

Look of the moment

Tapestry Although based on traditional tapestry and needlepoint archive designs, the Bargello collection of upholstery weaves by Zoffany feels very contemporary. Team this updated flame stitch in vibrant, modern colours with co-ordinating plains or a leaf design to complete the look. It's the perfect collection to use for revamping a tired chair and updating your sitting room. Armchair in Bargello, £70 a metre, Zoffany, 0870 830 0350, zoffany.com.

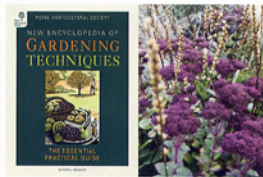
IN THE GARDEN Plant outdoor containers with **ivies**, **grasses**, winter-flowering **heathers**, **pansies** and hardy **cyclamen**. Finish planting spring bedding such as **wallflowers**, **forget-me-nots** and **sweet Williams**. Pot up and water **amaryllis** bulbs and stand them in a warm place so they flower for Christmas. Plant bare-rooted **roses**: mix organic fertiliser in the planting hole, mulch the surface and water well. Harvest root vegetables such as **carrots**, **turnips** and **swedes** and plant **garlic**. Empty old nests from **bird boxes**, clean with boiling water and, when thoroughly dry, place a handful of wood shavings inside. Enjoy autumn **grasses** and **sedums** (below right) – see Beautiful Borders on page 116.



GREEN LIVING

These cushions are handmade from recycled antique Hungarian flax linen grain sacks – flax linen is known for its durability. They are ideal for everyday use and even in the garden. A plain stripe design indicates which mill the sacks are from.

Cushions, 45cm square, red or blue stripes, £65 each, Biome Lifestyle, 020 7254 7613, biomelifestyle.com.



EXCLUSIVE BOOK OFFER

A step-by-step book by Royal Horticultural Society experts, the New Encyclopedia of Gardening Techniques (above left, £30, Mitchell Beazley) is ideal for beginners and those who want to update their skills, including how to garden in a changing climate. To buy a copy for £22.50, including free UK mainland p&p, call 01903 828503 quoting code MBI8S.