

CottageLifeStyle

Decorating ideas, design inspiration, and road stories from
Cottage Life magazine's senior design editor Corinna vanGerwen


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White at the cottage

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Fresh, breezy, crisp, romantic—however you want to describe it, there is something undeniably alluring about the look of all white. It's not a style that you think of as being terribly practical for the cottage, though. Ice cream cones, muddy paws, sandy feet, wet bathing suits—who wants to spend time working extra hard to clean up after all that, just so your whites stay their brightest (or at least so they don't look too dingy)?

But perhaps white isn't as impractical as we might think. Whitewashed walls and furniture pieces painted in white latex enamel don't spell extra cleaning duties.

And these days, even white upholstery is becoming a viable option. For example, [Chella's](#) fabrics are made to stand up to children and pets, sun and rain, and stains. The indoor/outdoor performance textiles are [solution dyed](#) so the colour stays true longer, and they're also mold, and mildew resistant. Plus, the fabric is machine washable.



I'm picturing a big curl-up-in-it arm chair upholstered in the foliage-like Topographie in Sand Dune (third from the right), \$260 per yard. The fabrics shown range from \$147 to \$418 per yard and are available through designers.

Adding white is a great way to brighten a dark cabin, and I think that if you're practical in your choices, you can get the dreamy, airy look. What do you think? Would you decorate with white at the cottage?

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