AkzoNobel

INCLUSIVE DESIGN FOR COMMERCIAL SPACES.

COLOUR AND PAINT FOR OFFICES, EDUCATION, HEALTHCARE, HOSPITALITY AND RESIDENTIAL SECTORS.









NEXT PAGE

UNLOCKING THE POTENTIAL OF COLOUR.

Colour has the power to transform spaces, enhance experiences, and support well-being. With the right approach, it creates cohesion, improves functionality, and enriches how people interact with their environments. Thoughtfully designed colour schemes bring out the best in any setting, whether in offices, education, healthcare, hospitality, or residential spaces.

As specialists in colour design, we take a human-centric approach to creating environments where people can feel more at ease, be more productive, and experience greater well-being. We understand the many factors that influence perception—light, surrounding elements, environmental conditions, and individual differences, including neurological diversity. That's why we've developed carefully curated, ready-to-use palettes that cater to diverse needs. This brochure includes dedicated sections on Neurodiversity and Dementia, ensuring support for a broad range of cognitive and sensory experiences. With our expert guidance, you can create impactful, well-balanced spaces that truly work for everyone.



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Understanding the user
Key design considerations



NEURODIVERSITY

Neurodiversity
Design tips for neurodiversity



DESIGNING FOR OFFICES

Communal Spaces
Work Spaces
Individual Work Spaces
Support Areas



DESIGNING FOR EDUCATION

Corridors
Auditorium
Classrooms
Art Class
Sports Facilities
Staff Rooms

DESIGNING FOR HEALTHCARE

Reception & Corridors
Waiting Areas
Restaurants & Cafe's
Patient Rooms
Intensive Care
Paediatry
Consultation Rooms
Treatment Rooms
Operating Room
Staff Rooms



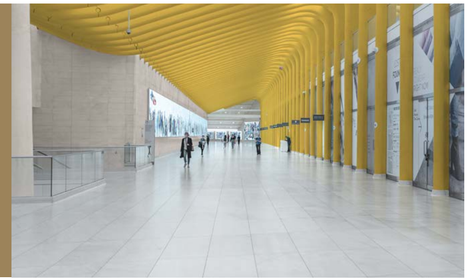
DESIGNING FOR DEMENTIA & ELDERLY CARE

Corridors
Bedrooms
Communal Spaces



DESIGNING FOR HOSPITALITY

Entrances & Lobbies
Spas and Quiet Areas
Restaurants & Bars
Guest Rooms



DESIGNING FOR RESIDENTIAL

Entrances
Living Spaces
Bathrooms
Bedrooms
Study
Children's Rooms

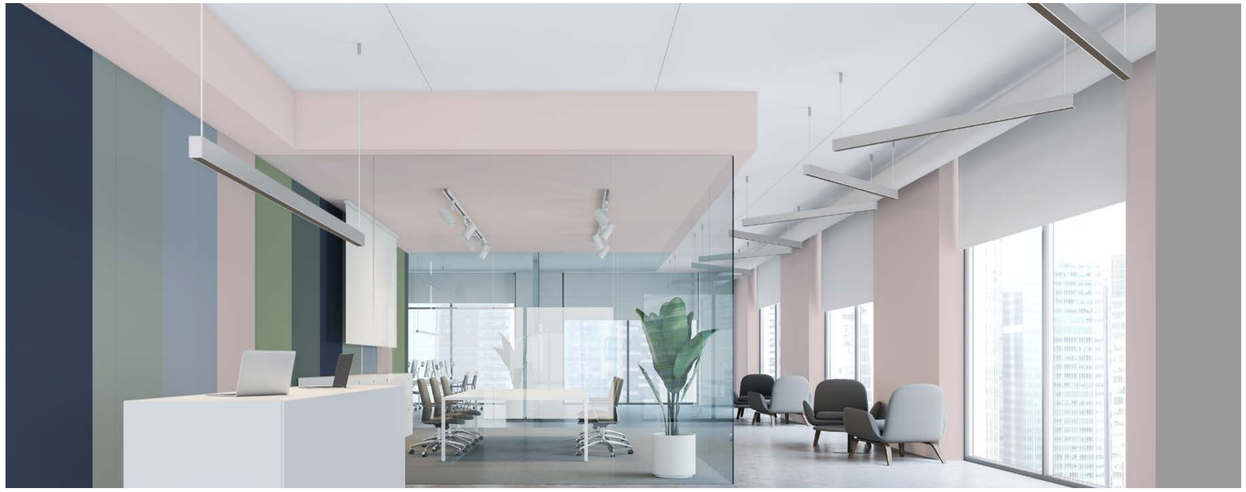


BUILDING A BETTER FUTURE WITH COLOUR

At AkzoNobel, sustainability is at the core of everything we do. Buildings account for 39% of global energy-related carbon emissions, making it essential to design spaces that are both environmentally responsible and people-focused. We develop high-performance coatings that improve energy efficiency, air quality, and long-term durability, helping to reduce waste while supporting well-being.

By integrating colour into sustainable building design, we can create spaces that feel better, function efficiently, and meet green building standards. Our solutions—such as low-VOC paints, heat-reflective coatings, and ultra-durable finishes—help architects and designers make responsible choices without compromising aesthetics or performance.

This brochure provides colour insights and ready-to-use palettes to help you create harmonious, sustainable spaces where people can thrive—feeling more focused, at ease, and connected to their environment. Together, we can take a fresh approach to colour and contribute to a brighter, greener future.





