



**THIS MONTH, ANJI CONNELL INTRODUCES US TO SOME OF HER TOP CHOICES FOR OUTDOOR FABRIC, BALANCING COMFORT, PRACTICALITY AND STYLE**

**W**hether dining alfresco or simply relaxing outdoors, it's incredibly easy to create a stylish and functional outdoor living space using luxury high performance outdoor fabrics. Outdoor fabrics are available from a variety of suppliers and sources, each with their own unique selling points and offering a vast array of colours, textures and patterns.

Options range from embossed, sumptuous plain chenille's with rich textures to glamorous metallic leathers and glow-in-the-dark fabrics. Usually designed with comfort in mind, you do need to ensure you choose the correct fabric for its recommended use. An awning fabric will not be as comfortable to sit on as an upholstery fabric, for example.

It's important to consider how the fabrics will be used throughout the year. The number one reason people avoid using any outdoor room in the summer months is a lack of shade – they can quickly become too hot and too bright. Outdoor fabrics offer shelter from all the elements, providing cool comfort from direct sun and heat. They also help to heat you up in the winter months as you snuggle on luxuriously cosy throws alongside a warming heat source. For those planning to entertain,



SUNBRELLA

# TAKE IT OUTSIDE



**“OUTDOOR FABRICS OFFER SHELTER FROM ALL THE ELEMENTS”**

UV PRO

easy-to-clean fabrics let you relax as you don't need to worry about spillage. They are engineered to last, as well as being colourfast, durable and are water and stain resistant.

**UV Pro**

UV Pro's outdoor fabrics are functional and offer a sensory softness. Produced from solution-dyed acrylic fibres and specifically developed with the idea and intention to be strong, durable, and resilient, they are soft to the touch year after year.

The Inside Out range includes 99 woven designs with 100% solution-dyed acrylic yarns, and it offers a five-year limited warranty against fading from harmful UV rays. The colour pigment is injected into the acrylic polymer that penetrates to the core before spinning to ensure colourfastness. The All Out range is woven with 100% solution-dyed acrylic yarns, with a five-year

limited warranty against fading from harmful UV rays. Vinout designs are made from outdoor vinyl, creating a beautiful leather look. The collection comes in a selection of summer colours and metallic shades.

All of their fabrics meet or exceed safety and quality standards in the international and European textile and clothing industry, discouraging the use of any dangerous processes, chemicals, or substances.

**Extex**

Extex has a fabulously extensive range of fabrics to suit all tastes and uses. Wave (designed by Nigel Atkinson) is a sculptural acrylic textile with a dynamic three-dimensional surface pattern. It is combined with an innovative hand-printing technique which has been skillfully adapted to meet the rigorous high-performance standards set by Extex Fabrics.

Also on offer is Solar, a pioneering printed fabric inspired by the ethereal nature of galaxies and star systems. Printed using an innovative glow-in-the-dark ink, the design appears subtly during the day and provides a unique luminescence at night. The ink contains photo-luminescent particles which utilise solar energy to absorb light. When exposed for as little as 30 minutes, this stored light is emitted over several hours when surroundings darken.

**Designers Guild**

Designers Guild offers a stylish and practical range of timeless, practical indoor and outdoor designs featuring selected signature prints as well as gorgeously tactile textures and shaded plains in a variety of colours. The Palme Botanique Outdoor Fabrics is a range of beautifully printed textures and plains, and



EXTEX

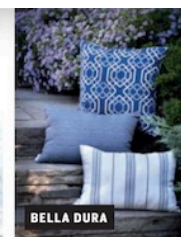
Palasari Outdoor Fabrics is a collection that includes Designers Guild best-sellers as well as new textures and designs that all work together.

**Sunbrella Fabrics**

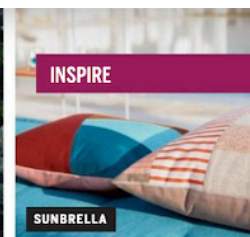
Sunbrella Fabrics' highly UV stable colour pigments are an integral part of the material as are their performance characteristics that resist the growth of mould and mildew. They are also



UV PRO



BELLA DURA



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WAVE BY NIGEL ATKINSON FOR EXTEx

breathable, allowing the air to pass through them to enable quick drying. Dirt and debris can be brushed off before it gets embedded in the fabric and bleach can be used to remove tough stains – they can even be pressure washed. Sunbrella's fabrics work equally effectively for upholstery, drapery, cushions, sun umbrellas or shade sails.

While the acrylic used by Sunbrella isn't an eco-friendly material, it has made roads into reducing its environmental impact. It estimates a lifespan of ten years, and Sunbrella has its own recycling program that transforms used fabric into other industrial materials.

**Kvadrat**

Newly launched in January, Karina Nielsen Rios, a Copenhagen-based designer, developed a hard-wearing eco-friendly line of outdoor upholstery fabrics for Danish brand Kvadrat. The Patio range is made up of highly durable, specially developed Trevira CS yarn. They use one colour in the warp and one in the weft, offering a range of textures and contrasts.

The fabrics are finished with an environmentally focused coating that doesn't contain fluorocarbon, often used to make textiles water, soil and oil repellent. The new finish is not only liquid repellent and fast drying, it is soft, resistant to chlorine and seawater, flame-retardant and works well in high humidity. The fabric can be used for upholstery, screens, parasols, and umbrellas. The Patio fabrics are

also available in natural and neutral tones to work with the colour options or alone to give a tranquil feel.

**Bella-Dura**

Bella-Dura is an award-winning, American-made technical fabric. Woven using a proprietary polyolefin fibre that is solution dyed, durable, UV resistant, fade and microbe resistant, it is bleach cleanable, recyclable and highly resistant to pilling. Bella-Dura fabrics are finished with a GreenShield stain guard. The range offers creative designs, including the aquatic Sea Life, the abstract Cosmic Expression and the summery Nantucket.

All in all, these high-performance fabrics soften and luxuriate our outdoor spaces adding warmth, texture, and interest, as they help extend the time we can comfortably spend outside.



KVADRAT OUTDOOR TEXTILES

**ABOUT ANJI CONNELL**

Internationally recognised interior architect and landscape designer Anji Connell is a detail-obsessed Inchtald Graduate, and has been collaborating with artisans and craftsmen to create bespoke and unique interiors for a discerning clientele since 1986. Anji is a stylist, feature writer and lover of all things art and design. [www.anjiconnellinteriordesign.com](http://www.anjiconnellinteriordesign.com)