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We build a lot of residential apartments where we typically specify stone floors in common reception and lobby areas, as well as within the apartment entrance halls and bathrooms. We specify timber floors to living/dining rooms and broadloom carpet in bedrooms. We often use borders and metal trim inlays to accent timber and stone floors.

Porcelain tiles are versatile, robust, easy to maintain and can offer excellent value. The super-large format (up to 3m x 1.2m) tile with a cementitious industrial feel from Domus's Industrial range can rival a concrete floor. Patricia Urquiola's range of Victorian encaustic-inspired tiles, Azulej, uses inkjet technology to provide beautiful and durable patterns.

However, regardless of materials, a floor that has been carefully conceived and executed with great craftsmanship will always get my vote. One of my favourite projects was the feature staircase (shown) at 8 Stratton Street, Mayfair, London, a listed building. We

found a quatrefoil motif repeated in the external decorations of the late 19th-century facade as well as in the internal stone flooring, timber newel posts and window ironmongery. We loved the subtlety of this motif and wanted to use the same device to connect the listed building to the new extension. We developed the motif into a pattern that we repeated in various large areas, and also in the listed building staircase carpet runner.

We added our own decorative motifs to the staircase carpet using 21st-century printing techniques. Our adapted quatrefoil pattern was laid out in a line at the front of each step to provide decoration as well as the contrasting nosing required by building regulations. We provided the bespoke carpets with our highlighting pattern which we passed on to our soft flooring subcontractor, who added the leather trims to either side of the carpet run. For a traditional finishing touch, we used classic brass stair rods. squireandpartners.com

