



Crazy For

Colour



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Well known as an expert in the world of colour and design, Jane Lockhart takes a look at some playful, on-trend colours and explains how to use them to bring out their best.

Get Fresh with Yellow

This decorating season we continue to see the presence of yellow in a variety of home decor items, including drapery and paint. Yellow is a fresh and optimistic hue, adding a bright and cheery touch to any space. It's no longer considered a "country" colour that was once only combined with pale blue. Now yellow is often combined with rich hues such as black, graphite, charcoal, white and silver, adding a spark to a dark or heavy palette.

Yellow is very sophisticated when paired with dark colours or used in modern and graphic patterns. For spaces like basements or north-facing rooms where natural light is at a premium, yellow is an excellent wall colour choice as it reflects any ambient light, giving the impression of a brighter room. Choose yellows that are more golden or wheat-toned like Benjamin Moore's Golden Retriever or Farrow and Ball's Dorset Cream for a comforting colour that will wrap your space in the feeling of sunlight.



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Benjamin Moore's Radicchio CC-32 (walls), Chocolate Sundae 2113-10 (leeling)

The Renaissance of Pink

Many will remember the overwhelming popularity of pink in the 1980s when there were bright pinks like fuchsia and pastels like dusty rose. Since those days of pink overload, pink has had a difficult time moving forward as a colour for room decor, unless it's chosen by a young girl under the age of 10. But that has definitely changed. Once again, strong, rich pinks emerge making a significant impact on today's interiors.

Pink is now much darker and deeper, verging on the colour of radicchio lettuce that oscillates between a purple to a pinky-red. No longer is pink just used as a light accent, it is now a major colour in home decor. With its increased level of intensity it needs to be paired with new complements that support its strong fresh direction, including taupe, dark chocolate brown, natural linen and white.

As a new deep hue, this version of pink has a lot of versatility. It can be an excellent wall colour for traditional decor

with beige neutrals and walnut wood furniture pieces set against it. But it's also a wonderful fresh colour for modern room schemes that use white, charcoal, espresso brown and silver. Pinks add punch to a space and inject comfort and warmth in a way no other colour can.

By the way, pink is one the best colours for enhancing skin tones – you will look younger and more relaxed in a pink-painted room.

Grey Becomes Cool....with Blue!

Let's face it, grey has always been a pretty cool colour. That is, a hip colour that reminds us of sophisticated men's wear like grey flannel pants or a perfectly tailored Armani suit. But it's only in the last year or so that grey has not only been combined with the stable and predictable chocolate brown, but charcoal has been mixed with stronger blues.

This fresh combination is so reminis-

cent of cool breezy days sitting on the shores of Lake Superior surrounded by the Canadian Shield that this has to be one of the most Canadian colour schemes there is!

Now don't fret, this is not a new combination that completely moves away from our beloved earth tones, but rather freshens up dark browns, taupes and creams so they seem renewed and brighter than before. Navy blue, cobalt blue and dark turquoise are three versions of blue that will continue to be added to our decor, as these are mixed with browns, creams and greys. So natural and clean. ■

Designer, spokesperson, author, and host of W Network's Colour Confidential, Jane Lockhart creates interiors with a breathtaking sense of colour. Jane is principal of Jane Lockhart Interior Design, and brings more than 18 years of experience to her projects. To learn more, visit janelockhart.com



Benjamin Moore's Pilgrim Haze 2132-50 (walls), Mistral CC-842 (armoire)