

Workroom Threads

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Hot Stuff in the Bedroom



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No doubt you've seen them in upscale hotels and designer bedding photos. Maybe you've even created one. I'm referring to that mini comforter or strip of fabric laying at the foot of the bed. What do you call this . . . a throw, a bed scarf, or bed runner? The correct name for this new trend is a scaldino.

Actually, a scaldino is a very old concept. In Italian it means "little heater". Historically a scaldino was an actual heater that was placed in the bed to warm the feet.

Today we are less concerned about the heat and consider the scaldino to be a decorative element rather than a functional fixture. While it can add some foot warmth and protect the spread from suitcases or other items being placed there it is generally used to add color and style.

The photos below will help you to appreciate how the scaldino has evolved.



Toasting the Tootsies

How would you feel about crawling under the covers with this apparatus? An iron pot of red hot coals was carefully placed inside a wooden or metal frame which was between the sheets of the bedding. This photo shows the scaldino as it was used many years ago.



Today a scaldino is a decorative accent at the foot of the bed. It is a quick way to give a bedroom a new look. Using a neutral bedspread, coverlet, or duvet cover the scaldino can complete the look. It might tie into the pillows or window treatments. This is an inexpensive way of giving a custom look to an otherwise ordinary bedcovering.



Here the scaldino creates a pop of color that adds interest and becomes a focal point for the room. A scaldino with texture is another way of bringing visual warmth and interest. Generally a scaldino is about 24" top to bottom and hangs about 12" down each side or as long as the bedcover that is beneath it. However, there are no rules. Be creative!

A Hot Trend in Bedding

A scaldino at the foot of a bed could be used to balance color, add color, provide comfort, update the room or a multitude of other reasons. Whatever the reason, a scaldino will add style and a personal touch. It is also an economical way to customize the bedding and could be changed seasonally to refresh the look of the room. The possibilities are only limited to your imagination.

Where the ordinary becomes extraordinary

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