

Furniture & Lighting: Forecast Trends 2025

Explore the key directions for 2025 across the furniture and lighting categories, aligned with our three seasonal forecasts. Low-key luxury, alternative materials and colour-shifting digital aesthetics will drive product design

Eva Klabuhn
09.01.23 - 13 minutes



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Executive summary

WGSN's three S/S 25 and A/W 24/25 seasonal forecasts explore how the macro themes covered in our **STEPIC** reports (examining Society, Technology, the Environment, Politics, Industry and Creativity) will filter down to seasonal product development.

This report is derived from the directions set in the three seasonal forecast trends, and applies them to furniture and lighting categories to inspire product design and commercial range-building.

- **S/S 25 Digitopia evolves from A/W 24/25 Expanded Imagination:** embrace otherworldly aesthetics and new possibilities in design, driven by the rise of AI, virtual realms, and a growing focus on creativity as a problem-solving strategy. For furniture and lighting, design products that play between these landscapes via digitally-inspired surfaces and colour-treated materials with a futuristic quality
- **S/S 25 Restorative Realms evolves from A/W 24/25 Future Terrains:** explore how design will react to the end of resource abundance, with a focus on products and processes that are regenerative rather than extractive. Brands will need to instil a conscious mindset when sourcing alternative materials, and connect with trusted suppliers. Creative directions vary from updated tropical stories to narratives referencing folk symbolism
- **S/S 25 Common Connections evolves from A/W 24/25 Inter-Actions:** this forecast trend champions products and designs that affirm the value of our individuality, as well as the power of our communal humanity. Balance decorative and functional elements. Explore FUN-ctional designs and products conveying a low-key luxury to offer consumers statement updates

Key directions 2025

Alternative materials: produce with innovative sustainable materials.

FUN-ctional basics: bold hues and flexible designs elevate everyday pieces.

Boho coastal: refresh nautical collections with woven structures and shell icons.

Low-key luxury: elegant material pairings promote a low-key premium look.

Restorative tactility: soft forms and a tactile touch foster relaxation and rest.

Optical illusions: transparency and mirror-shine play with perception.

Colour shifts: elevate ombré surfaces with energetic colour shifts.

Playful cartoonification: whimsical shapes and icons evoke a playful tone.

Hyper-nature: hyper-brights and dramatic darks update tropical stories.

Digital intricacies: AI-related techniques inform futuristic product design.

Graphic grains: enliven surfaces with natural marble swirls and woodgrains.

Folk symbolism: symbolism infuses furniture and lighting with a spiritual dimension.

Key product opportunities



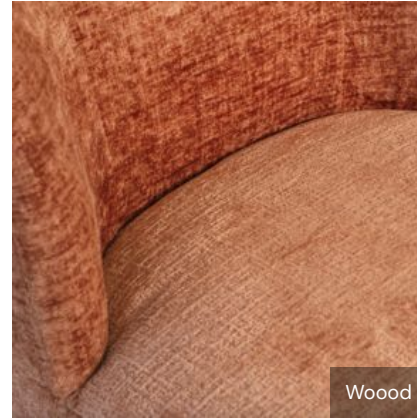
Flexible layers

Design multipurpose pieces with maximum flexibility. Buy into adaptable shelf systems, modular seating and tables and stools with storage functions. Offer portable lighting and furniture.



Premium look

Use materials that speak of subtle luxury. Invest in high quality wood, stone and brushed metals, and create sophisticated pairings for products with an elegant appearance.



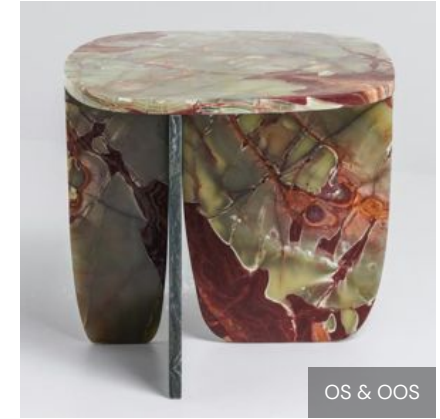
Enticing textures

Upholster seating with highly tactile and soft textiles for an ultra-comfortable feel. Work with plush materials like chenille, bouclé, tweed, faux fur and corduroy.



