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COLOR THEORY

Creating an emotional connection

A TOUCH OF HOME

Bringing residential comfort to work

MATERIAL SELECTION

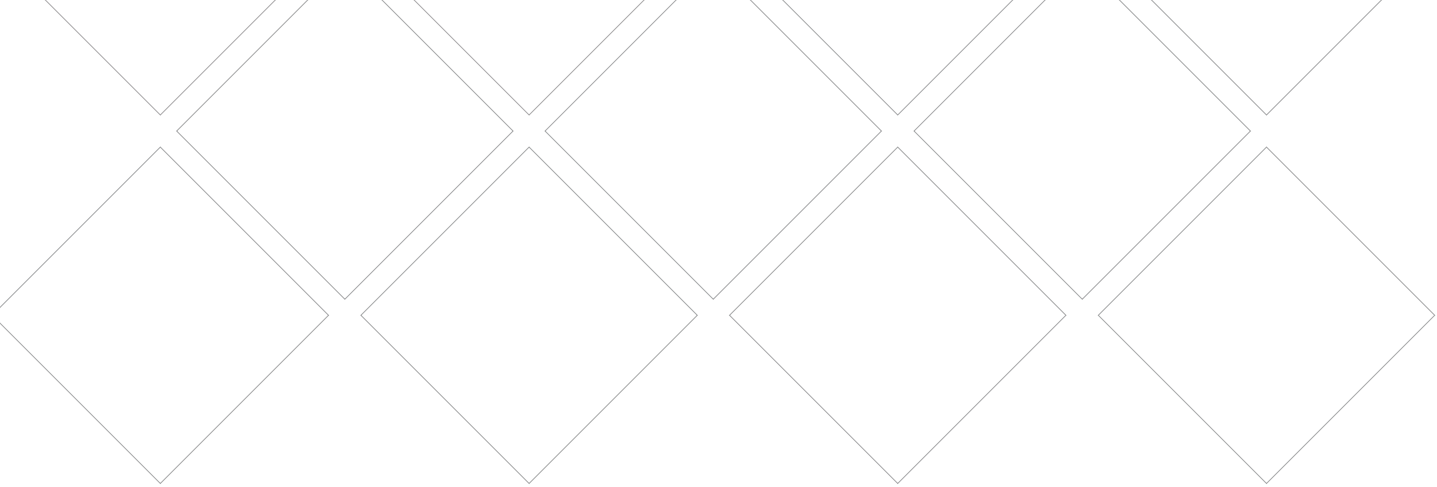
Inspired Choices.
Elevated Performance.

INSPIRING PALETTES

Reinvigorate your office landscape

MATERIAL TRENDS

A close-up photograph showing several different fabric textures. A thick blue cable-knit fabric is prominent on the left. Next to it is a white fabric with a small, repeating geometric pattern. In the bottom right corner, a green and yellow checkered fabric is visible. The lighting is soft, highlighting the tactile qualities of the materials.



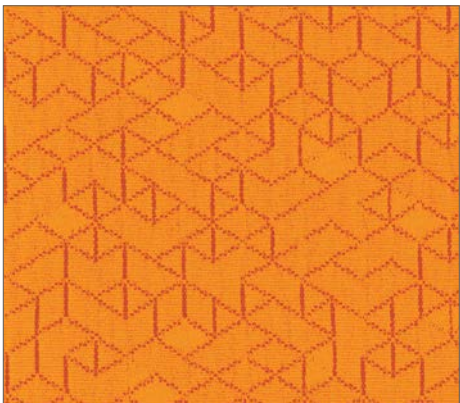
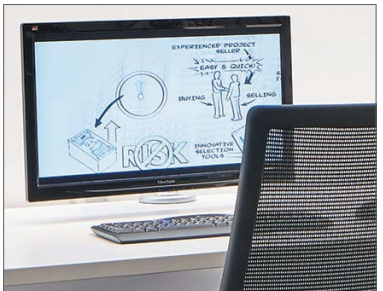
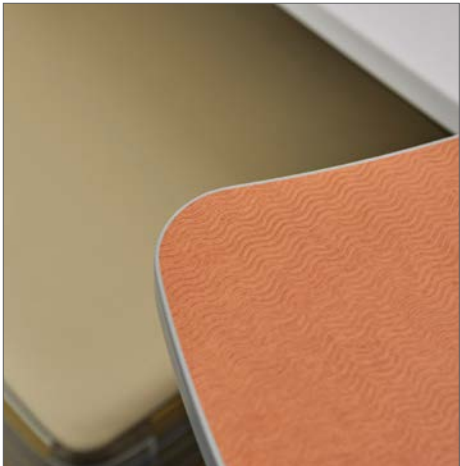
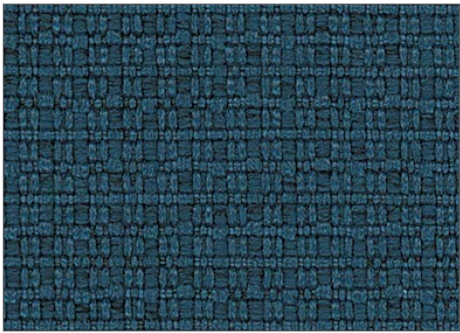
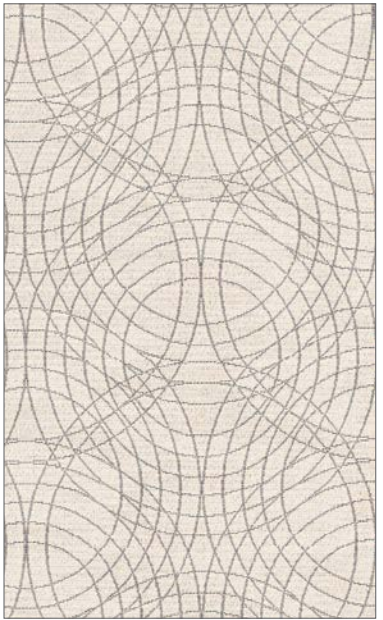
THE ROLE OF MATERIALS IN THE WORKPLACE

