

TM
RM COCO



2026

TREND REPORT

Mark Knight
RM COCO Director of Design

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About the Author



Mark Knight, Director of Design for RM COCO, brings more than four decades of experience in the decorative textiles industry, shaping products that reflect both enduring craftsmanship and evolving design sensibilities. Throughout his career, Mark has held key creative roles at respected fabric houses, developing a deep expertise in textile design, color development, merchandising, and trend forecasting.

At RM COCO, his leadership guides the creative direction of the brand's fabric and trim collections, ensuring each offering is thoughtfully curated, commercially relevant, and rooted in timeless appeal. Known for his nuanced understanding of how historical references inform modern interiors, Mark blends global inspiration with practical insight, creating designs that resonate with today's interior designers while anticipating what's next.

His seasoned perspective and commitment to quality continue to influence RM COCO's design philosophy, making his voice an integral part of the 2026 Trend Report.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Knight". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized "M" at the beginning.

01. Overview

It feels like only yesterday that the famed crystal ball dropped in Times Square, ushering in 2025. As we continue adjusting to writing the new date on our documents, we are also looking ahead with anticipation to everything the year may bring.

In the realm of color psychology, the past few years have placed us in an intriguing dichotomy. Traditionally, periods marked by conflict, political unrest, or economic volatility tend to usher in “safe” color palettes, shades that feel drab, muted, or heavy. Conversely, when the economy is strong or an election year heightens optimism, we often see a shift toward bolder, cleaner colors. By that logic, the global landscape of recent years, marked by wars, terror attacks, and unstable economic conditions, should have produced a world awash in somber tones. Yet the opposite has occurred. Instead of tentative hints of color, we’ve been immersed in vibrant, energetic palettes filled with crisp, clear hues.

This surprising shift may suggest that traditional trend indicators are evolving, or it may simply reflect a society that has grown into a diverse collective of individualists, open to a broad spectrum of colors and styles coexisting simultaneously. Only time will tell which explanation holds true. So what color and style trends are predicted for the year ahead? Here is a first look.

For those in style-driven industries, the beginning of the year always brings careful consideration of the colors and aesthetics that may shape the next twelve months. Although predicting trends may seem speculative, key indicators consistently guide these forecasts. There is, of course, no crystal ball guaranteeing their accuracy, and consumer whims can shift more quickly than expected. A designer may unveil a collection brimming with short hemlines, for example, but that does not mean shoppers will embrace them simply because they are deemed “in.” Home trends, in particular, draw from a wide range of influences encountered in daily life. Apparel has long served as a primary predictor of what will eventually resonate in interiors, and while fashion still plays a role, many more visual and cultural cues now contribute. If we gravitate toward specific colors and styles in the products we buy, or even in major life events such as weddings, it stands to reason that we may also feel comfortable surrounding ourselves with those same themes at home.

With that in mind, let us explore the major design trends predicted for 2026 and consider whether they align with consumer desires, or if new influences are pushing additional trends into the spotlight.

As each new year dawns, many wait with bated breath for Pantone® to reveal its “Color of the Year” an announcement that now carries the same cultural weight as the Oscars, Emmys, or the Tony Awards. The moment matters: Pantone’s color system remains the global gold standard for accuracy and consistency in color matching. Yet, as we will see across nearly every category we explore, the era of any single authority defining what is “in” has passed. Today, consumers ultimately decide which trends rise, resonate, or fade away.

Pantone’s annual picks often spark strong reactions, celebration, surprise, or outright skepticism. Some are praised as prescient; others miss the mark entirely. The 2025 prediction of Mocha Mousse never really became popular. Several years ago Pantone championed an emerald green that barely made a ripple in home furnishings at the time. Fast forward to today, and that same shade is suddenly one of the most sought-after colors in interior design. Color can be fickle!

For 2026, the Pantone Color Institute has selected Cloud Dancer (PANTONE 11-4201) as its “Color of the Year”. Cloud Dancer is a soft, neutral off-white (a gentle, slightly warm-toned white rather than a stark, “bright” white). According to the Pantone Color Institute, this choice reflects a desire for calm, clarity, and renewal (offering a “blank canvas” feel that helps evoke serenity, focus, and a sense of fresh start). Interestingly enough it is the first time since the program began in 1999 that Pantone® has named a shade of white its Color of the Year. Within the first hours of this announcement the color choice is already being criticized as a letdown since the choice is just being viewed as a shade of “white” and not a color at all. As with everything in life, “You can’t please everyone”! What other influences will there be in style, trends, and colors that will impact our lives in the coming year? Here are some of the predictions by product category.

02. Interior Fabrics

Interior design is a dynamic world where trends ebb and flow. One constant is the importance of textiles in shaping a space's personality. Here is a breakdown of what experts are predicting for home-textiles and interiors in 2026—what's new, what's on its way back, and what's shaping up as the "style language" of next year.



Color & Palette Trends

Expect more "earthy vibrancy": warm, nature-inspired hues like ochre, olive greens, moody blues, deep plums, terracotta, and clay tones. These colors are meant to evoke comfort, warmth, and a connection to the natural world.

Moody jewel tones and rich color saturation are making a return. Think plum, berry, deep olive, rich teal, and earthy reds, especially in upholstery, rugs, draperies, or accent textiles.

At the same time, "color-drenching" is rising, meaning single, strong hues applied across walls, trim, and even furniture or textiles to create a bold, cohesive atmosphere.

Materials, Textures & Fabrics

A heavy emphasis on natural, organic, and sustainable fabrics such as linen, cotton, hemp, jute, and textiles made from recycled or eco-friendly fibers are trending. These materials give spaces a grounded, breathable, and comfortable feel.

Rich, tactile fabrics will matter in 2026. Bouclé, velvet, wool, woven textiles, linen blends, and mixed-weave upholstery will be popular for everything from sofas to cushions to draperies.

Interiors will rely less on slick minimalism and more on texture layering (mixing coarse and fine weaves, matte and lustrous finishes, soft textiles with natural wood or stone). This layering adds depth and a "lived-in" richness.

