



Country Classic
Welsh Blankets

Featuring rich colors and bold patterns, these woven wool throws are as cozy as a hot cup of tea shared with a doting grandmother.

A dresser drawer placed under the bed provides blanket storage with reclaimed country charm.

PHOTOGRAPH BY PENNY WINGER; STYLING BY BEN KENDRICK.

PHOTOGRAPHS BY (CLOCKWISE FROM TOP) CRISTIAN BARNETT; STYLING BY BEN KENDRICK; MARK WATTS/UNIQUE HOMESTAYS; ERIC PIASECK/OTTO.



Object Lesson

Rural Roots: Thanks to the long tradition of sheep farming, wool sits at the heart of textile crafts in Wales. Welsh tapestry blankets have been woven in country mills since the 19th century, created on large looms using a signature double-cloth construction.

Staying Power: Because the wool is hand-dyed in rich colors designed to stand the test of time, these blankets have brightened up homes for centuries of gray winter days. The blankets also make for popular wedding presents.

Higher Learning: Eye-catching patterns (often with native Welsh names) are another signature of these blankets. At bottom left, an iconic “Caernarfon” patterned blanket tops a nook by interior designer Rita König and architect Gil Schafer.

Makers to Know: Family companies like Trefriw (t-w-m.co.uk) and Melin Tregwynt (melintregwynt.co.uk) have been producing blankets at local mills for more than a century.

Find yours on page 20.



Bring It Home

Go Old...

Welsh-textiles expert **Jen Jones** (*jen-jones.com*) is a go-to source for antique blankets, which she sells from her Llanybydder-based shop in west Wales. Her tapestries shown here (1-6) were woven in the midcentury and are priced from \$265 to \$486. Vintage styles can also be spotted on sites such as Etsy and eBay.

...or New

Take cover with contemporary blankets in classic patterns, like (7) "Knot Garden" (from \$75; *melintregwynt.co.uk*), a weave created in the 1950s that's still produced in the circa-1912 mill of **Melin Tregwynt**. For more modern designs, look to younger companies like (8) **Loom & Bobbin**, an English maker inspired by traditional Welsh design (\$180; *fromthemills.co.uk*), or **Welsh Otter**, which used the lichen-covered rocks of Wales as inspiration for its (9) "Carreg" blanket (\$200; *welshotter.co.uk*).



PHOTOGRAPH BY HECTOR M. SANCHEZ; STYLING BY MINDI SHAPIRO.