

As a society, we have a collective responsibility when it comes to choosing more sustainable practices within our home environment. Having recently written an in depth and focused *Guide to Creating a Sustainable Interior Design Scheme*, we are more than aware of the complexities involved in this.

*‘We encourage our clients to opt for products made from natural and rapidly renewable sources’*

The very term ‘sustainable’ immediately flashes up pound signs, red tape, experimental finishes or images of rough shabby chic that looks cobbled together. As a result, it can feel overwhelming, complicated and inaccessible to the average homeowner or consumer.

But it really need not be that complicated, and we are on a mission to break down the misconceptions surrounding sustainable design and to demonstrate that a healthy, sustainable interior can also mean a stylish interior.

At the end of the day, it is about creating interior spaces that benefit both people and the



Picture: Edward Bulmer Natural Paint

Edward Bulmer paints are made purely from plants, with no added plastic.

## Keeping it green on considered home interiors...

Incorporating sustainability principles into your home interiors need not mean compromising on style, writes CAOIMHE McKENNA of Yellow Brick Road Design

planet and should not be seen as a hindrance or compromise but rather an evolving and detail-driven process grounded in longevity.

For us, sustainable interior design means re-evaluating the choices and processes involved in all areas of an interior project, from the suppliers and manufacturers we procure to the contractors we use on-site. We aim to ensure the end result answers the client’s style and brief while simultaneously

causing as little negative impact on the planet and its people as possible.

We encourage our clients to opt for products made from natural and rapidly renewable sources such as cork, bamboo, clay and stone, for example. Introducing textures that nature has honed for millions of years adds a layer of substance as well as the healthy benefits that a natural product free from CFCs and harsh chemicals can bring.

When it comes to sourcing sustainable furniture, finishes and fixtures, it can be difficult to distinguish the green facts from fiction. There is however an ever-increasing range of suppliers and manufacturers who have placed the importance of sustainability at the core of their business and with a little extra time spent sourcing and a cleverer use of budget, a sustainable interior design scheme that does not compromise on style is becoming more achievable. ♦

[yellowbrickroaddesign.co.uk](http://yellowbrickroaddesign.co.uk)

### Five sustainable homeware brands to watch

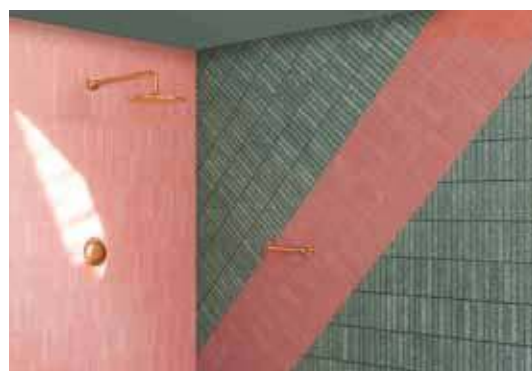
**Clayworks:** Clayworks clay plasters are unique blends of unfired clays mixed with minerals and pigments to provide healthy, breathable finishes for internal walls and ceilings. [clay-works.com](http://clay-works.com)

**Nature Squared:** Textile designer Elaine Yan Ling Ng has worked in collaboration with Nature Squared to create a collection of speckled wall tiles made from shells of eggs that are discarded by bakeries. [naturesquared.com](http://naturesquared.com)

**Edward Bulmer:** Edward Bulmer stocks over 100 natural shades of paint made purely from plants with no added plastic. [edwardbulmerpaint.co.uk](http://edwardbulmerpaint.co.uk)

**Sisal & Seagrass:** This company supplies high quality natural organic floors and rugs from sustainable sources and produced using the minimum amount of chemicals possible if any at all. [sisalandseagrass.co.uk](http://sisalandseagrass.co.uk)

**Weaver Green:** Weaver Green is a Devon-based flooring specialist that makes recycled plastic rugs and textiles from discarded plastic bottles. [weavergreen.com](http://weavergreen.com)



Picture: IP Publicity

Textile designer Elaine Yan Ling Ng has worked in collaboration with Nature Squared to create a collection of speckled wall tiles.