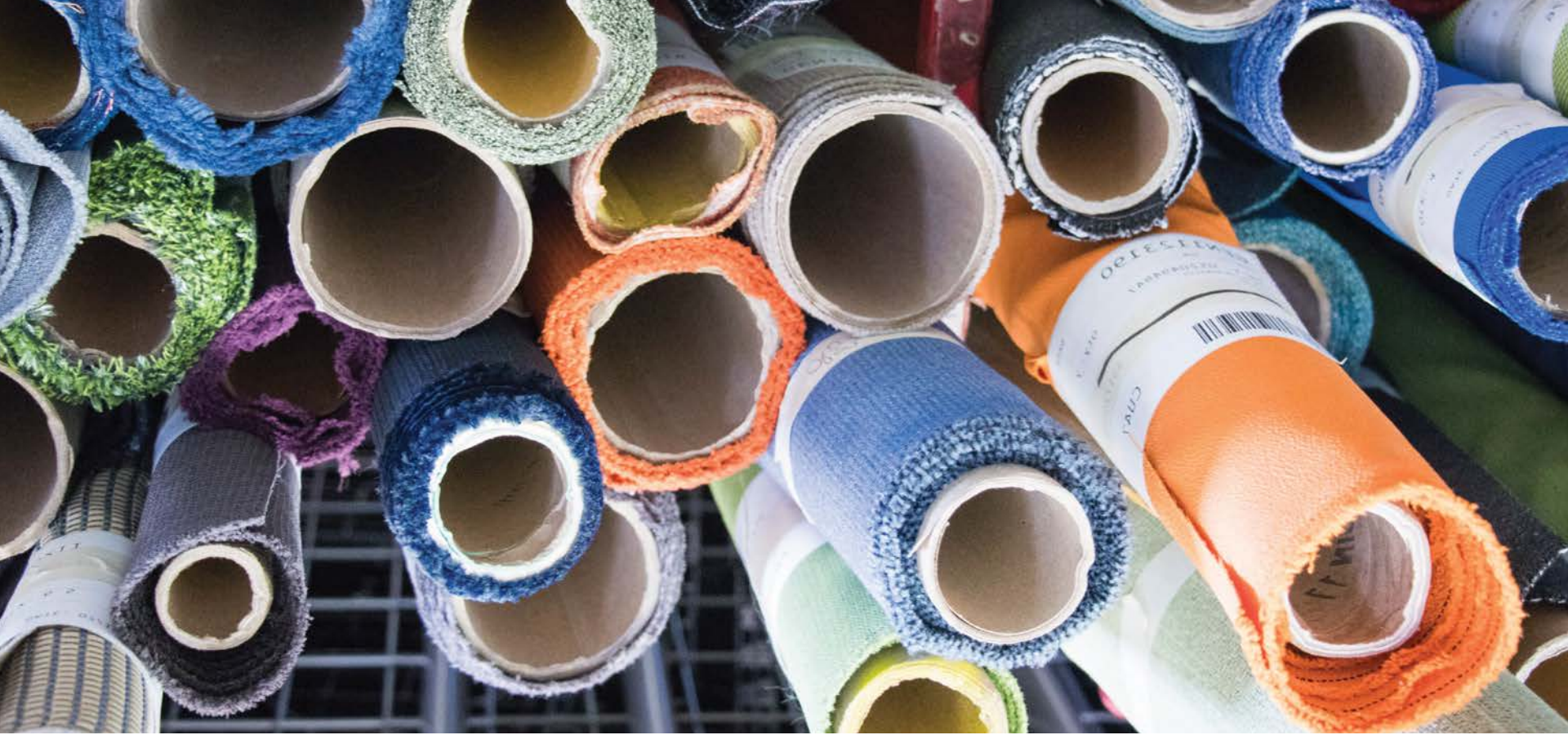
We've all seen how some spaces within the office are constantly buzzing with activity. So what makes these places so inviting? Often times, it's about the emotional connection people feel toward these magnetic settings, and this feeling can be greatly influenced by carefully chosen color palettes. Material selection goes far beyond a reflection of personal preferences. In fact, the right paint colors, textured finishes and fabric patterns can sharpen focus, calm nerves and increase productivity.



