

Another concept >> plane from Embraer is the Manhattan, The Crystal room has an art deco feel

Innovation is focused on practical solutions over extreme design. So what does the future hold? Embraer is keeping a close eye on the advancement of fibre optic cloth. "There have been examples of fibre optic lighting woven into carpets, but for me the exciting thing is the potential for material to impart information," says Beever. "All the information that is currently displayed on a small placard stuck on to the seat in front - safety information or instructions for taxi or take-off could be presented through the material, illuminating when necessary but being invisible at other times." Thanks to the forward thinking of designers in the sector, regardless of FAA regulations, the sky really is the limit. a



DECKING OUT FUTURE CABINS >> What materials will be "in" when it comes to in-flight interiors?



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Bold fabrics

The new flameproof, hard-wearing fabric collection from French firm Nobilis includes the bold Dandy (above), which can be used for upholstery. For even more visual impact, the Wild Party collection from Italian brand Dedar features kitsch animal print jacquards and knits that retain their luxurious touch despite being treated for commercial use.



Fancy flooring

Tai Ping's carpets can turn a cabin floor into a work of art. Choose a bespoke design, which can be customised to suit your requirements, or styles such as Synchronism (above), already reconstructed to comply with aviation standards. Rumour has it that luxury leather manufacturer Foglizzo is in the process of creating a hide hard-wearing enough to run underfoot.



Ombré panels

J Robert Scott has long been known for its use of exotic veneers such as shagreen, snake and goatskin parchment in its furniture and furnishings products. Its recently patented luxury finish is the Ombré technique, which can be used on custom-made decorative panels or furniture for aviation interiors, and results in a distinctive light to dark effect.



The new leathers Studioart produces a huge range of leather, from laser-cut decorative designs to soft neutrals and vibrant hides. Its technical collections including Brick (above) can be used as upholstery or wall coverings. For something traditional but ultra luxurious see J Robert Scott's JRS Superkidskin, butter-soft lambskin of couture quality for upholstery.