



HOW TO USE COLOUR
WITH CONFIDENCE
IN YOUR HOME

STYLE CURATOR

INTRODUCTION

Most of us know what we do and don't like in our homes. Yet being able to take these ideas and create beautiful and cohesive spaces can be a challenge for many – and developing a colour scheme that works can often be the trickiest part. But it doesn't have to be.

In this mini e-book we share four key techniques to using colour in your home with confidence. Our friends at Haymes also share their expert tips and offer additional advice to help you create a home you'll be proud of. All the beautiful imagery and colours shown in the swatches throughout this e-book are courtesy of Haymes.

At STYLE CURATOR, we aim to help everyone create a stylish home. Whether you're tackling a renovation now or considering freshening up a space in future, keep this e-book handy to help you make the right colour decisions.

Team SC xx



I understand just how tricky getting colour right can be – after all, I did once paint a room baby poo colour. It was so bad it called for an immediate redo!

I want to help you avoid making colour mistakes and give you the confidence to step outside your comfort zone when using colour in your home.

Colour can affect our moods and emotions so I believe it's so important to create a colour scheme that works in your home.

Over time, I've come a long way from my baby poo incident and learnt that once you get the basics of colour theory, it's not that hard and actually quite fun to work with colour.

I hope you enjoy this e-book and gain knowledge that empowers you to create a confident and stylish home.

Gina, founder of STYLE CURATOR

*STYLE WITH OBJECTS INSPIRED BY NATURE;
LIKE CORAL, RAW TIMBER AND WOVEN TEXTURES.*
Gina Ciancio, STYLE CURATOR



Photo courtesy of Haymes

NATURAL COLOURS

One of the most simple and popular colour schemes for interiors is to use a 'natural' colour palette. A timeless look that's become more popular lately with the Scandinavian trend, this neutral colour palette has a base of white, grey, beige and brown hues.

For more interest, you can also add an accent colour inspired by nature – think shades of forest green, sage, dusty pink or ebony.

Here are four natural colour palettes to inspire your next project:

1: Barely There / Dream / Beige Mist / Warm Blush



2: Reason / Putty Grey / Resonate / Phantom



3: Smoky Silhouette / Refuge 3 / Refuge 1 / Phantom



4: Organic 1 / Refuge 2 / Taupe Shadow / Rockslide



MONOCHROMATIC COLOURS

You often hear monochrome used to describe a black and white colour scheme – yet a monochromatic palette simply uses various tints, tones and shades of a single hue. That means you could have a blue, green or even pink monochromatic colour scheme.

It might be helpful for us to clarify what hues, tints, tones and shades are:

- hues – the family of 12 purest and brightest colours found on the colour wheel. Made up of three primary colours (red, yellow and blue), three secondary colours (orange, green and violet) and six tertiary colours (red-orange, yellow-orange, yellow-green, blue-green, blue-violet and red-violet)
- tints – lightened versions of these hues by adding white
- tones – darkened versions by adding grey, and
- shades – darkened versions by adding black.



A MONOCHROMATIC SCHEME HELPS TO ACCENTUATE ARCHITECTURAL FEATURES OF A HOME. FOR EXAMPLE, PAINTING A TRIM IN A DARK TONE AND WALLS IN THE SAME COLOUR BUT A LIGHTER TONE OR VICE VERSA, WILL ADD DIMENSION.

Wendy Rennie, Haymes Colour and Concept Manager



Here are four monochromatic colour palettes we love:

1: Angel Kiss / Streamwood / Tranquil / Cinnamon Sugar



2: Monday / Venetian / Abyss / Black Hills



3: Bleached White / Miranda / Trempealeau / Chapel Grey



4: Huntley Fields / Hunter Green / Poplar Grove / Enigma



MAKE ONE OF THE TWO COLOURS MORE DOMINANT AND THE OTHER AN ACCENT COLOUR – THIS WILL HELP YOUR EYE TRAVEL ACROSS THE ROOM, LOOKING FOR THOSE ACCENT COLOURS. A RATIO SOME STYLISTS USE IS 60-30-10.

Gina Ciancio, STYLE CURATOR



FOR A SUBTLE COMPLEMENTARY COLOUR SCHEME, TRY USING COLOUR IN DÉCOR LIKE THROW RUGS, CUSHIONS OR ARTWORK FIRST AND USE NEUTRALS TO BALANCE THE SPACE.

Erin Hearn, Haymes Colour Stylist

Photo courtesy of Haymes

COMPLEMENTARY COLOURS

Complementary colour schemes are created by combining colours from opposite sides of the colour wheel, such as yellow and violet or blue and orange. These colours always go well together which is how they got the term.

From these opposite colours, you can create a colour palette by using tones, tints and shades (read the previous section for more information about this).

Here are some examples of how to use complementary colours:

1: Aura / Dream Dust / Juneau / Crocus



2: Brick / Autumn Gold / Warm Breeze / Raw Canvas



3: Marble Mist / Evan's Delight / Peppy / Sunbeam



4: Danish Blue / Blue Mosaic / Meandering Stream / Blushing Peach





IF YOU WANT TO SATURATE YOUR HOME IN COLOUR, I RECOMMEND THIS COLOUR SCHEME – IT HAS A SOOTHING EFFECT AND TENDS TO BRING A SENSE OF CLASSICAL BALANCE.

Gina Ciancio, STYLE CURATOR

ANALOGOUS COLOURS

Analogous or adjacent colour schemes are one of the easiest colour schemes to create from scratch. Simply use three colours that are next to each other on the colour wheel to create this colour palette and use pops of white to break up the look.

Here are some examples of how to use analogous colours:

1: Lights Off / Blue Aster / Kingston's Rule / Mountain Grass



2: Horizon Glow / Carmine Rose / Autumn Flame / Indian Summer



3: Amber Brown / Great Canyon / Marengo / Sugar Cookie



4: Midnight Blue / Viking / Golden Olive / Cheddar



Photo courtesy of Haymes

We hope this quick guide to colour theory and our four fail-proof ways of using colour in your home has given you more confidence with colour.

When you remove the guesswork and stick to these principles of using natural, like or contrasting colours, you'll find using colour is essentially easy.

There are many other techniques to using colour, such as split complementary, but these are less common and a little more tricky to master. As your confidence grows, you could experiment with these more technical combinations.

Will you revamp any of the spaces in your home using one of these techniques? Tell us about it on the blog at stylecurator.com.au or find us on social media [@stylecuratorau](https://www.instagram.com/stylecuratorau)!

STYLE CURATOR is all about the pursuit of a stylish home – let's get there together!

If you would like to share this e-book with others, please make sure to use the link below:

stylecurator.com.au/free-colour-book