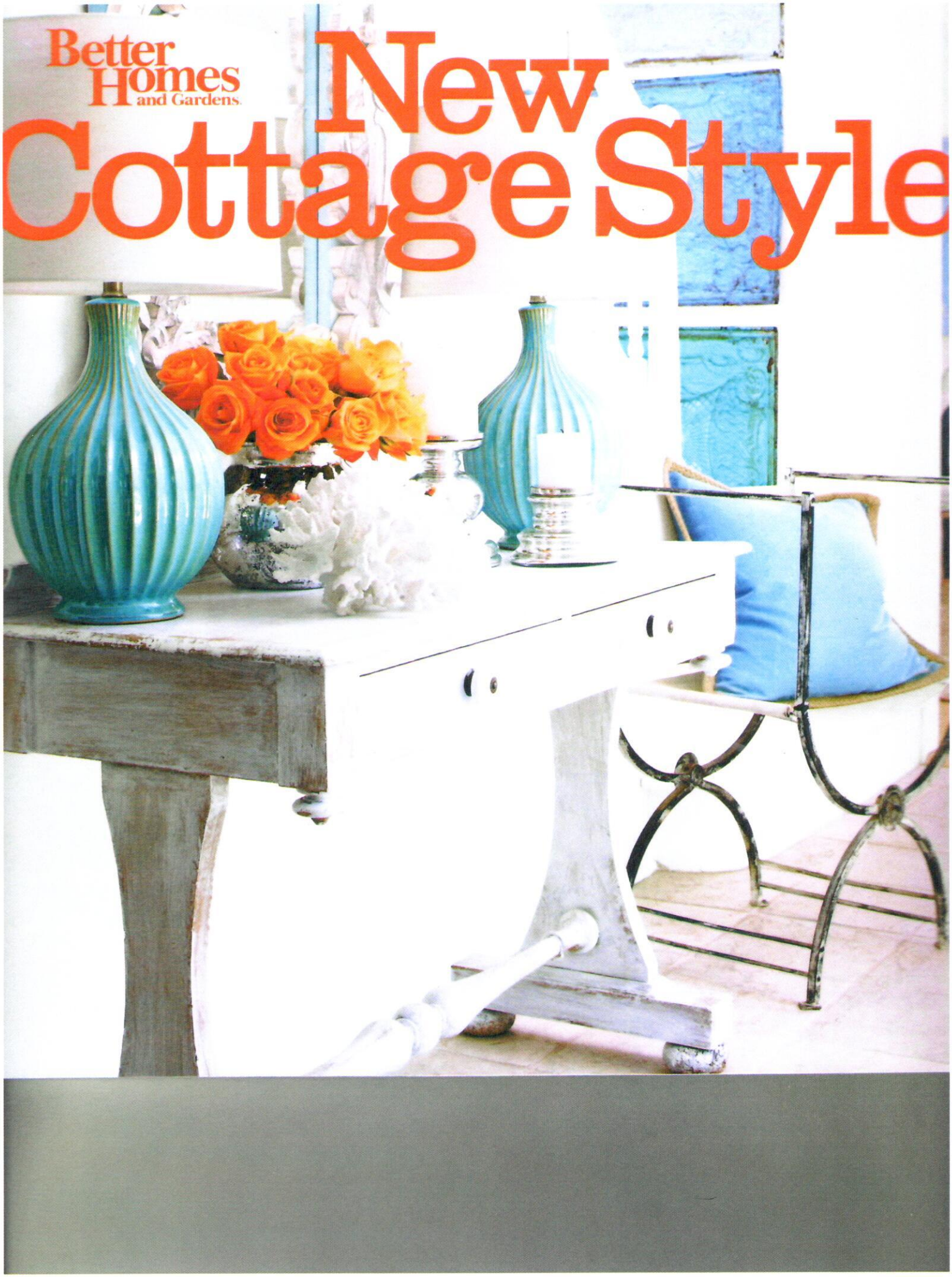

Better Homes and Gardens
New Cottage Style

GARDEN-INSPIRED
Roman shades with an embroidered lattice design complement the floral fabric used for pillows. Aqua accents, including the leather on the chairs, add a fresh, modern edge.

pattern play

Florals, lattice, ginghams, plaids—this home welcomes them all. The key to avoiding overload? Limiting the color scheme and changing up the scale.