INNOVATING WITH COLOUR AND COATINGS

At AkzoNobel, we embrace open innovation to push the boundaries of colour and coatings and paint the future of the built environment, collaborating with experts, startups, and industry leaders. More than just aesthetics, colour serves as a powerful tool influencing behaviour, well-being, and how people interact with spaces.

Through partnership and creativity, we develop groundbreaking solutions that transcend traditional coatings—enhancing durability, improving indoor environments, and adapting to contemporary design needs. Whether revitalising workplaces, redefining healthcare settings, or transforming learning spaces, we continuously explore new frontiers in material science and colour technology. Our goal is to create smarter, more responsive environments that elevate functionality, human experience, and design possibilities.



THE SPACE TO SPACE APROACH

Every space within a building serves a different purpose, yet all spaces should feel connected as part of a cohesive whole. Effective colour design balances three key factors: the Human Factor (enhancing the overall experience for all users), the Functional Factor (improving navigation and usability), and the Aesthetic Factor (creating a visually appealing, well-reputed environment). While the importance of each factor may vary depending on the space, they must work together to create a harmonised design that enhances both function and experience.

For example, in a hospital, clear wayfinding is crucial in corridors, while waiting areas should promote relaxation. In offices, focused workspaces require different colour considerations than collaborative areas, but the overall palette should maintain consistency. Our colour palettes are designed to meet the unique needs of each space while ensuring smooth transitions, creating an environment that is both visually and functionally connected.



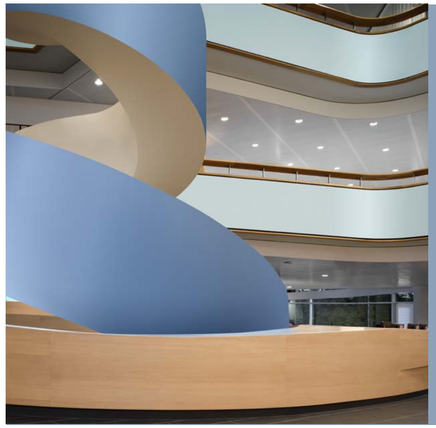
HUMAN FACTOR

Enhancing the overall experience for all users



FUNCTIONAL FACTOR

Improving navigation and usability



AESTHETIC FACTOR

Creating a visually appealing, well-reputed environment

HOW TO USE THE COLOUR PALETTES

Our carefully curated colour palettes are designed to create cohesive, functional, and visually engaging spaces. Whether you're designing for offices, education, healthcare, hospitality, or residential environments, it's essential to consider how colours interact across different surfaces to maintain harmony throughout the building. By following these steps, you can achieve a balanced and well-connected colour scheme while ensuring practicality and aesthetic appeal.

1. CEILINGS

Ceilings influence the sense of space and should be considered alongside walls for a seamless design. Lighter ceiling tones help open up a room, making it feel more spacious and airy.