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COLOR THEORY

Creating An Emotional Connection

Ever notice how paint colors, textures and fabrics can breathe new life into a space? As work styles and office environments continue to change, workers are increasingly rejecting the sea of sameness in favor of spaces that provide mental and emotional stimulation. A recent University of Texas study identified that monochromatic surroundings induce feelings of sadness and depression. In contrast, thoughtfully designed spaces that layer a combination of materials and colors appeal to a wider variety of people and elicit positive emotional responses.

Planning Tips

Put this knowledge to work in your office space by keeping these color theories and design tactics in mind:

- Strategically select your colors to promote overall behaviors and feelings rather than catering to personal preferences.
- Mix up your palette throughout the office to offer variety for all workers, identify circulation paths, and reflect the changing character of the environment.
- Make the most of the natural light in your space by relying on lighter hues in those areas that will better reflect the light.

A Human Centered Approach

Purposeful work requires a design approach that blends creative space planning with innovative materials and palettes. Taking a personal approach to color selection can increase focus and social interaction, while offering everyone the variety they crave throughout the day.



1. Brighter colors positively impact focus and task accuracy
2. Blue produces a calming influence, promoting mental acuity and creative thinking
3. Pink minimizes feelings of irritation, aggression, loneliness and discouragement
4. Red enhances feelings of energy, vitality and ambition
5. Yellow makes people alert, paving the way for clear decision-making
6. Orange calms emotions and boosts self-esteem, creating a sense of enthusiasm



A Touch Of Home

Bringing residential comfort to work

Today's businesses employ a variety of methods of making everyone feel more comfortable at work, but there's one trend that is becoming universally accepted — the blending of work and home atmospheres. As offices and work styles continue to evolve, people are spending less time at a desk and more time collaborating in places that offer the casual comforts of home.

64%

of Millennials and Gen Z employees feel stressed all or most of the time at work.

Udemy Workplace Stress Study, 2017

“Work is happening everywhere these days. People are migrating away from their desks and finding different kinds of venues in which to collaborate, which requires inviting color palettes and comfortable material selections that align with the desired functionality of the space. This residential transformation has also been impacted by other outside influences such as coffee shops and lounges, where palettes are often more stimulating and refreshing. Small businesses are increasingly looking for an experience that feels more like what you find at home, with softer materials and colorful palettes that put people at ease.”

Andy Benner
HON IDS Director

Home Away From Home

People are drawn to a diverse set of materials, colors and textures found in nature. Natural wood grains. Seasonal colors. Organic patterns. Office workers are craving those touches to make the office feel more welcoming and relaxed — like home.

Here are few ideas to bring touches of residential life into your office.

Tried & True

Sophisticated paint colors create an inviting and relaxing atmosphere.

Bright Ideas

Residential spaces are often more eclectic than office areas, with brighter colors and playful patterns.

Wood Accents

The use of natural materials makes the work experience more human centered, creating a more familiar and authentic aesthetic.

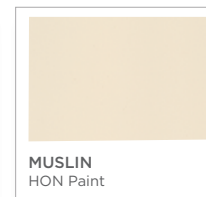
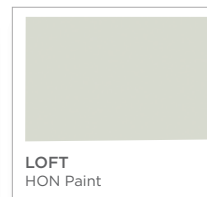
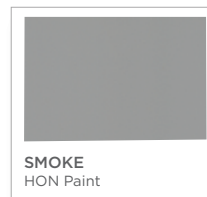
All Mixed Up

Warm and natural materials layer together creating inspiring places where people want to work.

