



ABOVE: Embossed-leather walls embellish the dining room. *Augustus* console table, to the trade; alidada.com. RIGHT: Decorative samples and small accessories help illustrate the lesson.



Alidad in his London drawing room.

OBJECT LESSONS

Intimate workshops led by Alidad amid the splendor of his London home are a sensory education.

The day begins in the drawing room, where shutters dapple sunlight on walls the color of Guernsey cream. Opera plays above the gentle sound of foot traffic wafting through windows open to the breeze. Students take seats on low slipper chairs or a deep English sofa. The classroom is the inimitable London townhouse of Alidad, the setting for an ongoing series of workshops the Iran-born decorator offers to civilian design aficionados, and the fitting first lesson is that every room should be a feast for the senses.

The small workshops were born of conversations Alidad kept having with people about decorating conundrums: optimizing space, devising color schemes, decoding scale. The agenda is loose, tailored to the interests of the group. Alidad will discuss furniture plans—he's obsessive about them, down to the placement of outlets—as well as how to handle tricky architecture or make rooms feel inviting (a space with a paucity of natural light should be a cocoon).

As the day progresses, the seminar moves through the leather-clad dining room (where lunch is served), finally ending in his library, with painted walls and bowls of apricots and nuts. It's like being pampered by a friend who delights in sharing wisdom—the most sublime education imaginable. athomewithalidada.com.