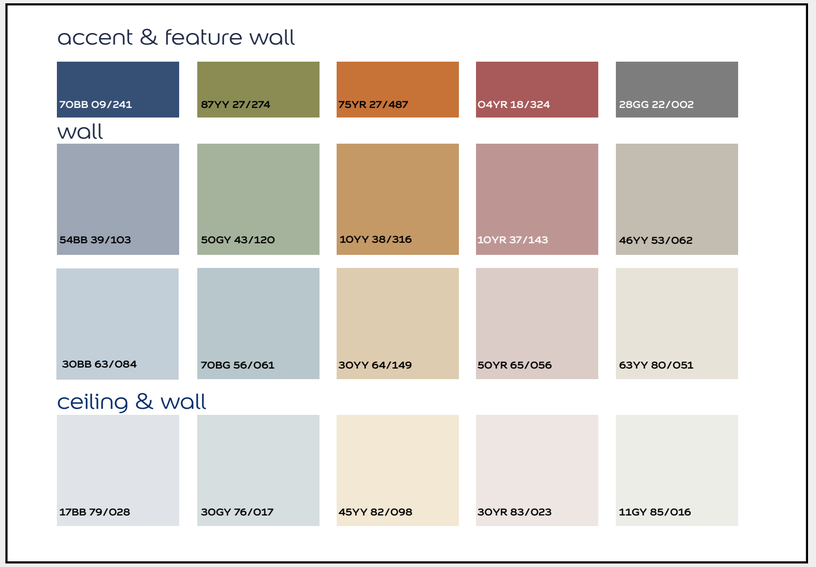
2. WALLS

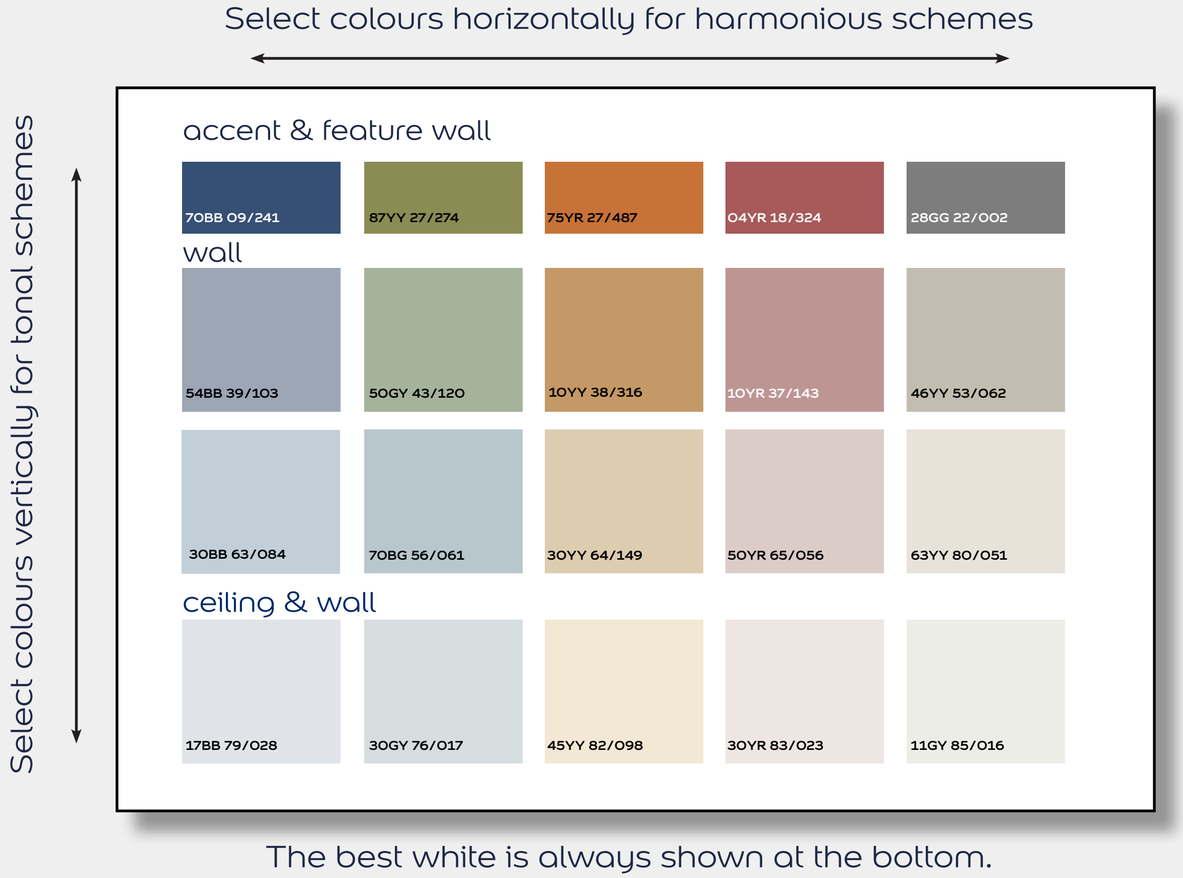
Walls form the foundation of the colour scheme and should create a balanced, harmonious backdrop. Choose one of the colours for the majority of wall surfaces to provide a calming base that supports functionality and flexibility. Ensuring consistency in wall colours across different areas helps establish continuity while allowing for contrast with accent shades.

3. ACCENT COLOURS

Accent colours introduce contrast and depth, helping define spaces and create visual interest. They can be applied to feature walls, or architectural details to highlight specific zones, aid wayfinding, or add character. Stronger contrasts also enhance accessibility by supporting navigation for visually impaired users, ensuring spaces are both inclusive and engaging. By following this approach, you can create welcoming, functional, and well-balanced spaces that support both user experience and design cohesion throughout the environment.







The best white is always shown at the bottom.

PERFECT COLOUR COMBINATIONS

COLOUR COMBINATION PRINCIPLE

1 PICK

Select colours vertically for tone-on-tone combinations to ensure effortless coordination in simple, classic schemes.

2 MATCH

For harmonious combinations, choose colours horizontally to create versatile schemes that work together seamlessly.

3 FINISH

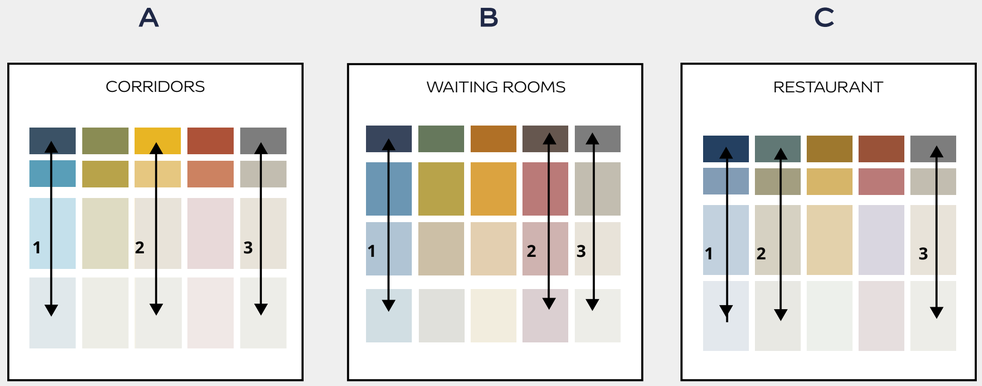
The best white for each set of colours is always placed at the bottom of a column, anchoring the design and balancing the overall space.