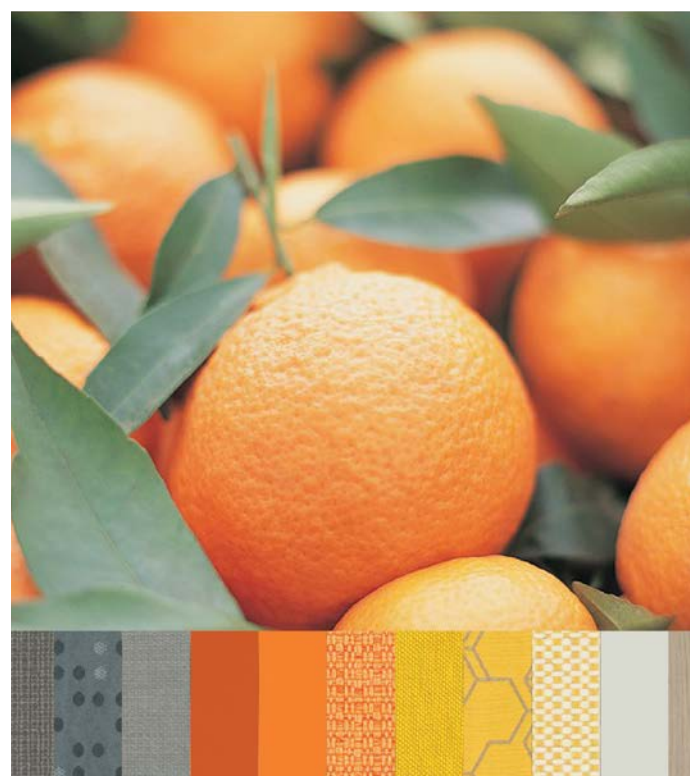
Patterns Of Behavior

Geometric designs in upholstery can turn a sterile environment into a stimulating setting.

TRIED & TRUE



BRIGHT IDEAS - Color palette Citrus Blend



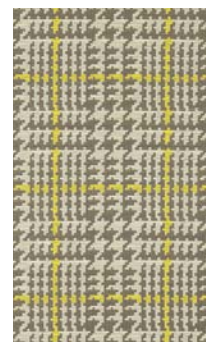
WOOD ACCENTS



ALL MIXED UP



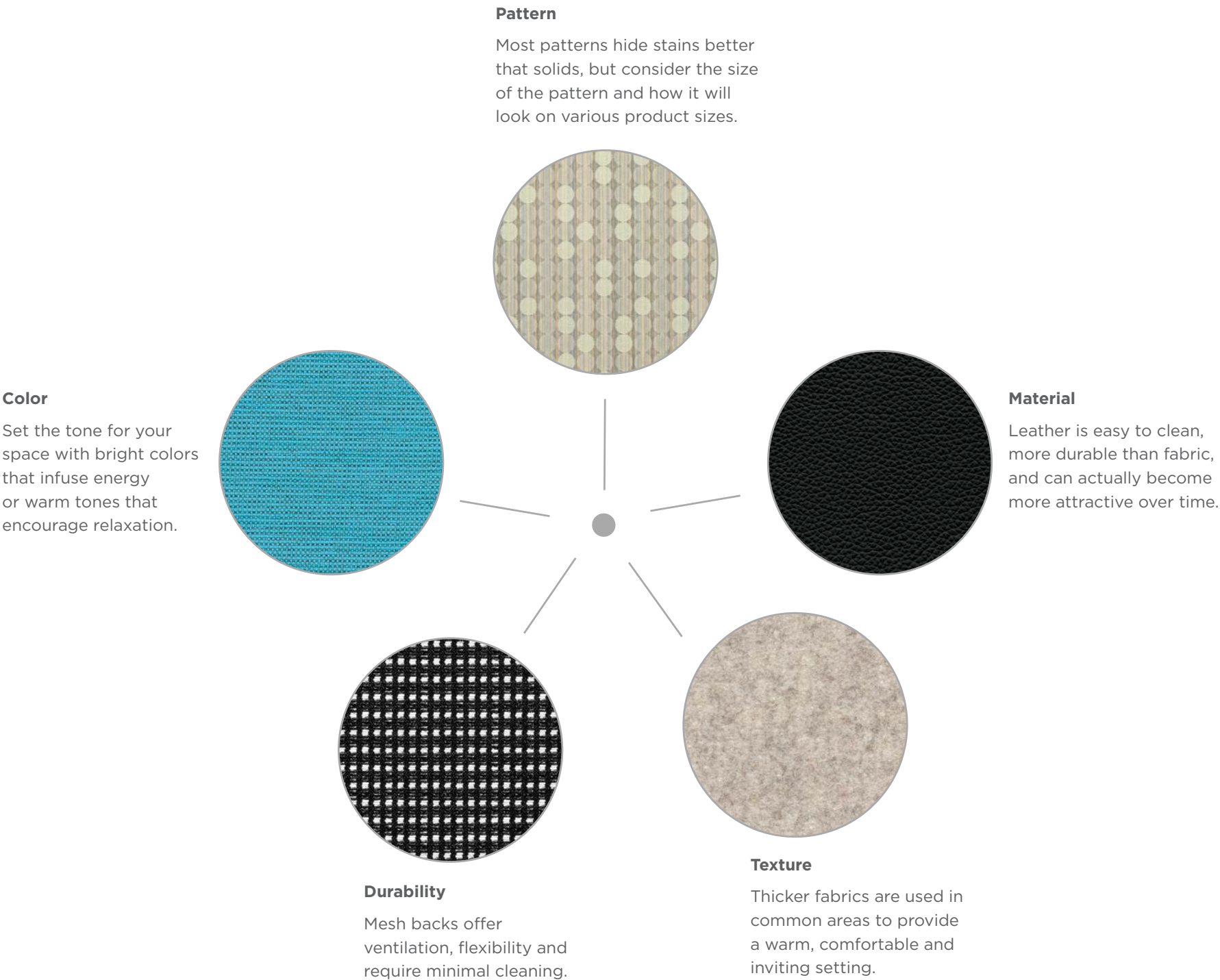
PATTERNS OF BEHAVIOR - MAHARAM Houndstooth-Oat



