

april / 2001

housebeautiful



Spring
Fling!

White
Looks
Right
Indoor
Outdoor
Decor

Curtain
Magic
April
in Paris
Tabletop
Update
Swedish
Style 2001

\$3.50



04

photographer JOSHUA SHELDON

producers CAROLYN SOLLIS

and ELAINE WRIGHTMAN

Watch

▼Calico Corners "Limerick"
in citrus/white (#691-lime-cit);
100% cotton; 54"w.



Pella's Proline out-swing French doors.
Custom cornice from Calico Corners.



(Here are nine
scene-stealing ways
to make sure your
windows are always
in the limelight.
By Carolyn Sollis)

curtain call

45

▼Dek Tillet Ltd. "Big Apple
Stripe" in multigreens
(#276B-10); 100% cotton; 54"w.



▲Marimekko "Kevatlita
Lime" (#D1506); from
DeGreco Textiles;
100% acrylic; 54"w.

▼ Carleton V **"Printemps"**
in lettuce (#CM100-4);
62% cotton, 38% viscose;
51½" w.



▲ Greeff **"Zipper"**
in leaf (#3237017);
from F. Schumacher;
100% cotton; 54" w.

Over-the-top curtains are **out**, understatement is **in**

▼ Sanderson **"Woodfern"**
(#PR8325/1); 100% cotton;
54" w.



▲ Kathryn Ireland **"Ikat Stripe"** in green (#2106); from
John Rosselli & Associates;
100% hemp linen; 55" w.

▼Manuel Canovas "Palma" (#1414-44); from Cowtan & Tout; 52% linen, 48% cotton; 59¼"w.



▲Pierre Frey "Nicobar Camaieu" in vert 4 (#2123); from Donghia; 100% cotton; 54"w.

Large repeats need **less fullness** so that **pattern** can be seen

OUTLOOK FOR SPRING 2001: BANISH BARE WINDOWS and bring on the curtains! "Contemporary curtains" is not an oxymoron. To prove it, we took a classic pair of 6-foot-wide by 6-foot-high French doors from Pella's Proline series (make sure the doors swing out) and dressed them with a cornice (an upholstered valance) and curtains available to order through Calico Corners. What makes these window treatments feel modern? They're feminine without being fussy, and the leafy green fabrics feel as fresh as the view outdoors.

Carl Dellatore of D & F Workroom helped us figure out our design schemes using a few simple formulas. The height of the cornice should be approximately one-fifth the height of the door (in this case, we shortened the cornice a bit to look less imposing). If you're not sure about how full the curtains should be, multiply the width of the window by 2½ and divide by the width of the fabric to get a rough idea of how many panels of fabric you need (most of the fabrics we used were 54" wide). Dellatore gave us one important tip: Fabrics with large repeats, like the charming Pierre Frey "Nicobar Camaieu" with its oriental motif, and the larger-than-life

Manuel Canovas "Palma," need less fullness so that the pattern can be seen. Here we used about 1¼ times the width of the window so that the design wouldn't be just a jumble of lines lost in the folds.

Over-the-top curtains are out, understatement is in. "Choose your moments to embellish carefully," Dellatore warns. French-pleated velvet ribbon edges the sylvan "Woodfern" from Sanderson and green-and-white gros-grain ribbon adds snap to Marimekko's "Kevalita Lime." Carleton V's "Printemps" is set off with simple white cording. "Big Apple Stripe" from Dek Tillet and "Nicobar Camaieu" from Pierre Frey were so graphic on their own, no embellishment was needed. Calico Corners' "Limerick" check was cut on the full bias to make a diamond-patterned border—a classic dressmaker detail.

Natural trims fit right in with our theme. Kathryn Ireland's "Ikat Check" looks fetching with raffia fringe. Canovas' "Palma" and Greeff's "Zipper" stripe were decked out with wooden beads. Don't feel like you have to follow the rules. When we snipped off every other bead along the cornice edge of the "Zipper" stripe, it lightened the whole look. ●