

# ELLE DECOR

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INTERNATIONAL FLAIR

FROM BANGKOK TO BRUSSELS,  
BUENOS AIRES TO FIJI



elle decor's guide to...

Alex Papachristidis and  
Milly de Cabrol with  
screens by Hudson Furni-  
ture (left) and Artemis  
Home. See Relevance.



## The Top 10 Screens

Truth in Decorating: Designers Milly de Cabrol and Alex Papachristidis debate the virtues of one of the best furnishings to add instant drama—and practicality—to any space

Ask an interior designer for a list of secret weapons that give a home a sense of atmosphere, and a folding screen will likely rank high. "Screens really do decorate a room," says Milly de Cabrol, a designer who loves the way these hinged panels add glamour to a space, especially when they are upholstered in luxurious fabrics or lacquered with exotic landscapes. In addition to the ornamental attractions, she praises their practical possibilities for artful camouflage. "Everybody hides things behind screens," de Cabrol explains. You can deploy one as a headboard and use the area behind for

storing suitcases, set one up to mask guests' coats during a party, or use one to cover exposed pipes.

Decorator Alex Papachristidis is similarly enthusiastic about their many roles. "Screens are great if you want to break up a large area or big flat wall, and they are wonderful when you are faced with structural issues," he says, such as strangely angled corners. Plus, Papachristidis adds, they are ideal for experimentation: "You can play around with placement to alter the planes of a room and create visual interest."

Text by Mitchell Green • Photographs by Julia McHugh • Produced by Parker Brown

## screens



### 1 MOUCHARREH SCREEN BY JEAN-MAURICE MAILLARD FOR PICTURONA FRAG

"In Paris, I remember the Café de Colonne. It's unique and contemporary, and the beauty is extraordinary," they also noted of the screen's design and use of wood. The design and use of wood is ideal for defining areas in a soft and delicate way. Height: 72", panel width: 16 1/2", screen depth: 12 1/2", panel depth: 17", base depth: 4 1/2". Available in white, brown, and black. Price: \$1,200. [www.picturona.fr](http://www.picturona.fr)



### 2 BELTOUN SIGNATURE SCREEN BY OUTPOST FURNITURE

Also from France, says the screen is a favorite because, "It's a far cry from anything that brings nature into the home. The wood has an organic, sculptural quality, and the open grain is beautiful." Its substantial looks make itself a great room divider. Height: 60", panel width: 11 1/2", screen depth: 12 1/2", base depth: 12". Available in dark wood with a light stain. Price: \$1,200. [www.outpostfurniture.com](http://www.outpostfurniture.com)



### 3 NICOLE 3-PANEL SCREEN BY OWNERS SELECT FURNITURE

"A classic," observes de Colonne of the closely tailored lines. "It's very chic and minimalist, not a 1950s fashion design." The glossy frame and polished hardware make it well-suited for a library or a media room, she says. Height: 64", panel width: 14", screen depth: 12", depth: 4 1/2". Available in dark wood with a light stain. Price: \$1,200. [www.ownersselect.com](http://www.ownersselect.com)



### 4 COCOMANDEL 4-PANEL SCREEN BY THE PLAY COLLECTION

"This is gorgeous and doesn't look mass-produced," proclaims Papacostas. "The details are lovely, especially the hand-carved wood and the antique-style metal accents." To complement its charming panels, he envisions pairing it with global furniture. For the quality, he says, "It's a real bargain." Height: 64", panel width: 14", screen depth: 12", depth: 4 1/2". Available in dark wood with a light stain. Price: \$1,200. [www.theplaycollection.com](http://www.theplaycollection.com)



### 5 WOODEN 2-PANEL GLASS SCREEN BY MATTER FROM ABC CARPET & HOME

"It's got that rustic French feeling, so it's perfect for a country house," de Colonne says, liking the charming carved wood detail on the bottom and the painted finish on one side. "The glass panels are also wonderful," she points out, "because the light shines through." Height: 72", panel width: 11", screen depth: 12", base depth: 4 1/2". Available in dark wood with a light stain. Price: \$1,200. [www.abc-carpet.com](http://www.abc-carpet.com)



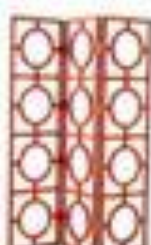
### 6 REINE SCREEN BY TULLIAN CHRISTOFFER

"The fleur-de-lis is amazing and done nicely," says de Colonne. She admires the fleur-de-lis pattern on the top, the high chair on one side and lion on the other, and the aged-brass finish. With the screen's square form, it would work well in a dining room paired with a round table to balance the heavy shape. Height: 64", panel width: 12", screen depth: 12", base depth: 12". Available in dark wood with a light stain. Price: \$1,200. [www.tullianchristoffer.com](http://www.tullianchristoffer.com)



### 7 4-PANEL ROOM SCREEN BY JARDONS DU JOUR

"Love the chinoiserie," says Papacostas. "The hand-painted silk is elegant, and I adore the fleur-de-lis." He suggests positioning it in a bedroom behind a Chinese boudoir. "Someone could sit and chat with you while you're changing—like you're in Paris, Maigret." Height: 72", panel width: 14", screen depth: 12", base depth: 12". Available in dark wood with a light stain. Price: \$1,200. [www.jardonsdujour.com](http://www.jardonsdujour.com)



### 8 ANTIQUE RED WOOD SANDALA ROOM SCREEN BY AFTERNOON HOME

"The squares and circles are like a Chinese window," says Papacostas. "The red stain is lovely." He adds, referring to the table's top, "It's a beautiful piece of wood, with its hand-painted, 'like you're in Paris, Maigret.'" Height: 72", panel width: 14", screen depth: 12", base depth: 12". Available in dark wood with a light stain. Price: \$1,200. [www.afternoonthome.com](http://www.afternoonthome.com)



### 9 VW 4-PANEL WOVEN BEND SCREEN BY VICENTE WOLF

"Fun and casual," de Colonne notes. The combination of woven fabric, dark wood, and metal gives this a "top-notch" feel, she says, and the ring-shaped frames are a stylish touch. Because of its vaguely tropical look, she pictures it displayed in a summer house to block off an open kitchen. Height: 64", panel width: 14", screen depth: 12", base depth: 4 1/2". Available in dark wood with a light stain. Price: \$1,200. [www.vicentewolf.com](http://www.vicentewolf.com)



### 10 MID-CENTURY METALLICS SCREEN BY GRAVE

The screen's top pattern, says Papacostas, has an Art Deco feel. He also likes that the fabric hangs cleverly, disappearing when the screen is extended. Papacostas imagines it in a high-ceilinged bedroom, where it could serve as a room divider. Height: 64", panel width: 14", screen depth: 12", base depth: 4 1/2". Available in dark wood with a light stain. Price: \$1,200. [www.grave.com](http://www.grave.com)

The screens featured are those of the 2012-13 season and are not necessarily representative of the culture. All measurements, delivery times, and prices are approximate. For details see Resources.