Transparency update

Update essentials made from clear materials and develop products with a transparent and futuristic aesthetic. Combine plexiglass, glass and responsibly produced acrylic featuring streamlined shapes.



Expressive surfaces

Centre-stage products with expressive surface patterns. Promote natural materials with strong textural personality, like stone and wood. Tap into exuberant folk or fantastical tropical prints for statement pieces.

Alternative materials

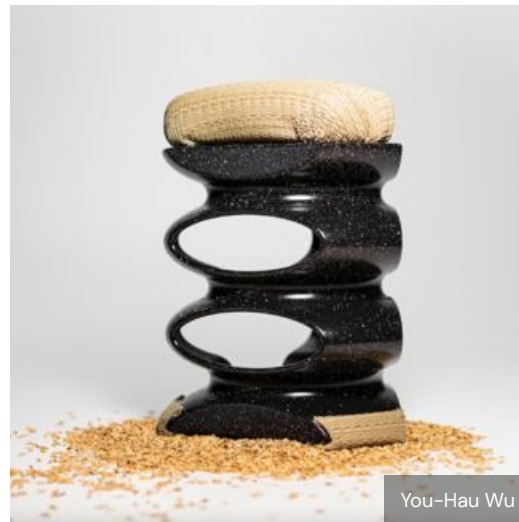
STEPIC forecast: Common Connections and Restorative Realms

The concept: design with commercial naturals and investigate opportunities to produce with natural waste at an industrial scale. Innovations around the production of bio-composites are growing, and preserving resources becomes a key driver.

Francisco Jaramillo's (Colombia) furniture collection is made from yaré, an endemic and renewable plant fibre, to promote local crafts and raise awareness of the overexploited Amazon Rainforest.

Materials: research alternative fabrication innovations and look into using production leftovers, executing a zero-waste approach.

Sustainability: implement circularity and develop take-back schemes for your products that use critical materials. Clearly communicate your efforts for eco-friendly materials and circular processes online and in-store.





Elena Sidorova



Nortstudio



Sklum



Atelier Toit



Havic



Swedish Ninja

FUN-ctional basics

STEPIC forecast: Common Connections

The concept: a sense of fun remains key to elevate everyday products. Cater to The Reductionists and The Time Keepers consumer profiles for 2025, and develop products with conscious convenience in mind. Build on the success of dynamic systems and propose multipurpose pieces.

Colour and shape: infuse urgent optimism into your collections and work with bold and expressive colours. For a more restrained aesthetic, balance exuberant shades by keeping forms clean and streamlined.

Key items: invest in portable pieces that can be used inside and outside, such as coffee tables, dining chairs and LED lights. For flexible commercial and residential interiors, stock modular solutions, such as sofas or shelving systems. Design transformative furniture which serves several purposes, like chairs unfolding into a bed. Create expandable and pick-and-mix product ranges which allow consumers to add components over time.

Boho coastal

STEPIC forecast: Common Connections

The concept: following up on last year's nostalgic theme, create a commercial nautical story with a refined boho look and an underlying retro aesthetic. Use S/S 25's colour palette for a strong all-year-round approach.

Key design elements: wooden details and crafted interventions like raffia and artisanal weaving are relevant to this coastal story, yet worked in a cleaner style. Invest in braided and knotted constructions for tactile seating or wooden 3D surfaces.

Key pattern and motifs: for commercially successful products, buy into classical stripes and blocking for upholstery and lamp shades. Continue to use scallops and arches and seashell icons for shapes, outlines and borders – for example, for lighting and decorative shelving.

Sustainability: felt layers also have a block stripe effect, as seen with the Georgis & Mirgorodsky chair for Stackabl (Canada, USA). The company provides a configurator, which lets designers turn quality offcuts from regional manufacturers into custom-made furniture.





