



The word *paisley* is the English term for the teardrop or fig-shaped design element that uses the historic *buta* or *boteh*, a droplet-shaped vegetable motif or Persian origin, but it will always be associated with India.

In the 17th century, imports from the *East India Company* began arriving in Europe and were also popular in the Baltic states, where it was thought to be a protective charm to ward off evil spirits.

Marseilles began to mass-produce the patterns in 1640, England in 1670 and Holland in 1678.

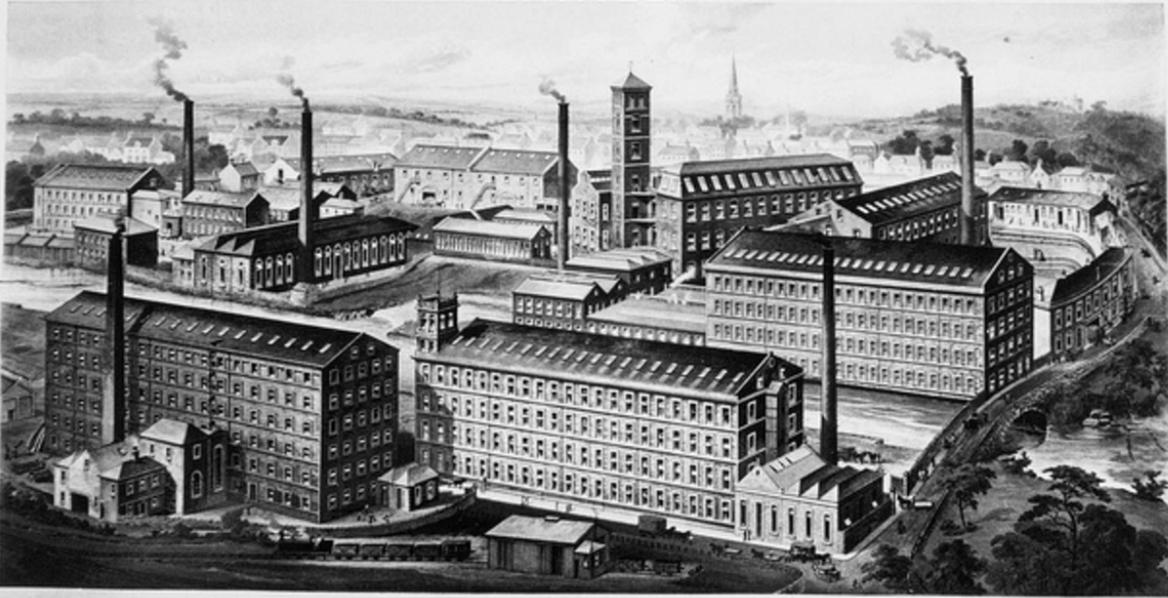
The name “Paisley” comes from the town of Paisley in Renfrewshire, Scotland, where, from about 1800 to 1850, weavers and mill



owners copied designs from Indian imports (such as Kashmir shawls), on mechanical Jacquard looms and the design soon spread to the west.

Persian Silk Brocade
Pahlavi Dynasty

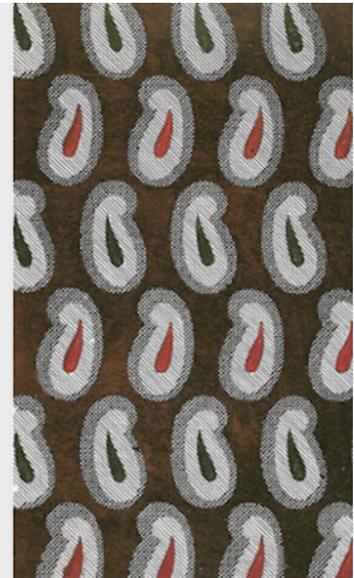
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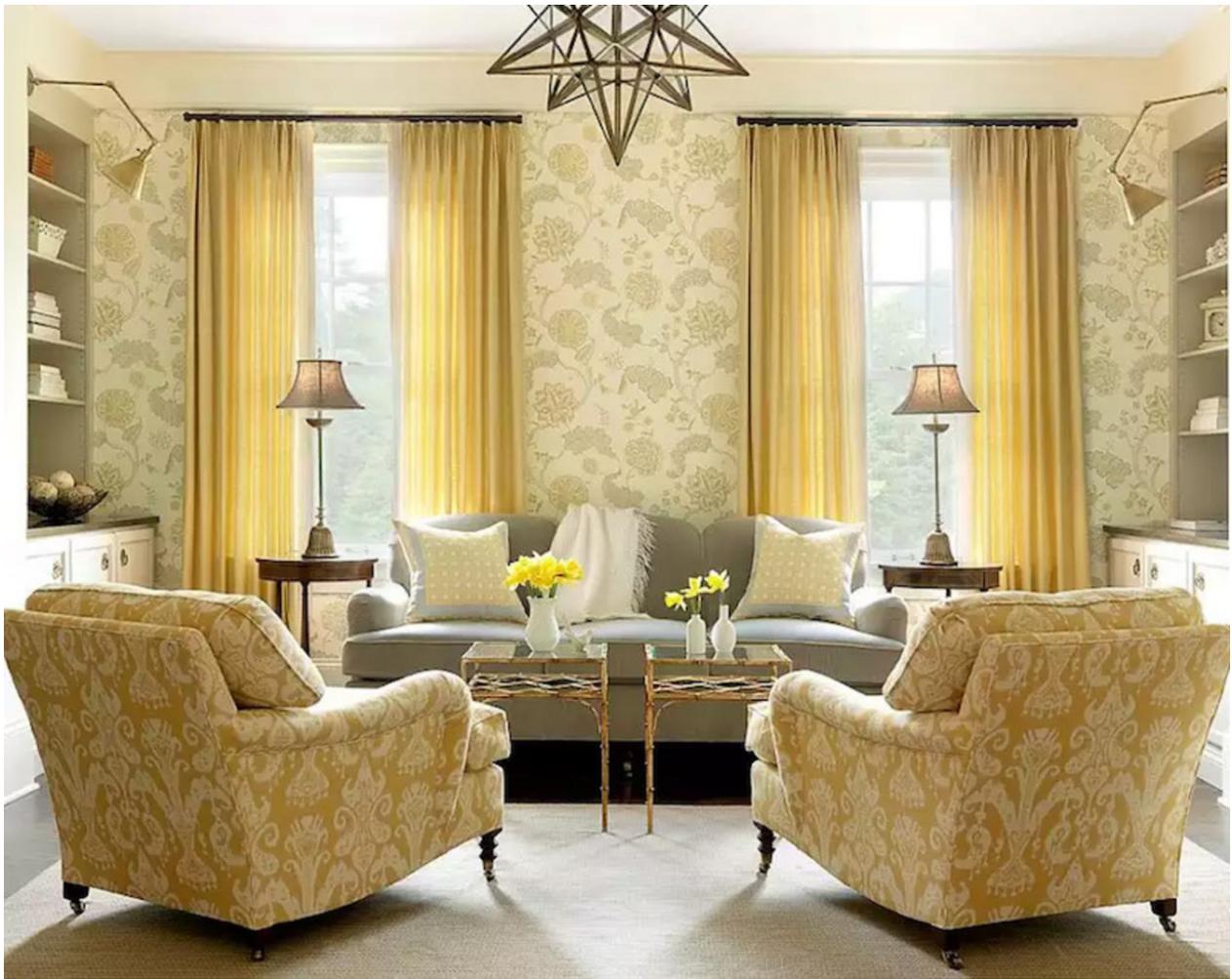
The Mills. JOHNSTONE. Scotland.





