



STUBBINS PAINTING

8 Brilliant Ways to Pick Paint Colors

Your Guide to the Perfect Palette

We love to paint rooms with beautiful colors, but are always mindful of the whole house palette and the hard finishes in a home. It is always best to create a plan or color palette before you start painting. This guide will help you build a plan for a perfect color palette.

For a modern look, keep common areas light and neutral, then use pops of color for connecting rooms such as dens, offices and bedrooms.



Photo by M. Marceny, The Color Concierge



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Use your kitchen hard finishes (counters, backsplash, floors) to pick foundation neutrals.

The kitchen is the heart of the house, and the first place we start when we choose a whole house palette. You can use your countertop, for example to pick the wall color. Wall colors should be eggshell, with a slight shine and easy clean-up.

If your counter top is an earthy granite, pick off-white or creamy trim colors. If you have a crisp counter such as Carrara Marble, a clean white is perfect for trim. Trims should be painted in the shiniest sheen in the room, either semi-gloss or satin.

Ceilings should be painted same color as the trim in a flat sheen. For white cabinets, use the same color and sheen as the trim.

Our kitchen has Carrara Marble counters, with cool gray veins and a white background. We chose Benjamin Moore Stonington Gray (HC-170) for our walls, and Benjamin Moore Chantilly Lace (OC-65) for trim, door and cabinet colors.



Photo by M. Camilli, The Color Concierge



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Pick a color from your favorite piece of art in the room.

This beautiful master bedroom in Boulder County hadn't been painted since the eighties. The original walls were painted a peachy light neutral.

We matched a gorgeous deep blue-green color from a family heirloom painting over a fireplace. The painting was on the opposite side of the bed in the master bedroom, and ties in perfectly with the feature wall. Benjamin Moore Gentleman's Gray (2063-20) was a perfect color for the picture.



Photos by M. Camilli, The Color Concierge

Gentleman's Gray was too dark and heavy for all four walls, so we opted for a feature wall behind the bed. Walls and trim were Sherwin Williams Extra White (SW 7006).

The wall behind the bed is a perfect place for an accent or feature wall. Notice how the wood glows next to the rich green wall. The wood has red undertones, which are a complementary color to green, opposites on the color wheel.



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Choose a complementary wall color compared to a floor or counter.

This laundry room has a gorgeous red terra cotta floor. The walls were painted a dated peach color and the worn cabinets needed a fresh coat of paint.

The laundry room was transformed when we painted the walls Sherwin Williams Sea Salt (SW 6204) as a complementary color to the terra cotta tile.

Cabinets, doors and trim were painted Extra White (SW 7006) to match the washer and dryer.



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Let nature and your window views inspire your color choices.

Use your views as inspiration for colors. If you have a beautiful blue sky, consider a light blue room, or paint your room yellow, a complementary color.

For this den, we were inspired by a beautiful crabapple tree that filled these enormous windows with a sea of green.

We painted the walls black as a back drop for the lovely green wall of leaves. If you paint a room with a dark color, make sure that you have lots of natural and artificial light, and paint your ceilings and millwork bright white where possible.

This vivid wall of green leaves jumps out with (2133-10) black color.



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Match a color in your tile.

A colorful tile can give us great inspiration! In this mudroom, we matched the green in the tile to Benjamin Moore Raindance (1572). This simple room looks intentional and lovely.

The outside door is painted Sherwin Williams Indigo Batik (SW 7602), a nice match for the green color. Blue and green are adjacent colors on the color wheel.



Photo by M. Marceny, The Color Concierge



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