.

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