

Perspective by Paul Smith

April 2022

Introducing Perspective, the twenty-third woven textile designed by Paul Smith in collaboration with the Maharam Design Studio.

Perspective was developed in response to a series of paintings by Pezo von Ellrichshausen—the Chilean and Argentine architectural duo of Mauricio Pezo and Sofia von Ellrichshausen. Paul Smith first encountered their work at London’s Royal Academy in 2014. Following a 2019 visit to Chile and a stay in Poli House, a concrete cottage designed by the pair, Smith has drawn great inspiration from their practice in his pattern design for apparel. The Maharam Design Studio was similarly compelled by the duo’s unique use of color and geometric order in their oil paintings of interiors. As vivid perspectival studies following light through a variety of doorways, windows, corners, and architectural portals, the paintings offer an uncommon sense of depth and space.

This elemental architectural language spoke to Smith and Maharam who worked closely to develop a pattern that would extend its vocabulary to upholstery. The inquiry also presented the opportunity to reimagine classic geometric motifs—a focus of the studios’ joint creative work for nearly two decades. Smith and Maharam landed on an intricate and immersive pattern of continuous, perpendicular, intersecting, and diagonal lines to create a disorienting vantage that is further articulated by color blending and varied woven textures ranging from solid to pin-striped.

Woven by a specialized resource in the United States, Perspective makes use of a dense, highly picked construction that affords many colors within a single design. The palette centers Smith’s recognizable yet highly distinct color pairings with iterative blends to deepen a sense of light and shadow.

Perspective by Paul Smith

About Paul Smith

Paul Smith's ability to combine a flair for eccentric detail with a dedication to the highest standards of craftsmanship has made him among the most successful fashion designers in British history. In business for fifty years, Smith continues to be an integral part of every aspect of his company as both chairman and designer, producing collections sold in over seventy countries worldwide. With an enthusiasm for wide-ranging cultural references and idiosyncratic combinations of pattern and color, applied with understatement, Paul Smith expresses a truly contemporary aesthetic.

About Maharam

Founded in 1902 in New York, Maharam is a leading creator of textiles for commercial and residential interiors. Recognized for its rigorous and holistic commitment to design, Maharam embraces a range of disciplines from product, graphic, and digital design to art and architecture. Maharam textiles are included in the permanent collections of the Art Institute of Chicago, the Museum of Modern Art, and the Stedelijk Museum, among others. Maharam is the recipient of the Cooper Hewitt, Smithsonian Design Museum Design Patron Award for its longstanding support of art and design.

For more information, contact press@maharam.com.

Perspective by Paul Smith

Introduction: April 2022

Content: 43% Cotton, 33% Rayon, 12% Solution-Dyed

Nylon, 12% Post-Consumer Recycled Polyester

Colors: 5



Maharam_Perspective_Paul-Smith_004.jpg



Maharam_Perspective_Paul-Smith_
Dynamic-Stack.jpg