[THE PAISLEY MUSEUM](#)

The patterns above are just a few examples of the many fabric collections on exhibit at the **Paisley Museum** in Paisley, Scotland.



ALISE O'BRIEN PHOTOGRAPHY

The resurgence of Paisley today is tremendous.

We are seeing it in interior design, fashion, and in fine art and graphics. Designers and artists are taking the motif and creating beautiful, traditional work, as well as modern, unexpected and striking expressions.

If you have never used this style in a room, an accent wall or to accessorize with, you might want to consider it. It would work beautifully in a spare bedroom, a powder room, and of course, a dining room.

The use of the pattern in textiles in this chair and shower curtain convey the versatility in using paisley. Whether you go with a rich color scheme or, a muted palette, the



paisley is a lively and energetic design that adds flair to any space. I am very fond of these patterns from **Joss & Main.**

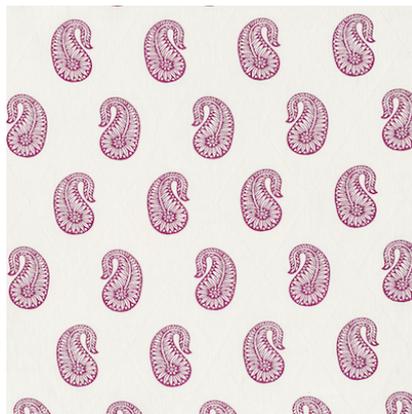




LAURA ASHLEY

You can look at this style in several ways; as an elegant, structured, symmetrical design or, an all-over, bold color way—there is something for everyone. Sure enough, there are ways to accomplish all of these with the paisley.

Robert Allen has many paisley patterns. These are a few great examples of modern color and geometric use of the paisley.



ROBERT ALLEN



[LAURA ASHLEY](#)

The combination of patterns and textures in this **Laura Ashley** living room are a great example of modern elegance and sophistication.

Designers, such as **Patrick Moriarty** in the UK, are doing a great job of incorporating modern and organic elements and color schemes into their paisley designs.



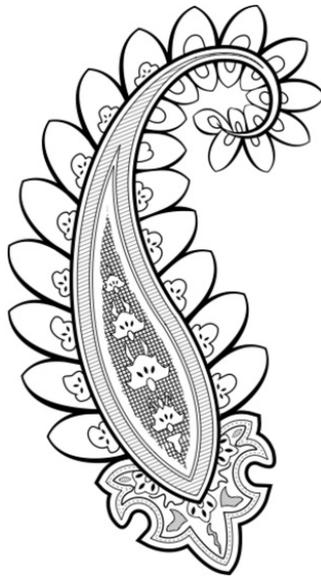
[PAISLEYPower.COM](#)

This wallpaper from **Cole & Son** has the cool, black and white aesthetic that

create a dramatic, graphic effect. This cool print comes in other color schemes as well. You can see them on my [Blog](#).



[COLE & SON](#)



There is something about the use of this design element. It really grows on you and with so much creative styling available today, Paisley can express different tenors in interior design providing us a mélange of styling we are seeing today.

For additional tidbits on Paisley and, some recent history, please go to my [Blog](#).

Kind Regards,

Lauren



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Best of Houzz - 3 years in a row!



CONTACT LAUREN JACOBSEN DESIGN AT
818.259.0175 PHONE | 818.763.0586 FAX | LJACOBSENDESIGN.COM



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