CREATING A COHESIVE COLOUR FLOW

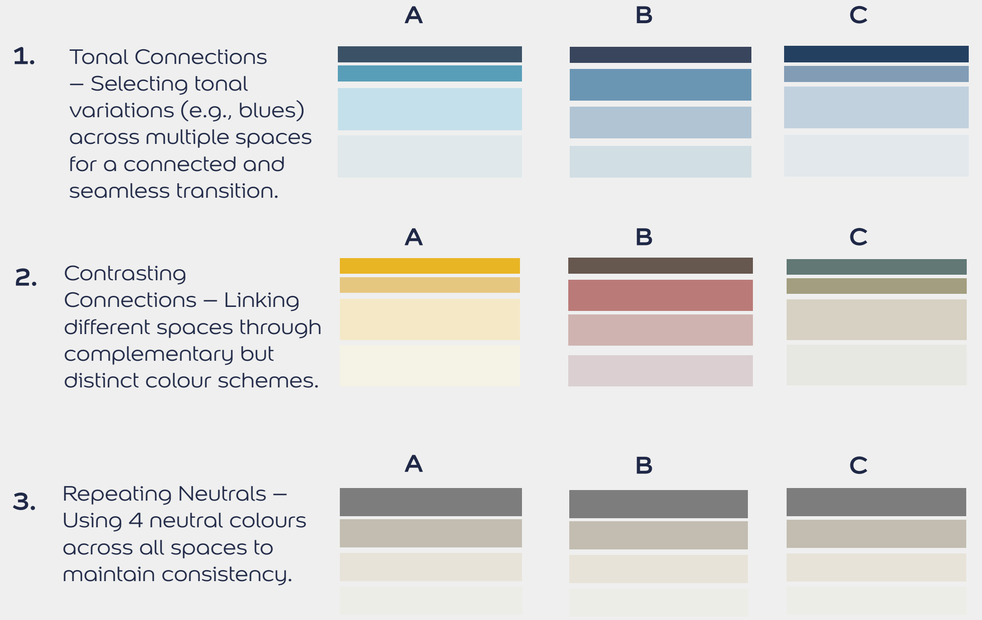
A holistic colour approach ensures a smooth transition between spaces, creating a connected and unified atmosphere throughout a building. The palettes in this brochure feature colours from every hue, with neutrals included in each section for added flexibility. By carefully selecting complementary colours, we can establish continuous flow, enhancing both aesthetic appeal and functional connectivity.

This approach allows spaces to feel cohesive yet distinct, guiding users intuitively while fostering a balanced ambiance. Whether through repeating neutrals, tonal progressions, or contrasting connections, thoughtful colour placement ensures that different areas of the building remain visually harmonious and aligned with the building's purpose.





COMBINATIONS THROUGH THE BUILDING



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UNDERSTANDING THE USER

Creating successful spaces starts with understanding the people who use them. Every environment, whether an office, school, hospital, or hospitality setting, should be designed with the needs of its users in mind. Colour plays a vital role in shaping experiences, influencing everything from focus and productivity to relaxation and well-being. Thoughtful colour choices can enhance comfort, improve navigation, and create spaces that feel both functional and welcoming.

This brochure provides carefully researched colour palettes tailored to a range of sectors, ensuring that colour solutions align with the needs of different users. Whether designing for concentration in a learning environment, reducing stress in healthcare settings, or enhancing ambiance in hospitality spaces, our approach ensures that colour works to support people in meaningful ways. By considering the unique interactions between individuals and their surroundings, we can create environments that are not only visually cohesive but also truly responsive to those who use them.





KNOWING THE USER

Understanding users is key to designing spaces that enhance well-being. People's reactions to colour are shaped by their sensory perceptions and experiences. Considering the needs of employees, students, patients, or visitors ensures environments that support comfort, focus, and positive engagement, making spaces truly responsive to their occupants.

DESIGN FOR ALL

Inclusive design considers a wide spectrum of human needs. "Design for all" signifies inclusive design that considers the diverse needs and experiences of for all people, embracing the full spectrum of human diversity. It means proactively removing barriers, both physical and sensory, to create spaces that are usable, enjoyable, and welcoming for everyone.

INVOLVE THE USER

Engaging building users in the design process fosters ownership and satisfaction. Wherever possible, involve them through surveys, workshops, or feedback to create designs that meet their needs and boost morale. While not always feasible in commercial interiors, collaboration can transform spaces into meaningful environments, enhancing their impact on daily users.

KEY DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS

Effective colour and design choices go beyond aesthetics—they shape how people navigate, experience, and feel within a space. By considering factors such as wayfinding, contrast, surface finishes, and patterns, designers can create environments that are both functional and visually harmonious. The following principles help ensure clarity, accessibility, and overall user comfort.



1. WAY FINDING

A consistent colour theme with a simple palette enhances wayfinding, especially for individuals with cognitive impairments. Using a signature colour for key areas, such as restroom doors across a building, helps people navigate spaces more easily and with greater confidence.



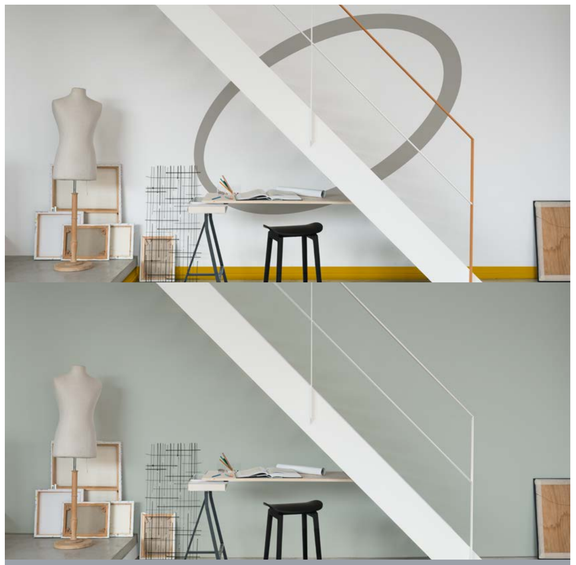
2. COLOUR & CONTRAST

To enhance accessibility, ensure a minimum 30-point difference in Light Reflectance Value (LRV) between adjacent painted surfaces, such as walls, doors, and trim. Strong contrast improves visibility, making it easier for individuals with visual impairments to navigate spaces safely and confidently.