When it comes to pattern, cottage style celebrates variety. A mix of prints—florals, checks, stripes—layers a space with personality and can enhance a home's architecture.

This home drew inspiration from a country inn, where florals, ginghams, and plaids called to mind a charming English cottage in the countryside. Greens and pinks keep the look classic, while touches of aqua freshen the scheme. The colors thread throughout rooms, providing a unifying theme and easy flow. In main rooms, such as the dining and living areas, pattern plays a bit role, appearing subtly in pillows and window treatments. In the master suite, it stars: A modern tulip print that complements apple-green walls launches spring-fresh style. Plaids and ginghams in greens, blues, and raspberry complete the look—one that's romantic and sophisticated without frills or fuss.

pattern play

REVERSE ORDER
opposite **Mixing charcoal-gray and white cabinets gives the kitchen an unfitted look. Polished black granite on the white island provides a sleek, modern vibe—and reverses the color scheme of the gray cabinetry.**

THE BIG PICTURE
above **Despite its muted colors, the area rug boasts the dominant pattern in the living area. Bolder prints, such as the raspberry check and wide stripe, are reserved for small pillows so there's no competition. The pale aqua ceiling links to the color of the sofa and accessories.**

making pattern work

Adding pattern is an easy way to pull together a color scheme. Consider these tips. **Establish order.** Select fabrics first, then match paint colors to your choices. For a no-fail scheme, use two patterns in the same colors. **Vary the scale.** Set the palette with a large-scale pattern, then support it with solids and smaller-scale prints. **Add a flower or two.** Cottage schemes often reflect gardens, so floral fabrics are a natural. **Splurge and save.** If you fall in love with a pricey fabric, use it for an accent pillow or a table runner. You'll get impact without the expense.

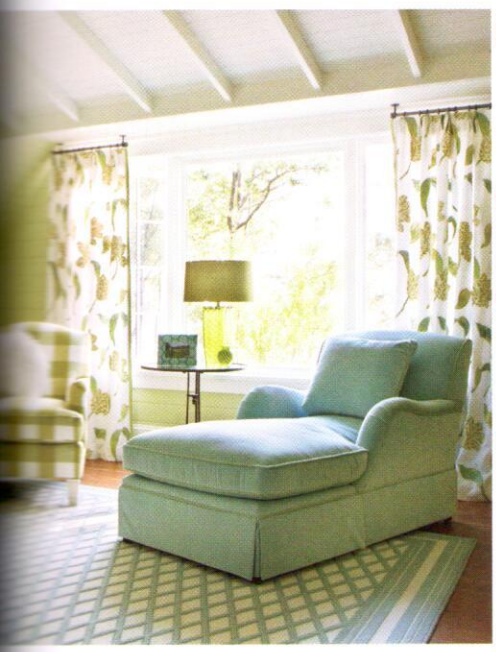
pattern play

Try this!
Use a side table as a nightstand to visually balance a tall headboard or high bed.

SPRING FRESH
A chenille headboard commands attention in the master bedroom, its apple-green hue blending with the walls and the silk plaid used for the bed skirt. The coverlet's scalloped edge plays off the curves of the headboard. A secondary color in the embroidered tulip fabric inspired the pale aqua accents, including the lattice-motif rug, which adds a big dose of pattern.

pattern play

LUSH LAYERS
Stationary curtain panels frame the dressing table, setting it off as a focal point. A wide band of aqua-and-white gingham provides visual relief from the table's larger-scale tulip fabric.



BALANCED OUT
above left When mixing patterns, vary the scales. Here, a large-scale plaid silk covering the club chair tames the pattern mix. An aqua velvet chaise longue grounds the setting.

SWEET SURPRISE
above middle Raspberry-painted walls and a pretty chandelier ensure that the master bedroom closet is a vibrant space.

UNITED FRONT
above right A lattice-inspired design on cabinet doors visually links the master bath to the bedroom rug. Marble countertops keep the space light and airy.

FABRIC SOFTENERS
right With plaid fabric shirred on its doors, an armoire exudes cottage charm. The plaid repeats as trim on the chair cushion and valance for continuity and softness.