Material Selection

Inspired Choices. Elevated Performance.

Selecting the right materials for office furniture can seem like a daunting task. In addition to the thousands of selections for colors, patterns and textures, there are considerations for durability and performance. Many companies choose fabric upholstery because it can be inviting, comfortable and easy to maintain. However, there are countless materials to choose from, so keep the following considerations in mind when making your next material selection.





Tribeca Sunflower - Grade 5
Abrasion - 100,000 double rubs



Making The Grade

Natural sunlight. High-traffic areas. Healthcare environments. There are many reasons why some spaces require a little extra performance from their materials. The following five performance-based features can help guide your selection, based on your specific needs.

Abrasion

Abrasion performance is measured by the number of double rubs, or cycles, that the fabric can withstand in the lab. When considering seating for workstations, welcoming areas and open spaces, select fabrics with a higher abrasion resistance number.

Fading

Color fastness measures the fading that will occur when the fabric comes into contact with UV light or rubs against other fabrics. Grade 5 fabrics offer the most protection against fading, and office fabrics should have a minimum rating of 4.

Flammability

Fire rated fabrics include a chemical layer that inhibits flammability. Look for ratings from ASTM or NFPA for extra protection, but remember that no fabric can be completely fireproof.

Antimicrobial

Reception areas and common spaces attract bacteria and germs. By adding an antimicrobial treatment to your fabric, you can increase protection for both employees and visitors.

Fabric Grades

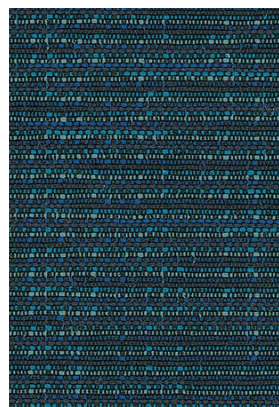
Fabrics are organized by grades. Higher level grades often feature more expensive materials, natural fibers and higher thread counts. Check with the manufacturer to determine which grade of fabric is right for your needs.



SAMPLING OF GRADE 5 FABRICS - Visit hon.com/fabrics-and-finishes for complete selection of fabrics
FEATURED: SPIN - ALABASTER / RUSH - MARINA / CIRQUE - PAMPASS



WELCOMING AREAS ARE GREAT FOR ANTIMICROBIAL FABRICS



HNI : OPTIC - AURORA

Grade 1

Application:	Chair Fabrics
Content:	58% Polyester, 42% Recycled Polyester
Width:	54"
Repeat:	11.1"V x 14.3"H
Weight:	9.7 ounces per linear yard
Finish:	Needle Punch/ SR, WR/ Backing
Backing:	Acrylic
Abrasion:	70,000 double rubs (W)
Flame Resistance:	NFPA 260 (UFAC Class 1), California TB 117-2013, Section 1 compliant, Compatible with California TB 133 (CAL 133) when ordered as a FC option
Maintenance Code:	WS
Manufacturer:	HNI