3. SURFACE FINISHES

Shiny surfaces can cause visual disturbances and sensory overload, particularly for individuals sensitive to glare and reflections. Consider whether a matt finish would be more suitable than gloss to reduce these effects. Matt finishes also provide better colour accuracy, while gloss finishes can make colour appear darker than they do in a matt application.



4. SURFACE PATTERNS

Strong, highly contrasting patterns can cause visual disturbances and sensory overload, particularly for individuals with sensory processing sensitivities. Opt for subtle patterns or tonal colour schemes to create a more comfortable environment. Be cautious with densely patterned furnishings or bold, irregular shapes, as they can appear distorted and disorienting for those with visual impairments. Incorporating soft, natural, and textured materials can help balance the space, providing a sense of calm and tactile comfort.

NEURODIVERSITY

INSIGHT

The term “Neurodiversity” encompasses a wide range of neurocognitive variations, including conditions like autism, ADHD, and dyslexia. It is estimated that 10% to 20% of the global population is neurodivergent. Designing for neurodiversity presents a challenge because neurodivergent individuals may experience heightened sensitivities to certain environmental stimuli like sounds, light, colours, patterns, or textures, which can cause discomfort or anxiety. The goal is to create spaces that cater to these diverse sensory needs.

COLOUR SOLUTION

To address the sensory sensitivities associated with neurodiversity, it’s important to adopt a colour strategy that promotes calmness and clarity. Incorporating natural elements and nature-inspired colours, which are often perceived as tranquil and soothing, is recommended. Minimising visual and auditory distractions through careful layout and material choices can also support focus and relaxation. Muted colours are generally preferred over vivid colours, as they are less likely to cause sensory overload. Providing a variety of environments with both neutral and visually stimulating backgrounds offers choice and accommodates different sensory needs.



USABLE COLOURS



AVOID THESE TYPE OF COLOURS



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NEURODIVERSITY



DESIGN TIPS FOR NEURODIVERSITY:



1 PROVIDE DIVERSE SPACE OPTIONS

Include a variety of environments that cater to different sensory needs, such as quiet zones for those who require calm and dynamic areas for those who thrive on stimulation. Offering these options fosters comfort, empowers users, and ensures the space feels inclusive and accommodating for everyone.



2 INCORPORATE CLEAR VISUALS AND SIGNAGE

Use simple signage with clear symbols and concise text to aid navigation and minimise anxiety. Consider colour-coded systems or pathways to make spaces easier to understand and navigate, particularly for first-time users or those who may find wayfinding stressful or confusing.



3 CREATE CALMING ATMOSPHERES

Integrate biophilic principles by using nature-inspired colours, natural light, and organic elements such as plants. These features not only enhance visual appeal but also contribute to a soothing and restorative environment, improving the overall ambiance and user experience.

OFFICES

Designing for Productivity
& Well-being













OFFICES

KEY INSIGHT

We spend a significant proportion of our lives at work. Today's workplaces demand designs that prioritise employee well-being and productivity. While factors like employee satisfaction and teamwork remain crucial, a shift is occurring where business managers are recognising the significant impact of office environments on their employees. Research has shown that various aspects of design, including colour, can significantly impact employee motivation, job satisfaction, and productivity, ultimately affecting a company's overall success.

COLOUR SOLUTION

Expertly applied colour significantly contributes to a healthy and productive workspace. To create such an environment, consider several factors in relation to colour, including lighting, climate, natural elements, acoustics, flooring, and the efficient use of space. Prioritise the use of low-VOC emission products to further enhance well-being. Muted colours and tonal colour combinations, often found in nature, create comfortable and tranquil settings, especially beneficial for concentration-intensive tasks. Lighter shades can make spaces feel larger, while a matt finish minimise glare, reducing eye strain. Introducing rhythmic colour arrangements, such as using a strong feature wall colour behind screens in meeting rooms, can help to break up monotony in large open spaces and focus attention. By thoughtfully incorporating these colour design principles and exploring the diverse options provided in the Offices Colour Palette, you can design inspiring and functional office spaces that prioritise employee well-being and productivity.



1 Targeted Colour Enhancements

Thoughtful colour design shapes a positive perception of your business, creating a welcoming environment for employees and visitors. Using colours that reflect the company's identity and values can leave lasting impressions, fostering trust and confidence in your brand from the moment someone enters the space.