Furniture, Upholstery & Pattern Direction

Furniture silhouettes are softening. Expect rounded edges, curved forms, sculptural shapes, skirted seating, and more fluid furniture designs rather than rigid, sharp angles.

Upholstered furniture and rugs will often serve as statement pieces with bold colors, moody tones, and layered textures allowing for design leaps without overhauling entire rooms.

Textile use is broadening beyond just furniture (think textile wall panels, acoustic-friendly fabric panels, heavy draperies, layered rugs, and mixed-surface textiles).

Values, Lifestyle & Design Ethos

Sustainability and authenticity will be front and center in 2026. Designers will be drawn to eco-friendly fabrics, organic materials, locally produced or artisanal textiles, and pieces that age gracefully over time.

Homes are shifting toward comfortable, natural, grounded environments. These spaces feel warm, calm, inviting, and connected to nature. Instead of ultra-minimalist, cold interiors, 2026 favors layered, human-scaled spaces that mix texture, pattern, craftsmanship, and personal expression.

03. Paint

While timeless shades (think rich neutrals) will never go out of style, designers are seeing many adventurous paint hues for the coming year. Paint brands do not all agree with the prediction from Pantone®. Large wall areas require a different approach than accent and trend colors in other product areas. Expect to hear the term “color drenching” used often in the coming year. Color drenching is where walls, woodwork, and ceilings are all painted the same color. Picasso originated this trend in 1901 with his Blue and Rose periods, which saw him celebrate the strength of one color. Here is a look at the colors preeminent paint companies predict will be popular in 2026.

Benjamin Moore

The Benjamin Moore “Color of the Year” for 2026 is Silhouette. It is a deep, rich espresso brown with subtle charcoal undertones. The shade draws inspiration from classic tailored suiting, a nod to the renewed interest in timeless, refined style. Silhouette is a moody neutral that offers the warmth and sophistication of brown while remaining versatile and elegant across many interior styles.



Sherwin-Williams

Sherwin-Williams has selected Universal Khaki as its “Color of the Year” for 2026. Universal Khaki is a warm, earthy mid-tone tan with a slight yellow undertone. It is a versatile neutral meant to serve as a foundational, go-anywhere shade. The company calls it a “tailored & timeless” color designed for “livability and longevity,” making it a great base color for walls, cabinetry, or whole-room palettes.



Glidden

For 2026 Glidden has chosen Warm Mahogany as its “Color of the Year”. It is a rich, warm-toned red with subtle brown undertones that is deep, grounded, and timeless. The color is described as bold enough to make an impact, yet reserved enough to work as a classic, versatile shade for many spaces.



BEHR

BEHR Paints has selected Hidden Gem as its “Color of the Year” for 2026. Hidden Gem is a smoky jade color that is a rich, deep blend of blue and green. It is meant to evoke a sense of “grounded serenity” and “vibrant depth,” making it versatile for everything from bold accent walls to full-room color drenching.



Dutch Boy

The 2026 “Color of the Year” from Dutch Boy Paints is Melodious Ivory. It is a soft, creamy beige/warm neutral with gentle warmth and a slightly yellow undertone. The company describes it as timeless, versatile, and grounding. It is meant to offer a calm, comforting backdrop that works across many styles (modern, traditional, rustic, etc.).



Valspar

The Valspar 2026 Color of the Year is Warm Eucalyptus. Warm Eucalyptus is predicted to work well in living rooms, bedrooms, bathrooms, and even exteriors, and can be used wherever a gentle, calming vibe is desired.



Here are some additional paint color palettes that we should see trend in the coming year.

Nature-Inspired Greens & Earthy Hues

Deep, earthy greens are a big trend in 2026, a shift from lighter sage tones to more grounded, restful greens that evoke nature. Examples include muted, warm greens like olive, eucalyptus, and other natural-tone greens that work especially well in kitchens, bathrooms, or anywhere you want a calm, restorative feel. Greens are being seen as “the new neutral,” pairing beautifully with natural materials like wood, stone, and woven textures.

Warm Browns, Rich Neutrals & Grounded Neutrals

Warm browns will be trending in the coming year with everything from soft taupe and warm greige to rich chocolate and espresso. Brown tones are having a moment. They replace the cooler grays of previous years, bringing warmth and comfort.

Neutral tones with warmth (like beige, khaki, and sandy tans) are trending as a versatile base for many decor styles. These "quiet foundation" neutrals offer flexibility and subtle warmth.

Neutrals pair well with both bold accent colors and earthy materials to create cozy yet refined interiors.

Moody Blues, Greens & Cool Tones

Muted, saturated blues, dusty blue, deep teal, and slate-blue are trending for spaces where calm and sophistication are desired (think bedrooms, offices, accent walls). Blues offer a cool, balanced contrast to warm neutrals and earthy tones, giving interiors a more curated, layered aesthetic.

Soft Pinks, Peaches & Warm Pastels

Soft, muted pinks, blushes, clay-pink/peach tones are making a quiet comeback as alternatives to stark whites or cold neutrals.

These hues add subtle warmth and softness and are ideal for bedrooms, living rooms, or any space where you want gentle color without overwhelming the space.

Accents & Mood-Setting Colors (Terracotta, Warm Reds, & Deep Hues)

Natural, earthy-inspired accent hues like terracotta, rust, and warm clay tones will be growing in popularity in 2026, especially for feature walls, accent pieces, or cozy living spaces.

Rich, moody tones, such as deep espresso browns, dark charcoals, and smoky teals are being used to add depth and sophistication, sometimes as dramatic backdrops or accent walls.

04. Wallpaper

The popularity of wallpaper has been on the rise for several years now. It may not be to the extreme we saw in the 1980s and 1990s, but it is popular nonetheless. Wallpaper will only become more popular in the coming year. Here are the trends expected to be in the wallpaper limelight in 2026.

