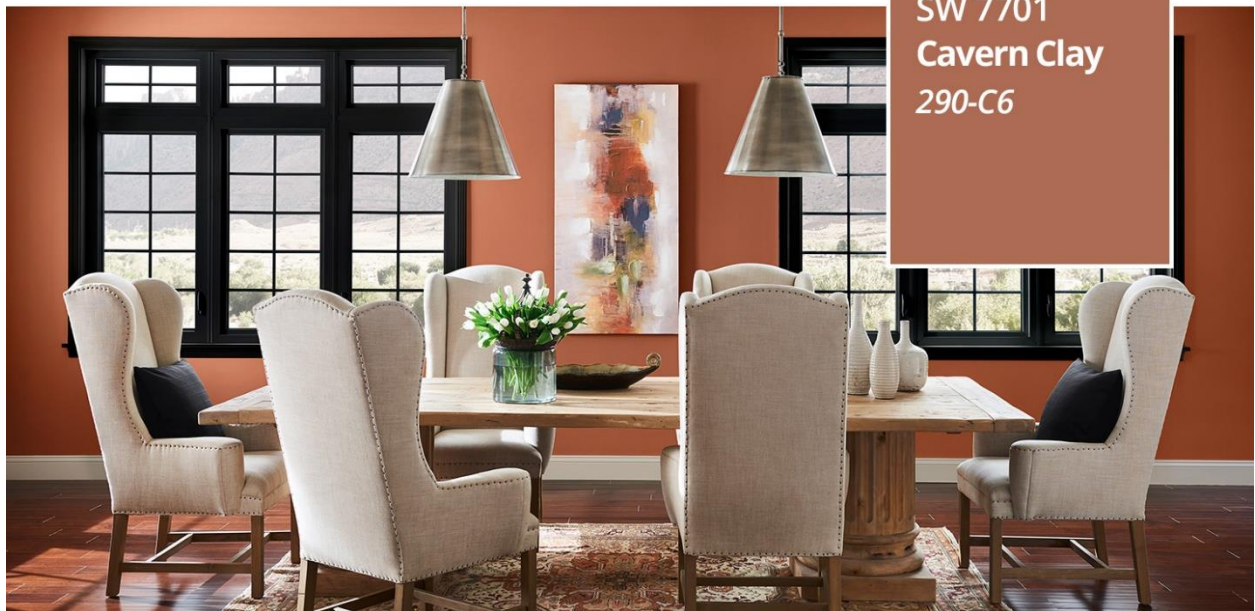


Designing a Space Based on Greek Architecture:

Inspiration Images:





In order to create a space that is based on a Greek design style, there are a few items, patterns, and concepts that I would distinctly use, as well as some ideas that I would translate into a new version of the Greek design (otherwise, it would just be a design to teleport you in time, but not be functional with today!)

ARCHITECTURE: For the architecture, I think if it was possible to do some sort of atrium, courtyard, or open patio, it would help resemble to open housing and layout of aule (courtyard). If this was unavailable, you could convey the idea with large windows and foliage inside.

Also along the lines of architecture, skylights and/ or transom windows could be used to resemble openness, since most "interior openings had no doors" (Ireland, pg 69) as well as mimic the windows Greeks would have, which were normally located "high on the wall" (Ireland, 69)

Door frames could be ornate than regular door frames, similar to the Greek's "Patarae" - circular patterns, one could replicate that pattern, or mimic other shapes, such as those of the columns or Greek molding that were used in combination with columns. Greeks also had many motifs they used, such as ovals, waves, fret (Greek key), the spiral, guilloche (dial), and s-curve. If one of those fit into a client's personal taste, they would also be acceptable.

Coffered ceilings were common in Greece. If possible, ceilings could be coffered, though depending on the space and the aesthetic, the traditional blue and gold coloring may or may not be used.

DESIGN: As far as the design and decor of the space, there are many different ways to infuse Greek design into a space. A few, some, or all of these design ideas would give an underlying sense of the Greek design.

SURFACES: The Greeks used stucco on their walls, and occasionally marble. While this could be seen as using a marble accent wall, it could also manifest itself in simply having marble flooring and stucco walls, or even textured walls that would look similar to stucco. The marble could also come into play by being used as finish materials on items such as a coffee table top, countertop, or fireplace surround. Normally, the Greeks would have whitewashed interiors. You could be "spot on" about that detail and have whitewashed stucco, or you could interpret it, and have a light and airy feel, with lots of white accents and fabrics, but have a color on the wall. What color? Why not resemble the adobe brick that was sometimes used on the interiors and give the place an earthy feel with a clay colored paint on the stucco? Certainly you could use the clay color as an accent wall if you felt too overwhelmed by the idea of it being everywhere.

Floors in the Grecian times were merely earth and occasionally had pebbles pressed in. We could recreate this concept by merely saying to use warm, natural tones in the flooring. Perhaps even wood would be a good option as it was used for furniture (see next section). If a bathroom is included in the space, pebbled tiles could be used in the shower base. It could also be used outside in the landscaping.

FURNITURE: For the furniture, mainly wood was used for the Greeks. Furniture was meant to be easily moved around, so it would be light. While that may not serve the function of the space, we can allude to that concept by bringing in furniture that seems light and airy, such as a sofa with legs instead of a skirt. Also, tables were normally stashed under a "klingi" (similar to a daybed/ chaise). To replicate that idea, nesting tables could be used.

ACCENTS/ MISCELLANEOUS: A very important note would be to embrace the imperfections of handmade materials. Nothing was factory made in Grecian times, obviously, so it adds to the charm and style to have those textures and imperfections.

Woven mats were used in Greece, so handmade woven or wool rugs would be a good way to replicate that. Tapestries, as well as many other items were often hung on walls as well. While you may not want or need to crowd your wall with items, a well placed rug or tapestry could be a nice touch, as well as a collage of items resembling their covered walls would work.

LANDSCAPE OR INTERIOR FOLIAGE: Grecians would be familiar with vines and leaves through motifs they would have created. You could have ivy growing on the interior or exterior of the house. If available, they also enjoyed the honeysuckle and it was used on their motifs. Planting those outside could be nice homage to that.

Cited resources:

¹*History of Interior Design*, by Jeannie Ireland, 2nd ed., Fairchild Books, An Imprint of Bloomsbury Publishing Inc, 2018, p.

Research resources:

History of Interior Design, by Jeannie Ireland, 2nd ed., Fairchild Books, An Imprint of Bloomsbury Publishing Inc, 2018, p. 55-73

"Home Tour: Is this the most relaxing home you've ever seen?", *Elle.com*, <https://www.elledecor.com/design-decorate/house-interiors/g395/sailors-delight-a-dream-home-of-the-coast-of-santorini/>, Accessed 27 August 2020.

"Embracing a Greek Aesthetic" , *Medium.com*, <https://medium.com/interior-design-collection/embracing-a-greek-aesthetic-81f93a052bf2>, Accessed 27 August 2020.

"Greek Stripe/ Mussel Shell", *Robert Allen Design*, <https://www.robertallendesign.com/greek-stripe-mussel-shell-247148>, Accessed 27 August 2020.

"Pebbles for Bathroom Floors", *Mimichiba*, <https://www.mimichiba.com/pebbles-for-bathroom-floors/>, Accessed 27 August 2020.