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Rachel Bates: bright and brilliant homeware

A super-chic e-boutique of
exclusive collaborations



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JENNY DALTON

Rachel Bates is known for interior design that puts traditional artisanal techniques centre stage, but pushes them so they reach new heights of excellence. And so it is with her new website, Rachel Bates Elegantly Curated, which, as well as acting as a platform for her design consultancy, showcases exclusive collaborations with British and European brands and styling inspiration through a curated selection of videos. The visuals are extensive and beautifully shot – it's seductive stuff.

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As is the selection of made-to-order homeware, much of it in the bright colours Bates (second picture) is known for. Gem-toned crystal champagne coupes (£1,480 for a set of eight, first picture) complement the smart, hand-engraved Stag **decanter** (£533, third picture) by Prague crystal specialist Artel. The delicately painted and gilded porcelain tableware (fourth picture) by Marie Daâge Paris studio is bedecked with peacocks and florals; tea cups and saucers (£299) are particularly enchanting.

Bates also produces her own designs, including dining **chairs** available in an eye-catching Missoni print (£1,400, fifth picture), while an exclusive paint collection (from £5.25), called Jewel, is created with UK manufacturer Little Greene. Among the 10 shades is a vibrant green named Duffy, after Bates' father.

Many of the store's "Little Luxuries" also make interesting gifts – the Italian-made leather-lined trays (from £344), for example – but you may have to think ahead. The lead time for certain crystal and china pieces is eight to 10 weeks, while for furniture it is seven to eight weeks.

www.rachelbatesinteriors.com.