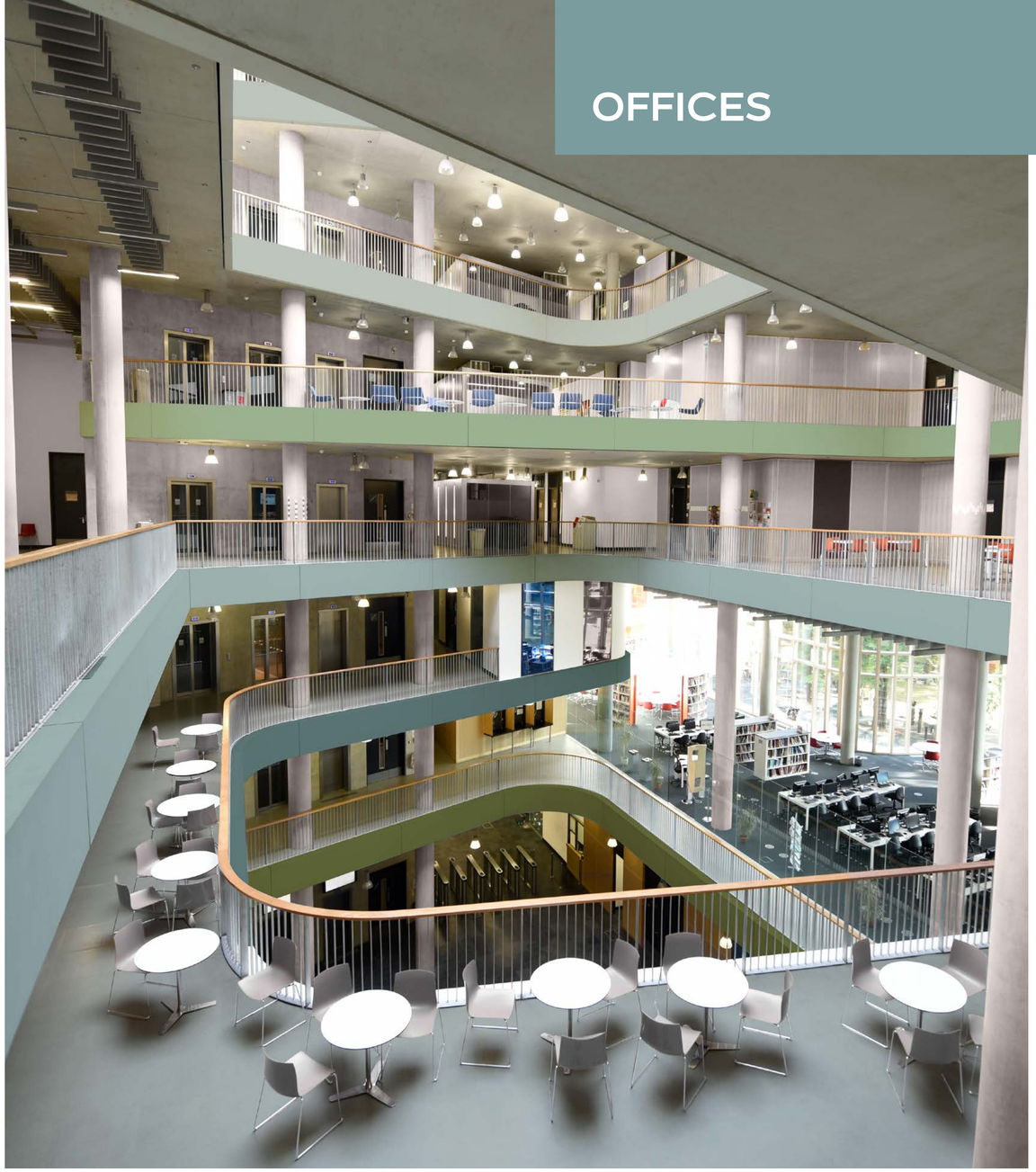
2 Wayfinding and Navigation

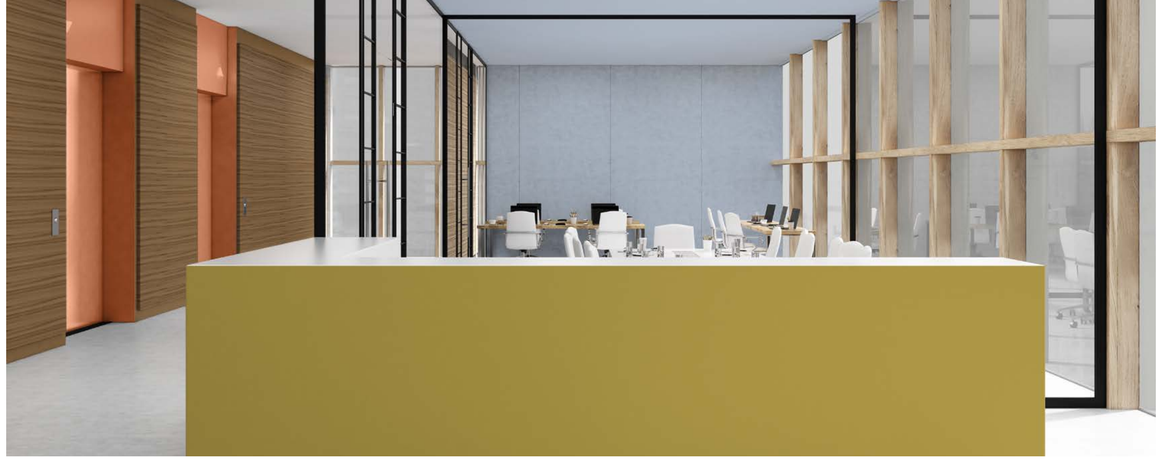
Employ colour strategically to enhance navigation, especially in complex or shared buildings. Differentiating corridors or sections with distinct colour schemes helps users orient themselves quickly and reduces stress, creating a more efficient and user-friendly environment for all building occupants.



3 Targeted Improvement

Focus on specific areas that require improvement, such as poorly lit zones or underutilised spaces. Use the Office Colour Palette to select tones that enhance functionality, ambiance, or productivity, ensuring an aesthetically cohesive and purpose-driven design.







