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Saturated Subway

Leaving their classic white counterparts behind, super-saturated subway tiles are currently having their day in the spotlight. Pastels and pale tones dominated the last few years (and will likely stick around a bit longer), but expect to start seeing deeper and more vibrant hues, such as teal, tangerine, and burgundy.

Mod Patterns

Tile brands are reimagining retro-mod geometric motifs, the most notable being the quarter and half circle. Some, like Ceramica Bardelli, have gone even further: The Italian brand launched a new mod collection, Monoscopia, with a coordinating fluted tile—dimensional semicircles in profile.

Wallpaper-esque

Mural and wallpaper styles remain popular, and in recent years, they've become more convincing—especially when the tiles are rectified to hide grout lines. The visuals run the gamut from large-scale monstera leaves to flocced jacquard and small repeating organic motifs like Walker Zanger's Pop Culture Feathers.

Patchworks

Patterns mixing graphics, shapes, and colors make for tile quilts of sorts. The mixed doodle-emblazoned Alex Proba x Strands tiles from Concrete Collaborative resemble Henri Matisse's bold cutout works.

New Textures

Tile makers have been dabbling with impressions of imperfections both slight and extreme. Decoratori Bassanesi recently explored the Japanese aesthetic of *wabi-sabi*—a concept of imperfect beauty—in its collection of the same name with a Japanese-style roller-shade imprint.

Fresh-Faced Tile

Your white subway tiles were outré by the end of the aughts. If you haven't already, it's time to ditch the chef's kitchen look for more expressive styles that have as much personality as the dishes you prepare.

PHOTO: JAMIE CHUNG

SATURATED SUBWAY
9. Acacia Solana, Concrete Collaborative
10. Multiforme, Marca Corona
13. Brickworks Nuances, Casalgrande Padana

MOD PATTERNS
1. Monoscopia 4 and 6, Ceramica Bardelli
2. Monoscopia 1, Ceramica Bardelli
6. In Falda, Cir
8. Euclid Studio Line, New Ravenna
12. Kat and Roger, Pratt and Larson

WALLPAPER-ESQUE
7. Pop Culture Feathers, Walker Zanger

PATCHWORKS
3. Benton Tryst Mosaic, Ann Sacks
5. Grace, Wow Design
11. Alex Proba Aurora, Concrete Collaborative

NEW TEXTURES
4. Wabi-Sabi, Decoratori Bassanesi