



RATTAN REVIVAL

Eco-friendly, lightweight and robust, this versatile vine is having a moment – pair it with black and tan shades. By *Katrina Burroughs*



Rattan has wound itself round our interiors in recent years, and shows no sign of releasing its grip this autumn. The natural, sustainable, fast-growing vine ticks all the eco-friendly boxes, and its strength and flexibility mean it can be coaxed into interesting, sinuous forms, from scalloped lampshades to fanned headboards. Portable, lightweight and robust, rattan furniture is the answer to renters' prayers and, despite its increasing ubiquity — as it filters into all the high street collections this season — rattan has managed to preserve a retro cool.

A new book by Lulu Lytle reminds us of the many reasons why the love affair continues. *Rattan: A world of Elegance and Charm* (Rizzoli, October 6) reveals the history and craft behind designs by luminaries from Jacques Adnet to Nanna Ditzel and Alvar Aalto. Lytle, a key player in the material's current revival, rescued England's last rattan weaving workshop in 2010, and put its artisans to work making her classic designs for Soane Britain.



The Venus scalloped chair, £6,500, is featured in a new book about rattan by Lulu Lytle, soane.co.uk
SIMON BROWN

The latest chapter in the reinvention of rattan is a tan and black story. Outstanding designs that feature natural-coloured woven panels, set in smart black frames, can be found at Dunelm, H&M Home and Rockett St George. John Lewis's curvy Japanese-inspired headboard deserves a mention, a refreshing take on the traditional material. The sensation of the season promises to be the limited-edition tropical Marlon seat in the second Habitat x Shrimps collaboration.

Landing on October 1, Marlon's geometric-print cushions — in California sunshine yellow, on a honey-coloured woven frame — are inspired by 1970s Palm Springs style. Sign up for early access at habitat.co.uk/inspiration/shrimps.

[@Kat_Burroughs](https://twitter.com/Kat_Burroughs)

Opening image

Landing on October 1, the second Habitat x Shrimps collaboration — featuring designs developed by the fashion label's founder, Hannah Weiland — includes the Marlon hand-woven rattan armchair with yellow seat cushions, £395, habitat.co.uk

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