

July / 2001

# housebeautiful

6 Dreamy  
Retreats  
Indoor  
Outdoor  
Living  
Chic New  
Stripes

Summer  
Decorating  
Makeovers





## Get in Line

{Horizontal or vertical, **stripes** rule this summer. By Carolyn Sollis}

► Hickory Chair **Trestle Bench** in Kiri finish from the Thomas O'Brien Collection (#2009-88); 73"w. x 22"d. x 18"h.



► Stroheim & Romann **"St. Barts Stripe"** (#5825B-0530); 60% cotton, 20% silk, 20% linen; 59"w.



► Les Toiles du Soleil **"Collioure"** in safran (#20426), from Côte France; 100% cotton; 73"w.



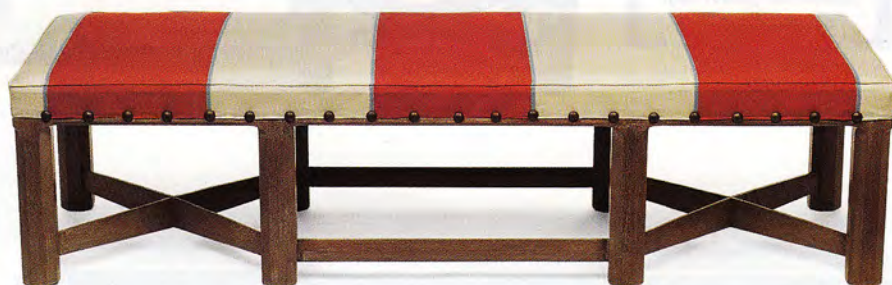
► Donghia **"Hamaca Azul"** (#0210-02); 100% cotton, 51"w.







Old World Weavers  
"Challis Stripe II"  
(#RR82100001);  
100% cotton; 58"w.



Nobilis "Longitude"  
(#8459-91); 55% cotton,  
45% viscose; 55"w.

Stripes play up the angles of a **Thomas O'Brien** bench



Lulu DK Fabrics  
"Catwalk" in  
maroon with pink  
(#11121); 54% linen,  
46% cotton; 54"w.



Brunschwig & Fils  
"Gaspard Stripe  
Canvas" in sorbet pink  
(#6499.01-109); 100%  
cotton; 50"w.





◀ Clarence House  
“Valencia” (#32252-1);  
100% cotton; 51”w.



▶ Manuel Canovas  
“Rio” in fuschia/anis  
(#4502-42); 45% cotton,  
22% polyester, 22%  
linen, 11% viscose; 59”w.

## How to handle the seat edge depends on the stripe

I NEVER IMAGINED IT UPHOLSTERED IN STRIPES,” SAYS Thomas O’Brien of his Trestle Bench for Hickory Chair—a gutsy, versatile piece that can live happily in town or in the country. “But what a fabulous idea!” O’Brien’s design inspiration was an 1880s English bench with a leather seat and nailhead trim. His own casual yet elegant interpretation would work in a hallway, at the foot of a bed, or in a living room. Summery stripes give it a kick.

“This upholstery lesson is all about lines,” points out Carl Dellatore of D & F Workroom, referring to the 73-inch ash bench with its angular base and the nine striped fabrics we tried out. “The way we juxtaposed those lines was the fun in this exercise.” Think about the width and scale of the stripes in each fabric, then play with the verticals and horizontals. Several fabrics—like the Stroheim & Romann cotton, silk, and linen “St. Barts Stripe” and the Old World Weavers “Challis Stripe II”—were railroaded (run horizontally) and allowed to fall naturally over the frame. Nobilis’s wide cream and coral “Longitude” and “Valencia,” a skinny rainbow stripe from

Clarence House, looked best upholstered perpendicular to the frame. How to handle the edge of the seat? “Hamaca Azul” from Donghia is horizontal on the seat, then cut and lined up vertically for the border. “Rio” from Manuel Canovas, a velvet and linen stripe, worked well as a horizontal only around the edge. The snappy pink “Gaspard Stripe Canvas” from Brunschwig & Fils was cut first to fit the top of the bench, then cut twice more to form the border and the gimp.

All those straight lines sometimes needed a little contrast, so we also used nailhead trims in all sizes, shapes, and finishes. (Greentex Upholstery Supply in New York is a great trade source for unusual nailheads in pewter, bronze, and faux black leather.) We found giant pewter pyramids for Les Toiles du Soleil’s happy yellow “Collioure” and tiny copper ones that looked chic with the Lulu DK Fabrics pink and maroon “Catwalk.” “There are no rules when using nailheads,” Dellatore notes. “Space them close together, far apart, run them north–south, east–west, in single or double rows. Think outside the box.” ●