OFFICES

COMMUNAL SPACES

Public spaces are not only designed for communal activities, but also as a first impression to visitors. These areas include meeting and conference rooms, as well as receptions, cafeterias and lounges. Colours should be inviting & welcoming, complemented with colours reflecting the workplace's culture & identity. Different colours can be helpful in defining separate departments, floors and to differentiate various facilities. Bold colours attract attention and can provide visual directions and focus on corridors.

accent & feature wall

30YY 33/613	75YR 27/487	17YR 13/463	22BB 08/161	26BB 10/008

wall

45YY 51/365	98YR 41/326	59YR 53/163	06BB 39/179	31BG 26/004
61YY 76/109	10YY 65/095	85RR 75/032	30BB 63/124	17GY 68/005

ceiling & wall

65YY 89/088	50YY 83/029	90RR 83/021	10BB 73/039	81YR 85/004

WORK SPACES

Space-efficient designs, colours, ergonomics & functionality are necessary for office workspaces. However, the correct colour balance is essential for standard workstations where intense focus is needed. Ideally, no more than two different hues should be combined. Paler colours, in general, are a good choice for workspaces. Soft yellow, sandstone, pale orange, soft green and blue green are always appropriate. Saturated accent colours can help enliven plain workspaces as accents.

accent & feature wall

39YR 11/342	93YR 22/305	10GY 29/158	10BB 07/150	26BB 10/008

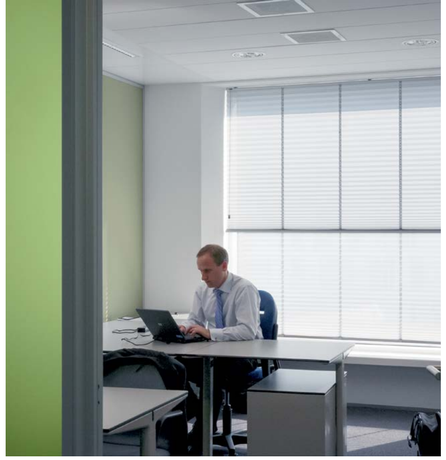
wall

50YR 23/365	40YY 49/546	61YY 39/443	18BB 19/153	31BG 26/004
20YY 63/149	54YY 71/171	70YY 66/130	08BB 46/152	17GY 68/005

ceiling & wall

41YY 82/071	65YY 90/062	50GY 83/040	90BG 72/063	81YR 85/004







OFFICES

INDIVIDUAL WORK SPACES

Private workplaces are where individuals have the privacy to concentrate on their tasks. These spaces require soft or mid-tone colours to encourage focus and concentration. Because of its tranquil, calm and natural qualities, green, especially pale green, along with blue green, provides a good environment for tasks involving high concentration. In contrast, large amounts of vibrant colours should be avoided.

accent & feature wall

21GY 25/379	78GG 19/378	50BG 12/219	52BB 08/128	26BB 10/008
10GY 39/136	90GG 40/115	70BG 28/169	32BB 33/133	31BG 26/004

wall

90YY 67/117	74GG 60/059	70BG 44/129	50BB 54/079	17GY 68/005

ceiling & wall

89YY 80/039	50GG 73/031	82BG 79/062	30BB 73/052	81YR 85/004

SUPPORT AREAS

Support areas are often centrally located within workplaces and should be easily identifiable & accessible to all employees. This can be achieved with high contrast in both lightness and colour intensity. Bold colours can aid navigation and organisation, effectively guiding people through the space. Lighter, neutral colours, when strategically applied, can help illuminate dim spaces such as archives and parking areas.

accent & feature wall

19YR 13/558	20YY 23/525	59GY 20/482	91BB 07/263	26BB 10/008
76YR 27/558	34YY 55/802	88YY 38/530	10BB 13/362	31BG 26/004

wall

23YY 69/134	35YY 76/110	39GY 75/033	89BG 72/060	17GY 68/005

ceiling & wall

93YR 86/030	61YY 89/040	36GG 87/038	39BB 81/032	81YR 85/004

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EDUCATION

Designing for
Learning & Engagement













EDUCATION

KEY INSIGHT

Schools, colleges, and universities are unique places. They must support learning and stimulate the senses, yet also allow for focus and concentration. Increasingly, learning environments must balance the need to be robust and inspiring with the need to be safe, nurturing, and flexible enough to support complex behavioural needs. This includes designing spaces that are mindful of the diverse ways students experience their surroundings—particularly those who may be neurodivergent.

COLOUR SOLUTION

We aim to help students thrive through the power of their environment. Well-designed schools can influence behaviour, motivation, and performance—impacting feelings of happiness, focus, and engagement. Working closely with Sussex University, we explored the effects of colour on children's performance in school [*6], [*7]. Insights from this research have helped shape the colour schemes in this brochure.

Each area of an educational setting—whether classrooms, hallways, staff rooms, or sports facilities—has different demands, and colour plays a vital role in supporting those needs. Our palettes have been designed to be durable and easy to apply, with high-performance finishes ideal for busy, high-traffic spaces. For further guidance on designing inclusive environments for neurodivergent learners, refer to our dedicated Neurodiversity section.

* Source 6: The effect of colour on children's cognitive performance. Brooker, A., & Franklin, A. University of Sussex (2015). http://www.sussex.ac.uk/psychology/colour/projects
* Source 7: A holistic, multi-level analysis identifying the impact of classroom design on pupils' learning, Building an Environment 59 678-689, P. Barret et. Al University of Salford, 2013



1 Create Safe and Nurturing Spaces

Design classrooms with calming tones and balanced contrasts to foster focus and reduce overstimulation. Incorporate softer hues in environments for younger children or students with complex behavioural needs, enhancing their sense of safety and well-being, while also promoting a welcoming atmosphere conducive to learning.