Nature-Inspired & Botanical Wallpapers

Wallpapers featuring leaves, vines, florals, and botanicals continue to dominate. Instead of bright, "tropical-jungle" styles, the 2026 look tends toward muted, soothing, and sophisticated botanical motifs. Expect to see stylized leaves, soft floral patterns, and delicate organic shapes.

These nature-inspired wallpapers will often be used to bring the outdoors in, creating calm, restorative spaces that are ideal for living rooms, bedrooms, or any area where a sense of tranquility is desired.

Textured, Tactile & Natural-Material Wallpapers

A strong trend for 2026 is texture and wallpapers will mimic grasscloth, linen, plaster, woven materials, or embossed surfaces rather than relying solely on printed designs.

These tactile wallpapers add depth, warmth, and a sense of making spaces feel more inviting, grounded, and sophisticated. They pair exceptionally well with natural-material furnishings (wood, rattan, fabric) and warm, earthy décor palettes.



Bold Patterns, Graphic & Statement Wallpapers

If you like drama and personality, 2026 will encourage bold statement wallpapers that feature large-scale patterns, geometric or graphic designs, murals, abstract art-inspired prints, or Art-Deco-style motifs.

These wallpapers are often used as feature walls or in rooms such as entryways, powder rooms, or dining rooms where a striking first impression or bold aesthetic works well.

Deep & Moody Color Palettes, Earthy & Grounded Tones

Rather than bright whites or stark neutrals, wallpaper color trends are shifting toward earthy, moody, and grounded shades for 2026. Think clay, terracotta, olive and forest-greens, deep blues, warm taupes, muted beiges, and other “natural neutral” tones.

Such palettes create cozy, cocoon-like interiors that feel timeless and restful. Darker wallpapers also allow for dramatic, intimate atmospheres, especially when paired with soft lighting and warm materials.

Murals, Art-Inspired & Custom Wallpaper Designs

Wallpaper is becoming more than decoration. Murals and art-inspired wallpapers are trending, where entire walls become immersive scenes: abstract art, painterly strokes, landscape and nature-inspired murals, or hand-illustrated designs.

These wallpapers are great for creating a “room with a view” or a statement focal point, especially in living areas, bedrooms, or creative spaces. Because they have such presence, they often play nicely with simple, more understated décor.



05. Flooring

The significance of flooring in influencing the aesthetics

of a space cannot be denied. Flooring is the foundational element that sets the stage for the entire room design. Flooring trends, much like other aspects of interior design, evolve with time, reflecting changing preferences and design. It is predicted that sustainability, inclusivity, and an appreciation for nostalgia are some of the values that will inspire our choice of flooring in the coming year. Here are the flooring trends you can expect to see in 2026.

Warm, Earthy & Natural Tones

Flooring is shifting away from the cooler grays and “washed-out” neutral tones of the recent past and gravitating toward warm, natural tones such as honey-oak, caramel, sand, taupe, warm walnut, and other wood-inspired hues. These warm tones help create cozy, inviting spaces, and pair beautifully with the “earthy and organic” furnishings and décor styles that will be trending in the coming year.

Wood (Real & Engineered) With Character & Texture

Real hardwood (or high-quality engineered wood) remains strong. But the style is changing: wide planks, long boards, matte or low-sheen finishes, and visible, natural grain/knots are trending. This gives floors a more organic, lived-in feel rather than a perfectly polished look.

Rather than “perfect” floors, imperfect or “character-rich” finishes hand-scraped wood, wire-brushed surfaces, or lightly distressed wood will be making a comeback in 2026. These add depth and personality to spaces.

Patterns & Statement Floors

Patterned wood flooring (especially herringbone, chevron, or classic parquet) will be returning as a flooring statement, offering a more artisanal, architectural feel than plain plank flooring.

Bold checkerboard or two-tone floors (or high-contrast tile floors) will be seeing a renewed interest, especially in kitchens, entries, and bathrooms in 2026.

Expect to see the use of mixed materials in one space (wood and tile, or a tile “rug” under a kitchen island and wood elsewhere) will be a look that will be trending in the coming year. This style adds function (durability where needed) and aesthetic layering.

Tiles, Stone-Looks, & Alternatives Expanding Beyond Wood

Large-format tiles (porcelain, stone-look tiles) with subtle veining or natural-stone vibes will be increasingly popular in 2026. This trend will be especially popular in kitchens, baths, and high-traffic areas where durability matters. For those seeking affordability, versatility, or easier maintenance: high-end luxury vinyl planks (LVP), laminate, or vinyl tiles will continue to evolve. They will now offer realistic wood/stone visuals and improved textures, water-resistance, and durability which makes them suitable for many rooms.

Sustainable & Eco-Friendly Flooring Options

Sustainability will be a bigger priority in 2026. Expect more homeowners to choose eco-friendly materials including bamboo, cork, reclaimed wood, and recycled tiles/linoleum alternatives to traditional hardwood or plastic-based flooring.



Along with material choice, finishes are often low-VOC, and sourcing practices (FSC-certified wood) are becoming more common.

Texture, Construction & Material (Carpet as Comfort & Character)

Rather than smooth uniform carpets, 2026 will favor textured loop carpets, multi-tonal/heathered fibers, cut-pile, and plush pile. These add depth, hide wear and footprints better, and give underfoot comfort (ideal for bedrooms and family living areas).

Subtle tone-on-tone patterns, low-contrast geometric or organic weaves, or gentle texture variation will be trending in the coming year. This allows carpeting to function more like “tactile backdrops” instead of bland flooring.

2026 will see a growing interest in eco-friendly materials and sustainable carpets (natural yarns, recycled fibers, low-emission dyeing) which aligns with moves toward wellness, sustainability, and environmental consciousness in the home.

06. Bath

Bathrooms are no longer purely utilitarian spaces. Homeowners are increasingly looking to create aesthetically pleasing and functional bathrooms, which means that bathroom design trends are just as important to consumers as trends for other rooms in the home. Here are the trends we should expect to see in 2026.

