

hbtowels

Left to right: Peri bath sheet in bahama dusk, \$34, Peter's of Kensington. Royal Splendour bath sheet in soft lilac, \$42.95, Canningvale. Bath sheet in peony, \$44.90, Designers Guild. Pink Squares beach towel, \$49.95, Derek Scott. Maclean bath sheet in hot pink, \$34.95, Freedom. Daisies beach towel in hot pink, \$49.95, Derek Scott.

high and dry

Don't be a drip when shopping for towels. Soak up our top tips and you'll be laughing all the way to the bath and beach

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do

...go for towels with the highest cotton content. Just check the label.

...look for towels with an Australian Standards Association (ASA) rating for instant absorbency.

...compare colours in good light before you buy: dye lots may vary from one batch to the next.

...go for lighter colours if you're buying cheaper towels – they won't fade as fast as darker shades, so will look better for longer.

...invest in a heated towel rail if your bathroom doesn't get much ventilation, otherwise your towels will stay permanently damp.

don't

...be fooled by a touch test. Towels often come coated with a chemical finish that makes them soft to the touch, but it rinses away after one or two washes.

...go near towels with thick, coarse threads. If a towel doesn't drape gracefully, it isn't top quality.

...forget that while super-dense looped towels are the height of luxury, they can take longer to dry.

...buy towels unless they have tightly woven bindings on all four sides. These are best as they won't fray. Plus, for maximum wear, all hems should be double stitched on corners.



Beach towel, \$59.95,
Derek Scott.

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