

STATESIDE STYLE

Décor and ideas for designing the American dream, from laid-back West Coast vibes to industrial warehouse chic

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There's no place quite like the United States of America, a country vast in scale with a breathtaking diversity of people and places, culture and climate. The American dream of prosperity driven by ambition defines the aesthetic of both architecture and interiors – home design is always big, bold and aspirational. Whether it's an edgy urban loft apartment in Tribeca, a sprawling ranch in Montana, the understated luxury of an airy Hamptons beach house, or the glitz and glamour of old Hollywood, American style is always classic, confident and covetable.



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Ranch homestead

The traditional sprawling, single-storey ranch-style home is a classic architectural style, designed for life in the remote wildness of the desert states of the southwest, where the wide-open spaces allow for a larger building footprint and the hotter climate is conducive to nearly year-round outdoor living. And this is the key point about the classic single-storey ranch – this style of home is all about allowing a free flow from indoors to outdoors, creating a connection with nature from every room – with a wraparound porch or central courtyard area a key feature.

When you picture a ranch, there's probably a large, open, stone fireplace, organic materials, animal hide accessories such as sheepskins and well-worn leather sofas, folk art, Navajo-style rugs or blankets, a wagon wheel or wrought-iron ring chandelier, and maybe a feature cactus or two.

But if there's one material that's synonymous with the ranch homestead, it's wood. Cabins and wooden homes

Recycled railway sleeper bench, £65.99, Metalwoods on Etsy



may be few and far between here in the UK, but using pallet or recycled wood cladding – or even wood-effect wallpaper – along with rustic wooden flooring can recreate the stripped-back ranch look.

If the cabin aesthetic isn't right for your home, ranch style is perfectly suited to exterior décor, creating a homely look for a large deck, patio or cosy courtyard area. Use pallets or reclaimed wood to create wooden decking, to clad walls or to build a generously sized seating area. Furbish with a kadal or firepit, twinkling lights, a cactus in a vintage pot and some rustic textiles and you'll have the perfect outdoor entertaining space. Just add a guitar and a couple of Stetsons...

SOURCEBOOK

- **Reclaimed wood** Community Wood Recycling (communitywoodrecycling.org.uk) has a network of locations stocking recycled and pallet wood for DIY projects, and offers carpentry services for bespoke pieces too.
- **Firepits** For a firepit made from recycled metal go to Olive & Sage (oliveandsage.co.uk), or one from old oil drums at Indigenous (indigenous.co.uk).
- **Garden salvage** Wells Reclamation (wellsreclamation.com) is a great place to source quirky pieces for your outdoor space, including large terracotta pots and stone troughs.



Blomqvist recycled cotton throw, £23.95, thehomeedit.com