Natural / Spa-Inspired, Wellness-Focused Bathrooms

Bathrooms are increasingly treated as personal sanctuaries or spa-like retreats, prioritizing calm, relaxation, and “wellness at home”. Features like rain-shower heads, freestanding tubs, steam showers, underfloor heating and layers of soft, ambient lighting will continue to trend in 2026.

Natural materials and organic textures are being used more and more (think stone, wood, micro-cement, and textured tiles rather than ultra-polished, sterile surfaces). These bring warmth, tactility, and a sense of grounding to the bathroom.

The coming year will see a growing focus on Biophilic design including indoor plants, natural finishes, and earthy

palettes. These elements evoke a feeling of calm and connection with nature.

Clean Lines, Minimalism & Functional Design

Floating vanities are one of the biggest furniture/fixture trends for 2026. They open up floor space, give a clean, modern look, and often include hidden or customized storage to maximize utility.

Bathrooms will be designed with smarter layouts and custom storage vanities tailored to the homeowner's needs (for example, built-in storage for toiletries, hair tools, and electronics), integrated cabinetry, and efficient organization are in demand.

Seamless surfaces and integrated basins/countertops will be all-the-rage in the coming year. For example, a sink that flows into the countertop without seams will give a streamlined, easy-to-clean aesthetic, ideal for modern bathrooms.

Warm, Earthy & Mood-Driven Color Palettes

The cold-white, clinical bathroom look is fading. Instead, warm neutrals, soft taupes, beige, off-whites, and organic whites will be gaining ground in the coming year. This trend will offer a calmer, more inviting ambiance.

More expressive colors will be trending as well. Muted greens (sage, olive, pistachio), earthy terracotta or clay tones, warm browns, and even deep, moody shades will be used to add character and depth.

These colors often pair well with natural textures, wood, stone, and mixed materials which reinforces a "natural-sanctuary" vibe.

Textures, Pattern & Surface Variety

Textured surfaces will be trending in 2026. Fluted tiles, ribbed ceramics, micro-cement, handmade tiles and other tactile finishes will be replacing flat, glossy tiles to give more depth and personality to bathrooms.

"Vintage-inspired" tiles and heritage patterns are making a comeback. Patterned floor or wall tiles (with soft florals, geometric motifs, or subtle historic nods) will add charm and uniqueness to bathrooms in the coming year.

Mixed-material combinations (wood + stone + tile + metal) are becoming popular. These materials create layered visuals and break away from cookie-cutter looks.

Luxurious Fixtures, Mixed Metals & Statement Details

Warm-metal finishes (brass, bronze, matte black or mixed-metal combos) will be trending for faucets, showerheads, hardware, and accents in 2026. These finishes add warmth and age beautifully over time.

Bathrooms will be getting more luxurious touches in the coming year. Expect to see sculptural or oversized light fixtures, layered lighting (vanity/ambient/accent), and lighting designed to highlight texture, color, or surface details.

Design features like freestanding tubs, open/showers or "wet room" style layouts, glass enclosures or seamless glass showers, and minimalist frameless doors will be increasingly common in 2026 (especially in larger or luxury remodels).

Wellness / Sustainability / Flexibility

The 2026 bathroom will blend wellness, comfort, and practicality. Look to see spa-style showers, better ventilation, water-efficient fixtures, and sustainable materials (recycled tiles and eco-conscious surfaces).



07. Kitchen

It has been said that the kitchen is the heart of the home, and for good reason. Life is lived around meals, which all originate in that one space. For many, it is where their day begins, the first stop after coming home from work or school, and the last place they visit before heading to bed. The point? We spend a lot of time in the kitchen, so it is no wonder they impact our moods and the resale value of our homes. Here is a preview of what we expect to see trending for kitchens in the coming year.

Natural Materials, Warm Neutrals & Earthy Palettes

2026 will see a strong return to natural materials. Look for wood-grain cabinets (especially light woods like oak), stone or quartzite countertops, and wood or warm flooring. These will trump painted or glossy surfaces. Color palettes for the coming year will be trending toward warm neutrals, earthy and muted tones. Taupe, greige, sand, clay, terracotta, olive or forest-green accents, mushroom and putty tones, and other nature-inspired colors will overtake stark white or cold gray.

Functional, Multi-Purpose & Highly Organized Layouts

Kitchens are becoming multi-functional. No longer just for cooking, but also dining, entertaining, working, and everyday living. Features like eat-in kitchens, built-in beverage or coffee stations, pet-feeding zones, and flexible islands with storage are growing in popularity.

Smart, space-saving storage such as floor-to-ceiling cabinetry, walk-in or butler pantries, deep drawers, and islands packed with storage will all be trending in the coming year.

The kitchen's footprint is evolving with kitchens becoming central social hubs, cozy corners, flexible use, and more integrated functionality even in smaller homes.

Integrated, "Invisible" Tech & Smart Features

In the coming year expect to see more smart appliances and built-ins that blend seamlessly with cabinetry, hidden dishwashers, flush-mount refrigerators, integrated cooking surfaces, and other app- or voice-controlled devices. Kitchens are getting smarter and more intuitive (built-in wireless charging drawers, motion-activated lights, and ambient lighting integrated into cabinetry or under shelves) are becoming standard design considerations, and all will be trending in 2026.



Contrast, Mixed Materials & Textural Depth

Rather than a uniform look, 2026 will embrace mixed-material kitchens, combining wood, stone, metal, glass, and textured surfaces for depth and character.

Contrasting finishes, such as a wood island paired with painted perimeter cabinets, or stone countertops with matte wood cabinetry will be used to create visual interest while staying cohesive.

Statement elements like dramatic stone islands, waterfall edges, and bold veined stone countertops are rising as focal points, even in otherwise minimalist kitchens.

Lighting & Ambience Matter (Kitchens as Mood Spaces)

Lighting will take center stage in 2026 combining natural light, pendant/task lighting, under-cabinet lights, interior cabinet lighting, and ambient LEDs. It is not just about functionality, but atmospheric.