Goodmoods



Vault



@studiotwentysseven



Kam Ce Kam



Coco Republic



Maison Sarah Lavoine



Roan Barrion

Low-key luxury

STEPIC forecast: Common Connections

The concept: build on 2024's crafted simplicity direction and implement a considered approach for product design, creating ranges with an understated yet premium look and feel.

Materials and aesthetic interpretations: buy into products that showcase sophisticated material pairings. Tap into boho aesthetics with eye-catching details. For example, work with weaving and interlace from braided wicker, bamboo, cane or rattan and combine them with blond or darker wood. For a glamorous approach, include accents from polished or brushed warm metals. Invest in travertine or marble components for a monolithic meta-classical elegance.

Sustainability: as this story highlights natural materials, investigate sustainable sources and production techniques. Use sustainable cork, certified wood or wood and stone offcuts for product details. Scraps from larger leather productions are also suitable for wrappings around chair handles or a lamp base.

Restorative tactility

STEPIC forecast: Restorative Realms and Digitopia

The concept: engage The Reductionists consumer profile for 2025, and focus on a sense of comfort and restorative softness. Sleep and relaxation remain key drivers, alongside a wellness and care dimension. With cosy living being top-of-mind for consumers, explore various ways of interpreting haptic surfaces for soft and hard goods.

Shape and surface: as rounded forms can have a healing effect, continue to invest in curved shapes. For a symmetrical look, design sculptural arches. Create items with a soft tactility either via all-over plush coverings or via enticing structured textures for hard surfaces.

Develop A/W 24/25's softly rough story and refresh surfaces, from textural softness to porous, crumpled, wavy, rippled and ribbed aesthetics. Foster primal roughness, representing the rawer side of nature.

Sustainability: be mindful of using faux fur or plush recycled synthetics due to issues related to microfibre shedding. Research alternative materials and implement microfibre shedding tests. Investigate upcycling of industry waste, as it can evoke a rough surface structure.





McMullin & Co



Jerome Byron



Luca Casini X Fiam Italia



Shiro Kuramata



John Lewis



Tonelli Design



Kare Design

Optical illusions

STEPIC forecast: Digitopia

The concept: develop the A/W 24/25 barely there direction further for S/S 25. Mirror-effect and transparent materials paired with streamlined contours reference an early Y2K aesthetic and convey a minimalist, futuristic approach. Designs that play with perception bring a ghostly look to interiors. Tap into the concept of presence and absence when creating products for this story.

Interior design: work with the idea of layered realities in mind. Update last year's new metals story and focus on high-shine next to transparent surfaces. Create set-ups that reflect rooms like a house of mirrors, and decorate with designs that seem to float in the air.

Product design: propose items that are hardly visible – for example, via the use of glass, plexiglass or acrylic. Combine mirrored surfaces with faceted shapes for a distorted appearance. Create products that seem to be inflated by air, like the stools by Zieta (Poland).

Colour shifts

STEPIC forecast: Digitopia

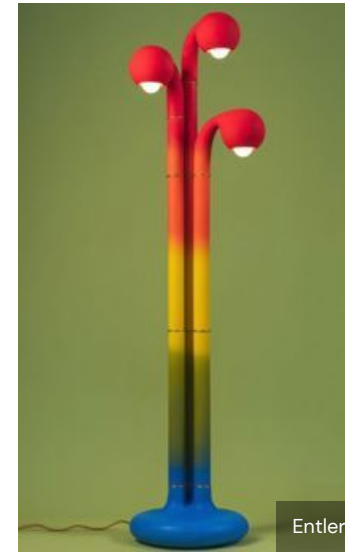
The concept: continue to buy into products showcasing colour shifts with a rainbow radiance. Bring a digital-real atmosphere to interiors, evolving the currently prominent aesthetics around #digitalcosy looks.

Print and pattern: for commercial items, design with gradients of tonal hues, imitating an ombré effect on surfaces. Cater to the consumer profile of The New Nihilists for 2025 and propose statement items by continuing digital transparency for furniture and lighting. Backlit bold swirls work well for lighting tubes.

