

Return of a classic

by RATNA RAMLI

First appearing during the early English Renaissance in the late 15th century, wainscoting is one of the oldest ways to decorate a wall. It essentially involved covering it with wood panelling. Synonymous with elegant and expensive homes today, it originally had a humbler function — masking the dampness that crept into building walls, thanks to England's wet weather.

Today, wainscoting serves a purely aesthetic function, providing a focal point in almost any room. While traditional wainscoting covers the lower half of walls, modern wainscoting can be done on any part of the walls.

Interior designers suggest using a deep neutral hue like dark grey and navy blue instead of bland white for an edgier look. And if you are hanging art within the panelling, place them about 58- to 62-inches from the centre of the artwork to the floor for a clean, contemporary look.



photo iStock

经典再现

护壁板是一种装饰墙壁的古老方式，即为墙壁盖上木质镶板，最早出现在15世纪末英国文艺复兴初期。虽然护壁板现在只能在高雅豪宅找到，但它原来的作用其实是为了遮盖因英国潮湿天气而导致墙面受潮的情况。

今天，护壁板纯粹作为装饰用途，可为房间任何一个角落提供亮点。传统护壁板只安装在墙壁的下半部，但现代护壁板却适合墙壁的任何部分。

室内设计师建议，与其采用单调的白色护壁板，不如涂上深灰或海军蓝等中性深色调，打造前卫另类的家居风格。若你打算在护壁板上挂上画作，建议画作中心到地板的距离应为58英寸至62英寸，采取简约时尚风。