Kitchens are being designed as inviting, warm, and comfortable spaces that blur the lines between cooking zones and living/entertaining spaces. This emphasis on ambience makes material choice, lighting, and layout as important as cabinetry or appliances.

Timeless, Transitional & Comfortable Style Over Flashy Trends

In the coming year many homeowners and designers will favor transitional / “timeless” kitchen designs over fast-changing trends. That means balance, restraint, high-quality materials, and designs that age well.

Flat-panel or slab-style cabinetry, panel-faced appliances, and solid-surface backsplashes will gain popularity giving kitchens a clean, uncluttered aesthetic that is easy to update over time.

Kitchen Appliance Color & Finish Trends

Matte and Soft Neutrals: Expect appliances in warmer, softer neutral tones (think creams, beiges, “pearl-beige” or sandy-tone finishes) instead of bright white or stainless steel. These tones reflect a broader shift in kitchen design toward earthier, natural palettes, and they pair especially well with wood cabinetry or soft metallic accents.

Matte Black / Graphite / Dark Gray / Charcoal: Matte black, and other deep, non-reflective finishes like graphite or charcoal, will continue to be a go-to choices for modern, minimalist kitchens. These darker finishes add contrast, sophistication, and a sense of drama when paired with light-colored cabinets or countertops.

Nature-Inspired Greens & Earthy Hues: Deep greens (olive, forest, sage) will be gaining traction in our kitchens in 2026. Many designers feel green is becoming the “new neutral” in kitchen spaces. Earthy tones like clay, terracotta, and warm taupes are also filtering into appliance finishes for those who want a more grounded, organic vibe.

Rich, Moody & Jewel-Tone Accents: For kitchens that aim to stand out, appliance finishes in deeper, moody colors (such as midnight blue, deep burgundy, or jewel-tone greens) will be trending in the coming year. These colors will be used strategically on a statement fridge or range rather than across all appliances.

More Customization & “Panel-Ready”/Integrated Finishes: Rather than default stainless steel, many modern kitchens are opting for panel-ready appliances that allow the appliance to blend seamlessly with cabinetry (same material/color), helping achieve a clean, cohesive look. This fits with the broader 2026 trend toward minimalist, integrated, and timeless kitchen design.

08. Tabletop

When planning an event in 2026, the table setting is essential for creating a memorable experience. From luxe metallics to rustic charm, the right tablescape can transform any event, whether a wedding, corporate gathering, or private party. Here are the top 2026 tabletop trends to inspire your next celebration or event.



Earthy, Natural, & Textured Looks

Natural, earthy tones, like terracotta, sandy beige, muted greens, soft greys, are very much in style for dinnerware, flatware, and table accessories.

Textured, handmade, or artisan pieces are gaining popularity. Dinnerware with uneven edges or “organic” shapes, hand-glazed ceramics, and textured surfaces bring a sense of craftsmanship and warmth to the table.

Mixed materials (ceramic plates with wooden or stone serving boards, glass with metal, or ceramics with tactile glazes) add depth and character, allowing people to build layered, interesting tabletops.

Return to Rich Color & Maximalist Accents

While neutral and earthy palettes remain foundational, there is a noticeable push toward more color, optimism, and expressive styles. Accent pieces in saturated or vibrant hues are expected to shine in 2026 (think glassware, serving dishes, placemats, or linens that pop).

Table settings are increasingly embracing Maximalism: layered textures, mixed patterns, expressive motifs (rather than uniform sets) that create tablescape that look curated and personal rather than “matched.”

Pastels or muted “relaxed luxury” shades, such as dusty rose, soft taupe, champagne-like neutrals, will be trending for table linens, glassware, or accent dishes in the coming year.

Mix-and-Match, Layered, & Personalized Table Settings

Homogeneous dinner sets are giving way to “curated” tabletops: mixing old and new, combining handmade with modern, pairing different dishware styles, and blending textures. Sustainability, craftsmanship, and “slow living” influence dinnerware choices. These pieces feel meaningful and handcrafted, rather than mass-produced, often with visible imperfections that add character.

Table linens, placemats, napkins (often with subtle embroidery or textured fabrics) are becoming more integral. These textile elements add softness and dimension to the table setting, providing a contrast to ceramic or glass pieces.

A Blend of Vintage, Rustic & Modern Minimalist Influences

The coming year will see a conscious mixing of eras and aesthetic influences: vintage-inspired pieces (heirloom ceramics, retro shapes or patterns) coexisting with minimalist, modern, and even industrial elements. This blending gives the table a sense of history with contemporary sensibility.

For those who like clean lines, minimalist tablescapes remain viable, especially when balanced with tactile materials or subtle textures (matte ceramics mixed with linen and wood).

Elevated Dining Experiences & Intentional Setting

Table settings are being treated as more than functional with the aim being to design a mood or atmosphere. Layered textures, mixed materials, statement centerpieces (stone, foliage, sculptural items) and thoughtful lighting/ambience are all part of the 2026 approach.

Entertaining at home is continuing to evolve. Instead of ultra-formal table settings, people are embracing relaxed but intentional dinners: approachable elegance where each element feels chosen and expressive.

09. Food & Beverage

Food and beverage trends go in and out of style similar to design, color, and fashion. The food and beverage industry now sets as many trends as the fashion and home furnishing industries.

It has been said that “we are what we eat,” however, the last decade has proven that consumers will not just eat anything that restaurants want to put on menus or whatever the local grocery store has on the shelf. We demand the highest quality in all aspects of our nutrition, and we are constantly searching for new trends in food and beverages that we order or prepare at home. While at first glance, trends in the food and beverage industry may not seem to impact our homes, our relationship with food and drink has redesigned our home kitchens in just the last few years. Here are the predictions of what will be hot in the food and beverage industry for 2026. Will you eat or drink any of these in the coming year?

Food Trends

Protein & Gut Health Take Center Stage

The “powerhouse-protein” trend remains strong: people want protein not just from meat, but across entire meals, snacks, frozen foods, and on-the-go options.