Colour and finish: intensify the cyber-inspired appearance of products and combine digital shades with translucent surfaces. For example, bring iridescent or nacré shimmer effects to plexiglass, glass and acrylic items. Include marble colour shifts, as seen with Budri (Italy).



Clementine Chambon



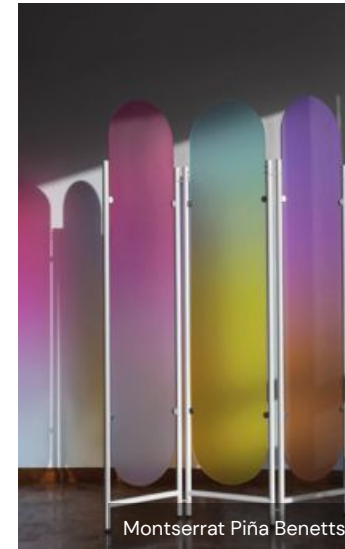
Entler



Akai Zi



Studio Riposo



Montserrat Piña Benetts



@sixnfive



Budri



LampsWell



Cotnens on Etsy



Simig



Merve Kahraman



Mr Maria



Oh Paddi

Playful cartoonification

STEPIC forecast: Digitopia

The concept: develop the playful approach of 2024's waves and wiggles direction and introduce a kidult cheerfulness to furniture and lighting. Bring humour into consumers' daily life with cartoon-inspired pieces.

Colour and shape: work an exuberant, fun and bold approach for this story. Launch joyful statement pieces with plump profiles, thick contours, stylised designs and a playful use of colour, mixing bolder brights with sweet pastels.

Key motifs: cater to The Pioneers consumer profile for 2025 and explore a childlike aesthetic. Test typical cartoon- or emoji-style icons, such as clouds, smiles and hearts. Feature a playful retro aesthetic, displaying 1970s daisy shapes and patterns. This direction is highly suitable for licensing collaborations.

Hyper-nature

STEPIC forecast: Restorative Realms

The concept: update perennial tropical collections with a darker interpretation by blending digital and real realms. Develop ranges that speak of deep and lush jungle flora or underwater settings, inspired by the mystery of bioluminescence.

Shape and surface: continue from A/W 24/25 nouveau nature direction and add an exuberant expression to your collections. Sculpt products that are inspired by real and fantastical lush flowers and greenery. Decorate surfaces with patterns and reliefs featuring rainforest blossoms and leaves, resembling midnight tropics.

Colour and material: achieve a bold, expressive contrast with a cyber quality, pairing hyper-brights and dramatic darks with glow-in-the-dark accents. Add metallic highlights and shimmering surfaces into the mix for a supernatural gleam.



Can Şahin



Jay Strongwater Home & Living



GlowUp



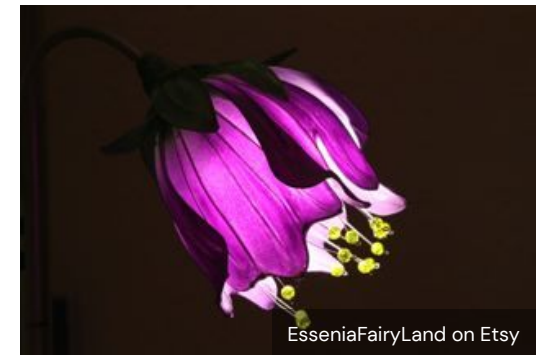
Teemu Salonen



Masanori Umeda



Mathijs Labadie/Marcin Rusak



EsseniaFairyLand on Etsy



Studio Oberhauser



KubuStore on Etsy



Mark Hanauer /David Wiseman



Creation Furniture



LightGalleryReka on Etsy



COZO



Nordwerk

Digital intricacies

STEPIC forecast: Digitopia and Restorative Realms

The concept: develop 2024's functional mesh direction and explore working with AI to strategically imagine future product solutions with netting structures. Perforated, laser-cut and interlaced pieces present an intriguing intricacy that could be real or virtual, human- or digitally designed. Elaborate lattice constructions convey an ornate yet hi-tech aesthetic.

