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# How to have a “best dressed” bed

Luxurious bedsheets are a necessity,  
so know what you're buying

By Nicole D. Smith

**B**ed linens are one of today's top trends for fine living. In fact, luxurious bedsheets and accessories are becoming symbols of prestige and icons of wealth. Designers pay close attention to the fine details of their couture bed linens before selling their posh sheets, reminding us that when you have the itch to feel luxurious, everything from the fabric to its trim must be of the highest of quality. Here are a few trends and tips to remember when shopping for fine bed linens.

## Chocolate in Bed

Instead of chocolate being the main color of your bed linens, this season designers are all about mixing chocolate trims with vibrant hues, allowing bright tones to serve as the main color. **“Crisp, white sheeting or bright colors mixed with chocolate is always great for spring and summer, especially in the South,”** says CeCe Easter, owner of Belle Chambre couture linens, in Luckhead. **According to Easter, some of the popular shades you'll see surfacing in fine-linen stores are oranges, purples, bright aqua and even hot pink for the young.**

## Put Plaid in the Past

Patterns on sheets, such as plaids and busy lines, are considered to be outdated and aren't as popular in bedding in the higher-end market. For a more elegant, sophisticated look in your master bedroom, it's all about simplicity and minimalism. “It's still more the mixing of solids,” Easter says, “even if it's two solids that come together to give a more sophisticated, classic look.”

Elvie Vado, manager of Heirloom Iron Bed Co. in Roswell, agrees that the consumer should stick with the clean, elegant simplicity of a monochromatic sheet. “We're not seeing a lot of stripes and floral. [Designers] aren't doing a lot of mixing and matching. They are doing very simple designs.” Remember, patterns should come from the colors and not from the actual fabric on the bed.

## Birds of a Feather Sleep Much Better

When shopping for a comforter, many linen gurus suggest getting one that's filled with down feathers. Even though you'll find many different levels of down when looking, Vado suggests consumers buy comforters with Hungarian goose down, which she considers among the best. “That's going to feel like



Glacier in new Spring color, Aegan, by the HOTEL collection, only at Macy's



Mineral with Haven organic sheets by the HAVEN collection only at select Macy's

you're sleeping on clouds,” she says. Even though Hungarian goose or other down is a natural insulator, Vado says there's little need to worry about sweltering at night. “It's going to be very breathable. So, you're not going to be overly warm underneath all those layers.”

## Rest Like an Egyptian

Consumer guidelines for buying bedding suggest that cotton from Egypt is superior to other cottons and is a popular material used for couture linens. “You have to be careful when they say Egyptian cotton. It can be ten percent Egyptian cotton and not 100 percent cotton and still be labeled Egyptian cotton,” says Vado. Egyptian cotton can be found in several types of materials, including Egyptian cotton satin and Egyptian percale. **Belle Chambre's Easter agrees only one cotton is king: “The best cotton is Egyptian cotton. It has to say 100 percent Egyptian cotton,”** she says. “Anything less than that is not as good a cotton and