Simultaneously, “gut-health” and nutritional wellness are shaping choices featuring more fiber-rich items, prebiotic/fermented foods, and whole-food ingredients aimed at digestion and overall well-being.

Plant-Based & Alternative-Protein Evolution (Beyond “Meat Substitutes”)

Plant-based eating continues evolving not just via imitation meats, but through more creative, flavor-first approaches: think legumes,



seaweed, mushrooms, plant fats, "fat-engineering," and other innovations delivering satisfying texture and richness.

The diet spectrum is broadening: many consumers will embrace "flexitarian" eating, meat sometimes, plants often, giving flexibility, sustainability, and variety more weight.

Global Flavors, Fusion & Culinary Exploration

Expect to see bold global flavors and cross-cultural mash-ups: Asian (Japanese, Korean), Middle Eastern, Latin American influences are all trending, with spices, sauces, and ingredients that reflect global culinary diversity. Flavor experimentation will continue in 2026. Look for savory-sweet blends, spicy-sweet ("swicy") combinations, and unexpected flavor pairings (herbs/spices in sweets, or global condiments in familiar dishes) are increasingly popular, including in desserts, drinks, and snacks.

Convenience — "Elevated Instant" & "Freezer Fine Dining"

Instant-food formats are evolving. Rather than junky convenience meals, consumers are shifting toward premium, better-for-you instant foods: single-serve premium lattes, upgraded ready meals, nutrient-forward frozen dishes, and meal-in-a-cup concepts.

"Freezer fine-dining" in 2026 will see a focus on premium frozen meals and globally inspired frozen dishes that allow us to recreate restaurant-style meals at home even on busy nights.

Old-School & "Ancestral" Ingredients Come Back (With a Modern Twist)

Traditional ingredients and cooking fats like beef tallow will be trending in 2026, often reframed as a more natural or heritage-style choice.

Also trending in the coming year will be fermented foods, probiotics, vinegars, and ingredient-driven cooking that emphasizes health, heritage, and flavor depth.

Conscious Eating: Mindful Sweets & Cleaner Labels

As consumers grow more health-and-ingredient-conscious, foods (including snacks and desserts) are trending toward natural sweeteners (fruit, cane sugar, honey, maple syrup) instead of heavy refined sugars or artificial sweeteners. Clean-label, minimally processed, transparent ingredient lists, and "real food" appeal are influencing purchasing habits, even in convenience or indulgent categories.



Flexibility, Variety & Occasion-Based Eating Formats

With more single-person households, busy lifestyles, and shifting routines, food formats are diversifying: single-serve portions, meal kits, frozen gourmet meals, ready-to-eat options, and flexible dining formats are all growing.

Value, affordability, and convenience, without compromising on quality, will remain important in the coming year. Consumers and restaurants are balancing flavor, health, and price.

Comfort, Nostalgia & "Value-Driven" Food With A Twist

Smashed burgers are back in 2026! Restaurants will be giving this retro-diner favorite new life through upgraded toppings, creative flavor combinations, and social-media-ready presentation.

Comfort staples (soups, stews, familiar dishes and comfort-food classics) are being reimagined, often with global flavor influences or elevated ingredients.

Beverage Trends

Wellness, Functionality & Conscious Drinking

Zero-proof and low-alcohol drinks will continue to surge in 2026. Many menus are evolving so that for every alcoholic cocktail, there's a "mirror" alcohol-free alternative. What was once a side-option is becoming standard. Expect to hear the term "functional beverages"

in the coming months. Functional beverages are drinks designed to do more than just taste good. Think drinks with prebiotics, herbal “tonics,” or caffeinated but “clean” alternatives (teas, yerba mate, matcha, cascara).

Plant-based milks and natural ingredient “heavy drinks” will be all the rage in 2026. As dietary preferences shift, more beverages will use oat, almond, coconut, or other plant-based milks, and emphasize “clean-label,” minimal-processed, natural flavors.

Fruit-Forward, Dessert-Inspired & Creative Flavor Profiles

In the coming year expect more drinks leaning into bold, exotic, or dessert-style flavors that go beyond citrus and lime. Berry, tropical, floral, or nostalgic dessert-type flavors (vanilla ice-cream, cinnamon bun, salted caramel, and even “cream soda” vibes) are rising.

“Drinkable dessert” beverages will be on trend for 2026. The beverages are indulgent but with a healthier twist (less sugar, natural sweeteners, functional additions). These drinks will appeal both to those who want indulgence and to those who want moderation.

Global flavor influences will incorporate ingredients and flavor profiles from around the world (tropical fruits, Asian-style teas, Latin-American flavors, etc.). These flavors help create novel drinks that stand out and draw interest.

Coffee, Tea & Bubble-Culture (But Elevated)

Tea-based drinks, especially teas like matcha, herbal blends, and specialty teas, will be growing in popularity in the coming year. Teas will be used as ingredients in cocktails, mocktails, ready-to-drink (RTD) beverages, sparkling teas, and more.

Bubble tea (Boba), flavored milks, and customizable tea/coffee drinks will remain steady favorites (especially among younger diners), and many venues will continue to innovate on this.

Ready-to-drink coffees/teas & specialty drinks are set to trend in 2026. These pre-mixed or pre-crafted beverages will offer convenience but don’t sacrifice flavor or style. Look for these drinks to be most popular in cafés, casual restaurants, and fast-casual settings.

Spirits, Cocktails & Drinking Culture Evolving & Diversifying

Alternative spirits & lower alcohol-by-volume options will continue to trend in 2026. Drinks made with alternative bases like “agave wine” (fermented, lower alcohol than typical spirits) will rise in popularity. These give a “cocktail vibe” without heavy alcohol content.

2026 will see a shift to fruity, vibrant cocktails over bitter/dry classics. Bartenders and bar pros expect more fruit-forward, colorful, balanced cocktails instead of heavy, high-proof or overly bitter drinks. Think passion fruit, guava, tropical and floral influences.