Surface work: for illumination, play with the concept of light and shadow. Develop pieces that use negative space to let the light peek through from behind, creating delicate patterns on walls, floors and ceilings.

In both furniture and lighting, work with laser-cut or punch-through embossments for metal or wood. Join forces with tech and create mathematical patterns via digital 3D printing.

Shape: bring an opulent yet futuristic look to this direction and propose prismatic forms, complementing rounder designs with angular shapes.

Graphic grains

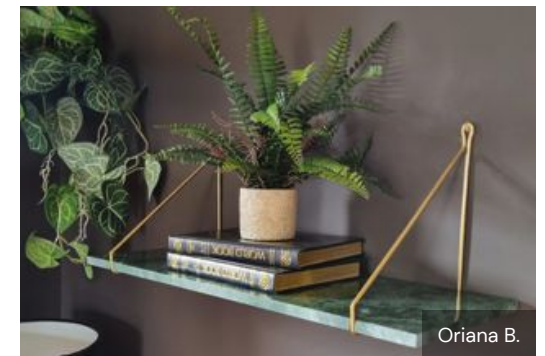
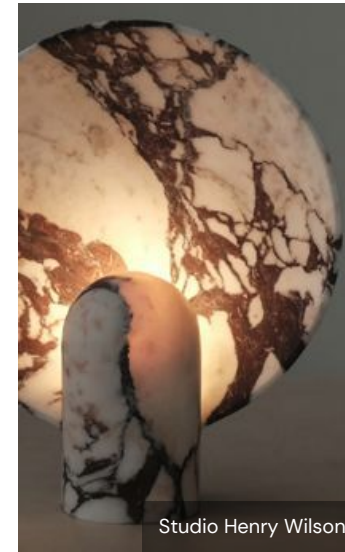
STEPIC forecast: Restorative Realms

The concept: continue the Terra-scapes direction and invest in ultra marble designs for furniture and lighting. Diversify last year's story infusing expressive colours as well as a wide range of materials, from different veined stones to natural and stained wood, bringing the grain to the fore.

Product design: mixing diverse stone varieties and tints in one piece is key to this direction. Additionally, use woods with unusual graphic grains for designs. These include coloured and lightly stained timbers, or natural varieties such as olive, cerused or spalted wood.

Focus on the materials and combine these with clean shapes for a considered, luxe-feeling look. For trend-led pieces, look beyond marble and wood, and investigate minerals and other materials that achieve an exaggerated mysterious marbling effect.

Sustainability: work with leftover material scraps from larger productions for smaller products and details. Investigate sources for reclaimed and locally sourced stone and wood.





Alexandra Kohl



Madam Stoltz



Anthropologie



Campbell Rey on Invisible Collection



Cox London



Wildwood on Ivy Home



Inge Prins/Bofred

Folk symbolism

STEPIC forecast: Restorative Realms

The concept: continue to buy into ranges featuring modern talismans. Invest in pieces inspired by ancestral beliefs and the traditional, historical, rural and spiritual symbols associated with them.

Shape and decorative details: include products that celebrate craftsmanship, and embellish pieces with sculpted forms and folk-inspired textiles. Add tassels and fringes to designs, underlining the artisanal look. Another interpretation of this story allows for **stacked totemic volumes**, bringing geometric shapes to interiors.

Key motifs: use symbols and icons with a mystical, astrological or cosmic connotation such as snakes, eyes, the sun, the moon, stars or planets. Always research the symbol's background and usage thoroughly, respecting cultural traditions and beliefs.