Designer Profile

Lori Roop

Home: Kennebunk, Maine

Education: B.F.A. in Textile Design, Rhode Island School of Design, 1992

Awards: Numerous Best of NeoCon and Nightingale Awards

CF Stinson

CF Stinson has been working hard keeping their customers satisfied for three generations. As purveyors of innovative textiles, CF Stinson is a company of designers, thinkers and makers dedicated to creating textile solutions. This Midwestern company has origins in textile distribution to architects, designers and furniture manufacturers. Since 1952, they have created innovative textiles for clients in the corporate, education, healthcare, and hospitality markets. CF Stinson consistently exceeds design, performance, service and sustainability standards, and has been awarded for their work through industry recognition. Their fabrics have evolved over the past six decades, thanks to research, great design and technology. Their goal has always remained the same: to create interesting and innovative textiles that work. Since the very beginning, CF Stinson has explored new ways to make products that exceed customer expectations, and they plan to continue this tradition into the future.



Meet the Maker

An Interview with CF Stinson's Director of Design, Lori Roop

Q. What materials trends are you seeing in the workplace?

A. Material selections in the workplace are transitioning to a residential feel. Textiles are more like what you'd find at home, as opposed to the monochromatic look that used to dominate commercial spaces. Color is all about the juxtaposition of pairings, such as combining a trendy color with an unexpected accent. From a textural standpoint, CF Stinson is creating a wider variety of surfaces that people want to touch, while at the same time, incorporating fibers and constructions that yield high performance. As for patterns, we see a movement toward fun and modern geometric patterns that help to create energy in the work space. We are seeing more Crypton® fabrics used as well, because they offer residential-looking aesthetics while delivering the performance necessary for collaborative areas. With the advancement in aesthetics of coated fabrics, we are also seeing more vinyls and polyurethanes being used in the workplace, specifically in areas like training rooms, cafeterias, casual, and interior recreational spaces.

Q. What colors and textures are companies using to inspire workers?

A. I see the desire to use a lot of neutrals with splashes of color. This approach doesn't become overly expressive or loud, but it becomes more aspirational when you add more nuanced colors into the mix. There is also a wider variety of textures being used in the same setting. For example, a comfy matelasse beside a dry concrete surface or a heathered chunky basket weave beside a metallic faux leather. It's all about mixing it up and creating variety and choice.



Q. How do you draw inspiration from natural elements and urban landscapes?

A. The CF Stinson studio is in Maine, so seasonal changes have a big impact. We draw inspiration from the river that flows through our property, the patterns on leaves and a variety of other natural elements. As our work evolves to embrace more creativity and emotional connections, we increasingly turn to our innate desire to turn to nature for inspiration and to form bonds.

Creativity helps us interpret nature and make it accessible for everyone, especially those in urban areas, we harness it to infuse a sense of nature throughout the workplace. It doesn't have to be a literal interpretation, it's about replicating those natural patterns and colors to calm and inspire a new generation of workers.



Q. What insights can you share from CF Stinson's partnerships with textile designers?

A. As textile providers, we create palettes that designers use to bring a space they envision to life. So our job is to create a palette expansive enough to give them all the options they need to fulfill their vision. However, we really enjoy working with designers who bring ideas to the table that we haven't considered. For example, our most recent partner collection was with Art of Board, a lifestyle design brand who removes discarded skateboards from the waste stream and repurposes them into architectural elements for commercial spaces. The result was a cutting-edge collection of performance fabrics for the workspace, that deliver a modern, urban feel.



Q. Do you foresee any major changes on the horizon?

A. While there is no crystal ball, we continue to create as much variety as possible to give people the ability to satisfy changes in the marketplace. I am not aware of any paradigm-shifting event coming in the next few years, but the contract furniture market typically goes through evolutions periodically — such as the current “resimercial” trend. With our legacy of innovation, we are constantly challenging ourselves and searching for what's next.





INSPIRING PALETTES

REINVIGORATE YOUR OFFICE LANDSCAPE

Today's generation of workers demand meaningful places that blend design, materiality and the power of choice. Companies of all sizes are discovering that how a space performs is just as critical as how it looks and feels. The HON design team draws inspiration from natural surroundings to create vibrant combinations of colors and textures that elicit emotional responses and create a feeling of energy and belonging throughout each zone of the office.