Visually striking drinks & social-experience-oriented beverages will be taking the spotlight in the coming year. As social media and “Instagrammable” moments remain influential, drinks that look as good as they taste. These drinks featuring layers, colors, garnishes, and whimsical presentations are expected to very popular in 2026.

10. Wedding Trends

Wedding trends are one of the best microcosms of design, color, and style trends we can delve into as a wedding incorporates apparel, color, food, floral, lighting, and tabletop into one category. Although wedding trends are powerful predictors of what may translate in other parts of our daily lives, the latest event trend will never sway someone away from what they have dreamed about since childhood. Most brides choose their wedding colors based on what they love, and if they have always wanted a pink wedding, that is the color they will select for their wedding whether Pantone® agrees or not.

In 2026 couples will be opting for micro-weddings or smaller guest lists, putting their budget toward elevated details (florals, food, décor) instead of sheer size. Weddings will lean toward multi-day celebrations or destination-style events, rather than one-day affairs. (Think welcome dinners, farewell brunches, excursions that aim to make the “wedding weekend” a full experience. Rather than formal layouts and rituals, there will be a move toward



immersive, experience-driven weddings with venues that serve as their own centerpiece (mountaintops, historic buildings, natural settings). Also expect to see creative seating/ceremony arrangements (like “in-the-round”), and less rigid structure overall to also be popular trends in the coming year.

Wedding Style & Color

At the same time, look for weddings in 2026 to see a revival of vintage, heirloom-inspired aesthetics and “old-world” charm (luxe fabrics like velvet or brocade, classic tailoring, and decor that nods to bygone eras).

Couples are increasingly embracing bold and unexpected color palettes (think jewel tones, rich terracottas, forest greens, deep burgundies, and moody contrasts rather than the soft pastels or neutrals of traditional weddings). Blue has been a trending wedding color for several years now. In 2026 look for bold swaths of cobalt blue to be used as the “main character” in many weddings. While bold colors are trending, there will always be a place for romantic “blush” pink wedding palettes, but in 2026 they will add pops of fuchsia and raspberry as accent colors.

Floral Touches

Floral, décor, and venue design are becoming more artistic and sculptural. In the coming year expect to see dramatic floral installations, mixed-material centerpieces (metallics, branches, unusual textures), and layout choices like “in-the-round” ceremonies rather than traditional rows.

More couples will be choosing locally grown, seasonal flowers to reduce environmental impact, support local growers, and ensure freshness.

In 2026 expect to see a move toward reusing or repurposing arrangements (using ceremony florals again at reception, donating blooms after the wedding, or designing arrangements with sustainability in mind. In the coming year personalization is key for wedding flowers. Couples may incorporate flowers with sentimental value (family-grown blooms, flowers tied to memories), or choose varieties and arrangements that reflect their story and values.

Food & Drink Choices

What stands out about 2026 is that weddings are increasingly treated like curated experiences and not just events. Food and drink are part of the story: reflecting personality, taste, values (like sustainability), heritage or

travel, and shared memories.

Plant-forward" menus are becoming mainstream, not just as a niche vegetarian option, but as full-fledged, gourmet alternatives that impress all guests, including meat-eaters. In 2026, couples will be turning to comfort foods redesigned with sophistication (for example, mini chicken-and-waffles with hot-honey drizzle, and truffle mac & cheese, or tomato soup shooters with gourmet grilled-cheese bites).

In the coming year there will be a growing appetite for global and fusion cuisines at weddings, from Mediterranean-style mezze to Asian-Latin fusion, Caribbean, or other culturally inspired menus. This makes wedding dining more adventurous, personal, and expressive, and is great a way to reflect a couple's heritage, travels, or favorite foods.

Globally inspired drink flavors and fusion influence will take the spotlight at wedding reception in 2026. Just like with food, drinks may draw on global tastes (flavored syrups, spicy-sweet-savory flavor blends, international teas or cocktails) creating a more adventurous and personalized beverage program.

Signature cocktails, mocktails, and craft beverage bars will be popular in 2026. Couples are moving beyond a standard open bar. Many are curating personalized drink menus to reflect their tastes, story, or wedding aesthetic. Wedding cakes in 2026 will be increasingly treated like edible art. Instead of smooth, flat fondant, many will feature textured finishes (ruffled buttercream, pleats, sculpted tiers, painted or plaster-like effects).

In the coming year some cakes will adopt avant-garde silhouettes or unconventional shapes, such as asymmetrical tiers, cone-like shapes, or stacked cakes where no two tiers match. This creates a bold, fashion-forward, statement centerpiece rather than a traditional symmetrical cake. Also, instead of a traditional round cake, expect more rectangular or sheet-style cakes, wide single-tier cakes, or horizontally extended "tablescape" cakes that serve many guests and make a dramatic display.

In 2026, look for couples to be moving beyond "just vanilla or chocolate" flavored cakes. Expect more adventurous, flavor-forward cakes, whether with fruit, botanical infusions, or unexpected combinations.

Instead of one big traditional tiered cake, some couples will choose multiple cakes (or dessert-table displays) allowing guests sample different flavors or styles.

11. Fashion, Accessories, & Jewelry

Fashion has almost always preceded, dictated, and predicted what would be popular in the home furnishings arena. Fashion was months to roughly a year ahead of the home. Over the last few years, the timing from the runway to interior design has decreased considerably. Here are some style and color trends that have been popular at fashion weeks and how easily these styles can, and in some cases, have already impacted America. What inspirations will come from the fashion runways in 2026? Here are the trends that are being predicted.

Womenswear

Silhouettes & Shape (Volume, Structure & Contrast)

In 2026 expect a return to more structured tailoring and sharp silhouettes (fitted blazers, cropped trousers, defined waists, and "power-dressing" shapes blending strength and femininity. At the same time, there will a strong push toward voluminous, romantic, soft shapes (puffed or ruched sleeves, baby-doll dresses, tiered skirts, lace skirts, and clothes with flowy, airy movement.

