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The Top 5 Interior Design Trends for 2023

White bouclé gives way to performance velvet, and tired tile to great slabs of stone. These are among the trends coming and going next year, according to the hundreds of interior design pros we canvassed.

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AS INTERIOR DESIGNERS look ahead to 2023, they disagree on a fundamental question as to the shape of furniture to come: Will it be curvy or linear? A significant number of the hundreds we polled for our annual end-of-year trends predictions foresee more of the bowed sofas and circular swivel chairs that have been dominating chic living spaces. “Rounded shapes have been popular for a while now and continue to be a huge trend,” said architect Mary Maydan, in Palo Alto, Calif. Meanwhile, New York City designer Todd Raymond has tired of organic shapes and forecasts that rectilinear, restrained furniture will feel fresher to tastemakers and clients alike. His impassioned plea: “Bring back right angles!”

Consensus was reached in many areas, however. Here, five trends that a quorum of design professionals agree will loom on the horizon and the five to which they’re happily bidding buh-bye in 2023.



OUT: Look-at-Me Fixtures

Beyond the razzle-dazzle confines of a bar or game room, glass and metal chandeliers that bend and branch and poke have lost their luster, said Shannon Callahan, director of design at Marc-Michaels Interior Design, in Winter Park, Fla. Hard and sharp chandeliers feel angry, she said, and call to mind martial-arts weapons. Teresa Manns, a designer in Wauwatosa, Wis., pointed to the unappealing frigidity of such fixtures in a postpandemic world that craves coziness: “Angular fixtures are out, as are cold, brushed metals.”

IN: Retiring Lights

“Plaster chandeliers will be making a statement in 2023,” forecast Katie Paulsen, designer at Maestri Studio in Dallas. Their statement, however, will be rather muted and poetic. The chalky white finish blends into décor delicately and, noted Houston designer Paloma Contreras, keeps fussiness to a minimum. Above, the Julie Neill Alberto Medium Two Tier Chandelier for Circa Lighting exemplifies the handmade quality that Ms. Paulsen admires and the organic imperfections that Ellen Kavanaugh, a designer in Palm Beach, Fla., considers key to this trend’s appeal.