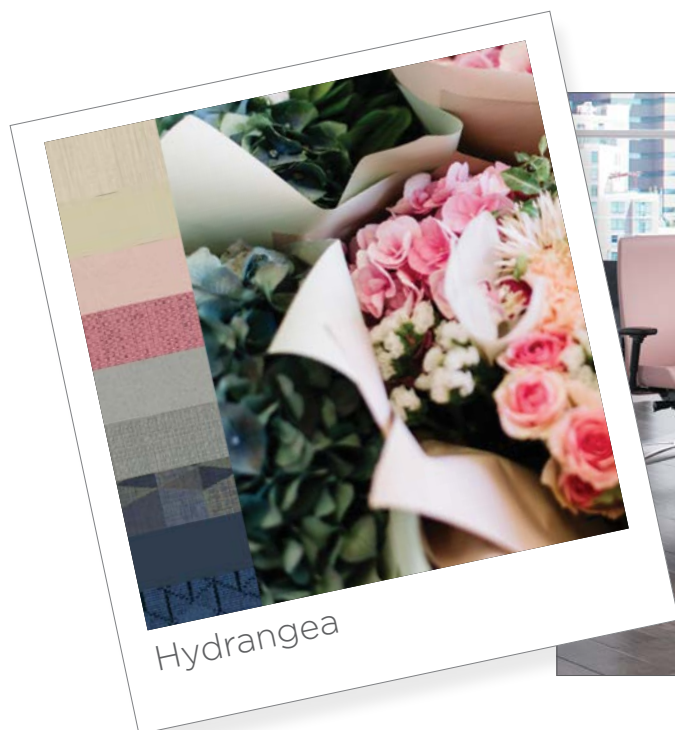
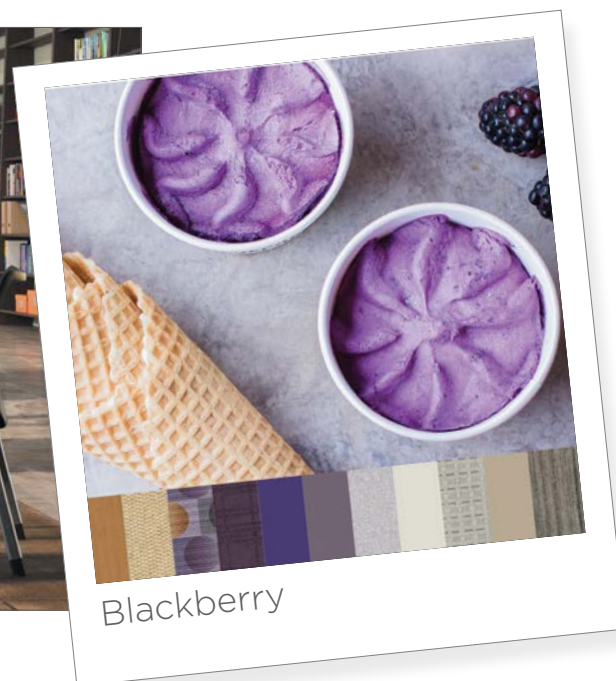
Design Ideas For Every Setting

Purposeful work requires a design approach that blends creative space planning with innovative materials and palettes. Taking a personal approach to color selection can increase focus and social interaction, while offering everyone the variety they crave throughout the day.

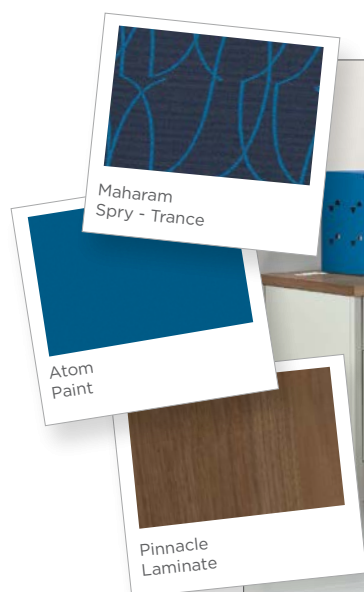
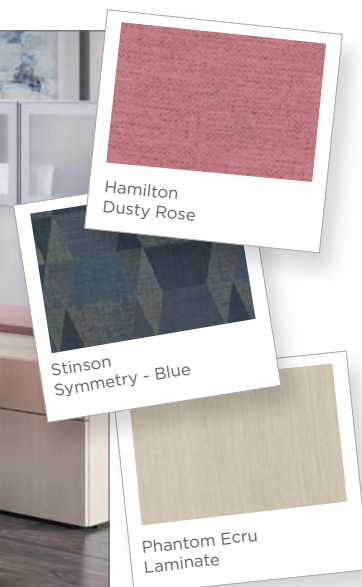
View all of HON's curated collections at hon.com