Asymmetry and non-traditional tailoring will gain ground in the coming year. Look to see one-shoulder cuts, irregular hems, drop waists, and mixed proportions. Some pieces might even blur traditional gendered cuts. Lace, sheers, and delicate fabrics will be resurging in the coming year. Look for a lot of lace skirts, satin-lush fabrics, see-through layers, lace trim, and skirts or dresses that emphasize romantic femininity.

Alongside delicate fabrics, there will be a renewed appreciation for texture, craftsmanship and artisan-style details (appliqués, layered textiles, soft knits, ruffles, and even fringe or feather-like adornments) providing tactile richness.

The color story is shifting in 2026. Expect icy blues, dusty pastels, soft purples, and nuanced shades, which create a gentle, feminine palette.



At the same time, bold color combinations and color-clashing are on the rise: bright contrasts (some designers reportedly mixing pink with orange, red with blue, etc.).

Prints and patterns are expected to make a comeback in 2026. Look for checks, gingham, polka dots, and reinterpretations of animal- or nature-inspired patterns, as well as creative prints to make a splash in the coming year.

All of the forecasted trends will emphasize more eco-conscious materials and ethical production. The focus will be on sustainable fabrics (natural fibers, eco-leathers or alternatives), and a return to craftsmanship over mass-produced fast fashion.

Menswear

Tailoring & Smart Style (Suits, Blazers, and Modern Workwear)

Refined, reimagined tailoring will be making a comeback in 2026. The overall look will be softer and more relaxed. Expect suit jackets and trousers with looser cuts, lighter fabrics (linen, breathable blends), and styling that blends professional and casual.

Suits and blazer-based outfits are being reworked for everyday wear. Look for double or single-breasted jackets, tonal layering, subtle tailoring, and minimal stiffness.

Utility-inspired clothing (cargo pants, field-vests, modular coats, and workwear-inspired outerwear) will be elevated in 2026 to combine function with high fashion.

Look for loose, comfortable silhouettes and “liquid layering” (flowing fabrics, wide pants, relaxed blazers, and overshirts) to be popular in 2026.

Knitwear and jersey get a refresh in the coming year. Relaxed knit sweaters, mesh or gauzy cardigans, striped polos and tees will take center stage in the coming year. Look for vintage-inspired preppy knit cardigans to also make a comeback.

Stripes and patterns will be strong in 2026. Vertical and horizontal stripes, pinstripes, varied striping styles appear across shirts, knitwear, suits, and even swimwear or summer wear. Rather than loud or flashy colors, many of the new palettes for menswear in the coming year will lean toward earthy tones, muted neutrals, and nature-inspired shades, giving outfits a grounded, timeless feel while still flexible.

Jewelry for Everyone

Mixed-metal & mixed-material pieces will be the trend for 2026. Jewelry will combine gold, silver, rose-gold, resin, and enamel. This lets pieces feel more layered and versatile.

Personalization/story jewelry will be popular over the coming year. Engravings, charms, zodiac motifs, birthstones, name/initial necklaces and bracelets will all be trending strong. Jewelry increasingly will become a way to carry personal identity or memories.

2026 is predicted to blur traditional gender lines. We will see this with many trends in chains, pearls, mixed metals, and bold designs being adopted by both women and men.

12. Auto Color Trends

Auto colors reflect personal style statements, and in 2026, there will be a few new colorations from which to choose. Research shows that nearly 60 percent of consumers identified color as one major factor in their vehicle-buying decisions.

Typically, automotive colors stay in narrow lanes, from the classic white to grays and blacks, with some reds, blues, and other colors mixed in. It is predicted that in 2026, there will be a refreshing change in this trend. Non-classic automotive hues will emerge in the coming year, propelling colors through a series of shifts reflecting a positive mood.

For 2026 there will be a shift away from purely utilitarian neutrals toward warmer, more "human" colors that evoke comfort, depth, and sophistication. In the coming year expect more refined finishes like subtle sparkle, liquid-metal effects, multidimensional pigments (interference pigments), and "faux-solid" coatings that give depth and richness to the paint. Here are the predicted colors and finishes that will make up the 2026 palette.



Earthy Neutrals & Warm Browns / Tans / Beiges

Warm browns, rich beiges, and nuanced natural neutrals will gain favor in 2026. These tones will be paired with subtle sparkles or soft metallic finishes to elevate what might otherwise feel plain.

Mauves, Reddish & Emotional Tones

Reddish shades, softer mauves, and "emotionally resonant" tones will be part of the trend toward color as expression. These are being positioned not just as "loud" choices, but more thoughtful, nuanced, and refined.

Multidimensional / Interference Colors

In 2026 we will see manufacturers pushing bold, dynamic colors that shift under different lighting (for example, a blue with green or violet undertones. These will be referred to as Interference Colors.

Metallic, Pearlescent & Liquid-Metal-Style Finishes

In the coming year "premium" finishes (pearlescent sheens, subtle metallic flakes, and finishes) will be gaining popularity. These finishes are designed to emphasize surface depth and texture instead of flat, matte paint. These finishes often help a color stand out without being garish, and add a touch of elegance and a sense of sophistication.

Green & Nature-Inspired Hues

Look for green shades (from olive or moss to deeper natural shades) to continue to gain traction in the next twelve months. For buyers valuing sustainability, subtlety, or a connection to nature, green is becoming a more common choice.

13. Conclusions

There you have it. We have covered the trend predictions that we may see in the design and style industries for 2026. Will you decide to live with the color Cloud Dancer from Pantone® in the coming year? Will you eat more plant-based products? The only way to know which predictions will come to fruition in 2026 is to wait twelve months and review your purchases!

Style and color predictions are carefully studied, and hours of effort are spent to make them timely, accurate, and relevant. However, at the end of the year, consumers are the ultimate decision-makers and the only authorities that can predict what “rings the cash register” in the coming year.

Whether these predictions become reality or fail miserably, everyone at RM COCO wishes you a happy and prosperous 2026. RM COCO, fabrics and furnishings for living, style for life!