Action points

1

Make sustainability scalable

Research new techniques for production with zero-waste materials, and manufacture furniture and lighting collections with production leftovers from larger fabrications. Investigate innovations for alternative materials, and design with untreated naturals like wood, cork, bamboo or cane. Offer circular processes that allow for products or components to live through several lifecycles, saving the used resources

2

Explore digital and artisanal crafting techniques

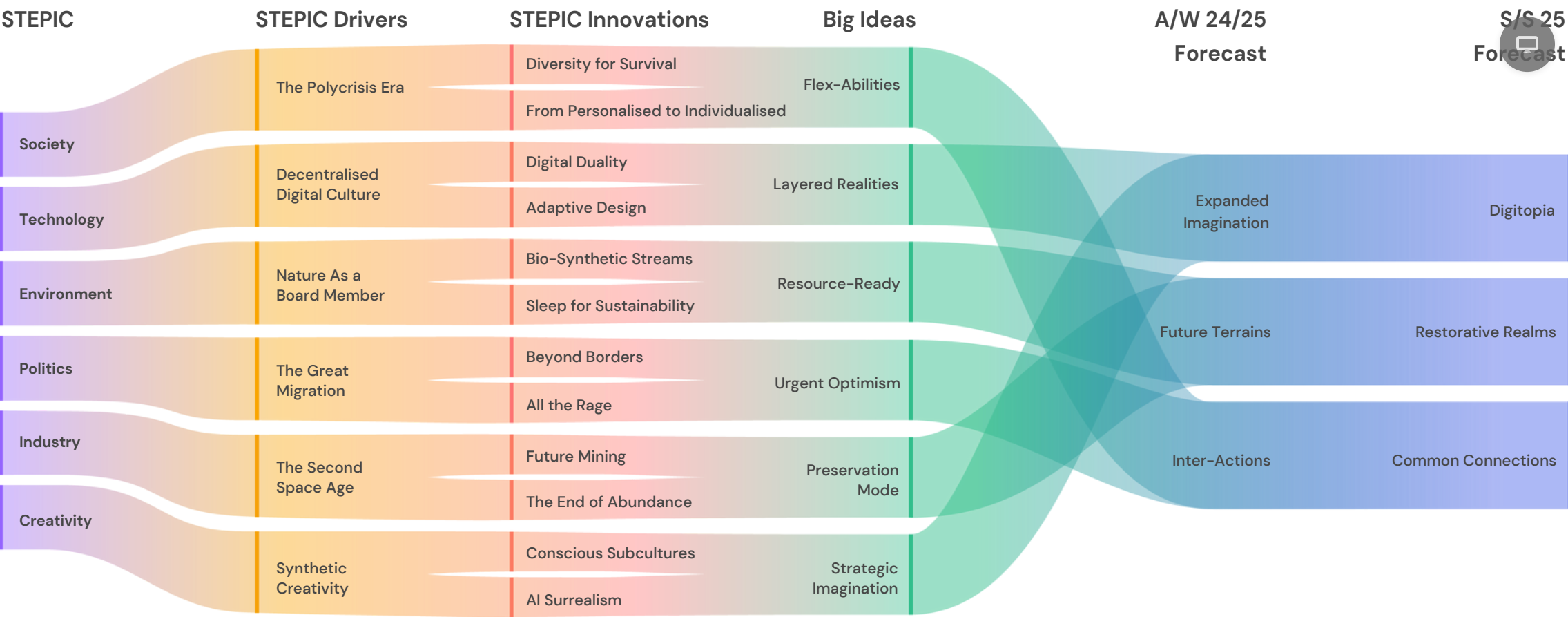
Give furniture and lighting a futuristic look, discovering innovative production methods supported by AI. Imitate refined handcrafting techniques, as these can also convey a surreal appearance. Propose products with mathematical repetition in mind and investigate fabrication with digital 3D printing for a scalable approach. Perfect traditional lattice-weaving for an intricate, faceted look

3

Design joyous and expressive ranges

Invest in strong colour palettes and interpret them for different styles and consumer tastes. Refresh tropical themes with hyper-brights and glow-in-the dark accents, and work with ombré shifts for pieces with a surreal appearance. Elevate everyday items with a FUN-ctional look, combining bold colours with a multipurpose approach. Work with cartoon- or emoji-inspired shapes and icons for product design

WGSN trend matrix 2025



WGSN 2025 forecast schedule

Your guide to when WGSN's 2025 forecast reports will be published.

