

FIND A NEW FOCAL POINT

In a more functional room, such as a study, you can still think outside the box, even with a limited colour palette, by highlighting a few architectural features. Here, the already white walls and wooden floors are the perfect plain platform for a swathe of sunny yellow to feature elsewhere in the room. Use your bright accent shade to paint door frames, skirting boards or built-in cupboard doors, so that they become the focus. By simply painting the woodwork as the talking point, you save time and money repainting the walls or redoing floors, while still creating that wow factor.

'If you're going bold with the floor, whether using a paint effect, decorative tiles or a rug, keep the rest of the room pattern neutral'

Bergen 25023 Pendant, **R599**, The Lighting Warehouse

Succulent in Looped Vase with White Stones, **from R449,95**, Netflorist

Large Black & White Wall Clock, **R800**, Knus

Top tip!

If your space is open-plan, you could create a distinct separation from your living area by creating a painted border in place of a rug on the dining-room floor.

Cassia Beck Leaves Art Print, **from R420**, Society6

FAKE IT WITH FLAIR

Set a laid-back tone in your dining room, with a neutral palette of hues and rustic details, such as worn-metal pendants. Add a dash of colour by choosing striped fabric for curtains or seat covers – muted red and white give a nod to the classic farm-style chequered cloth, but in a modern way. The pièce de résistance? Fake patterned floor tiles! Paint floors in a base shade. When dry, use a stencil to create an encaustic design in blue and white, starting in the centre and working outwards. Seal with a topcoat of lacquer.