OPEN OFFICE

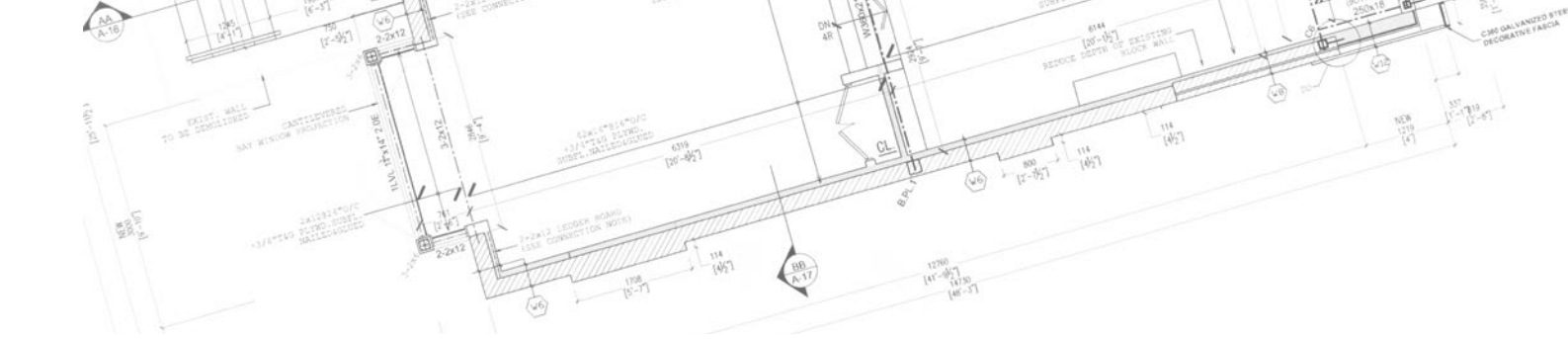


TEAMING



PRIVATE OFFICE





Designer Profile

Connor Glass

Home: New York, NY
Education: B.S. in Interior Design,
University of Bridgeport

With more than 15 years of professional experience and a diverse portfolio, Connor explores multi-sensory environments that combine sustainability with research-based workplace strategies. A graduate of the University of Bridgeport with a Bachelor of Science in Interior Design, Connor is an Associate Principal and Senior Designer at Perkins Eastman, a global design giant and New York's largest architectural firm.

DESIGN SPEAK

An Interview with Perkins Eastman

Q. What are your core design beliefs with regards to selecting and applying materials?

A. I believe materials should reflect the power of the institution in which they are being used. In the context of corporate interiors, specified finishes should relate to both the culture of the organization, the surrounding community and the geographical location. Also, all finishes should be sustainable and responsibly manufactured. When looking at finishes on architectural features and furniture with a long life span, care should be taken to avoid being too trendy. I believe that the more trend-driven and fashion forward examples belong in accent pieces and easily updateable elements.

Q. What do you need to know about a client before materials can be defined?

A. We always ask "why" at every turn. We want to know what the client's goals are before we begin and how these goals will drive various design choices. These goals can be business-related, such as improving culture and performance to improve speed to market, or more related to budget limitations. We also want to understand a client's brand, including what has worked and what hasn't in the past. This could help determine what finishes and/or colors have proven to be more durable.



Q. What role do materials play in your overall design, and at what stage do you introduce them?

A. Materials play a very important role in supporting the architectural design narrative. They can often take a project from good to amazing, depending on the successful use of things like color and texture. Simple concepts like these two elements are introduced immediately after (and sometimes during) the planning process. What comes after that is the definition of the details like a specific color, fabric or wood selection.

Q. How can material selections impact the mindset of workers?

A. Materials can greatly impact the health and well-being of workers. The value range of a finish can reduce eyestrain in work areas by limiting brightness contrast with exterior windows and on systems panels where eyes will bounce on and off a digital display screen. The right finishes can evoke connections to nature through non-rhythmic patterning, or create direct connections to nature through the use of real hardwood finishes. These biophilic elements are proven to reduce stress and improve cognitive functioning.

Q. What material trends have you noticed in the office?

A. Materials have become more approachable in that they often feel more residential or hospitality driven. This creates more variation, and sometimes more risk, with bolder use of color and patterns. There is also a trend toward creating more warmth by using textiles with a softer natural hand or wood finishes. Large corporate workplaces have recently become much less cookie cutter, with a cultural shift that is demanding more tailored and bespoke solutions. The tolerance for working in any environment even remotely resembling a cube farm has ended. This has allowed for more exciting and layered environments aimed at improving productivity and well-being.



**PERKINS —
EASTMAN**

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