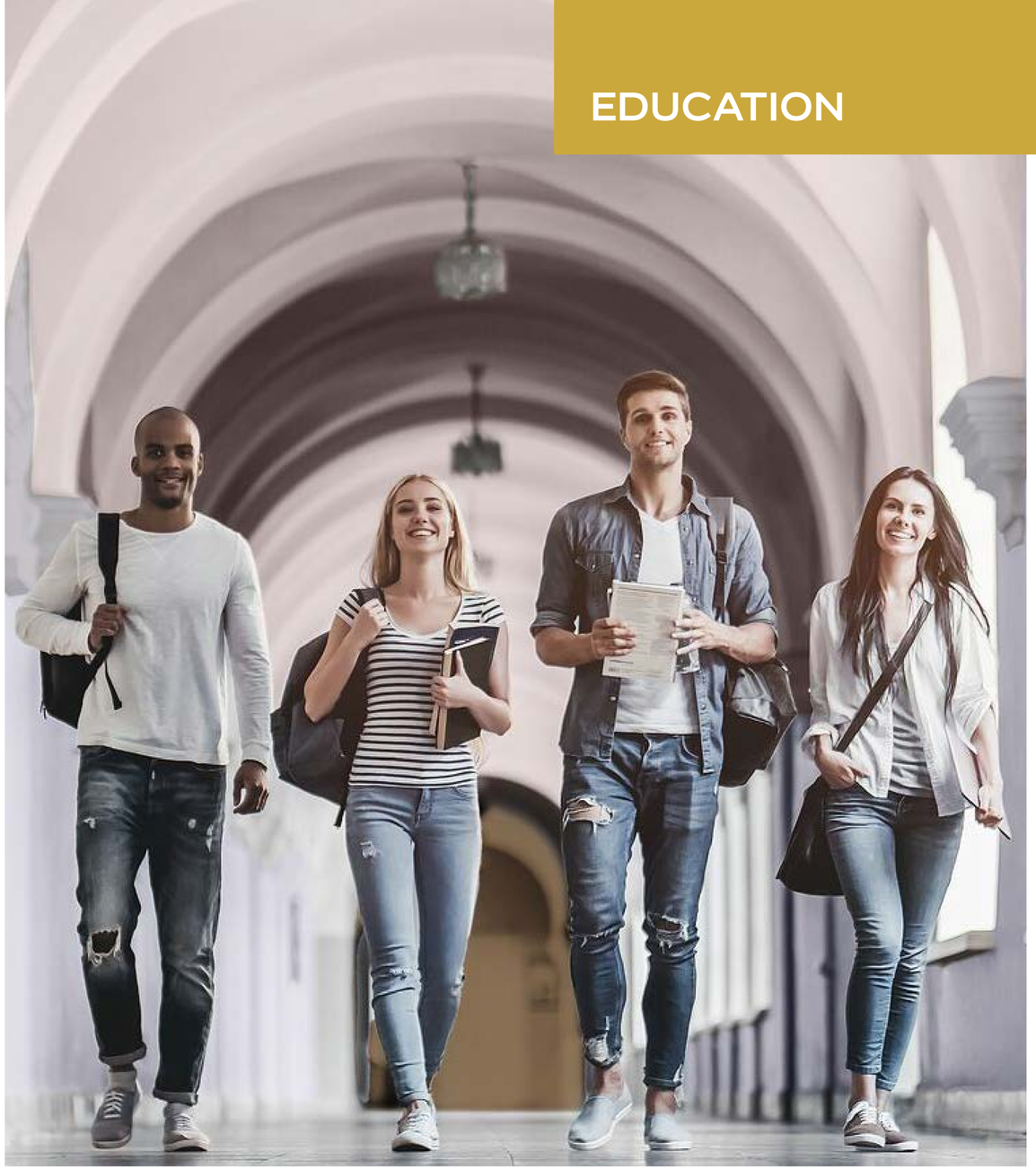
2 Enhance Wayfinding and Orientation

Use colour strategically to differentiate areas such as corridors, classroom clusters, or wings. This approach helps students and staff navigate large campuses efficiently, building familiarity and reducing stress, particularly in early years or new school settings.



3 Support Focus and Inspiration

Blend neutral tones with dynamic accent colours to create engaging yet functional learning spaces. For example, use mid-tones behind whiteboards to minimise glare and focus attention on key areas, while avoiding overstimulating shades like intense red, which research has shown can hinder academic performance by affecting concentration and cognitive function.





EDUCATION



CORRIDORS

In corridors, chosen colours must ease navigation and aid recognition. Colours used to differentiate critical surfaces should vary by at least 30 points in their light reflectance values for optimal clarity. Different corridors or wings of a building can be colour-coded to help users develop a sense of location, especially in large schools. Colours can also give a school its distinctive personality and identity, particularly at the entrance.

accent & feature wall

30YR 13/471	20YY 26/490	49GG 17/232	30BB 11/244	20BB 08/051
09YR 05/305	40YY 49/546	30GY 50/183	04BB 34/244	95BG 23/044

wall

17YR 60/073	46YY 61/201	74GG 60/059	01BB 59/109	30BB 62/004

ceiling & wall

90RR 83/013	78YY 83/048	50GG 83/011	10BB 73/039	93YY 89/012

AUDITORIUM

Auditoriums in educational settings serve as versatile spaces for events, performances, and presentations. These spaces need to foster a warm, inviting, and comfortable atmosphere to accommodate large gatherings. A thoughtful balance of tones and deeper shades can create a sense of intimacy, making the environment conducive to focus and engagement. The textures and materials used within the auditorium play a crucial role in enhancing both the visual and acoustic experience. By carefully considering these design elements, the auditorium can become a practical and aesthetically pleasing space that supports the diverse functions it serves.

accent & feature wall

10YY 21/500	01YR 09/386	52RR 06/105	22BB 08/161	20BB 08/051

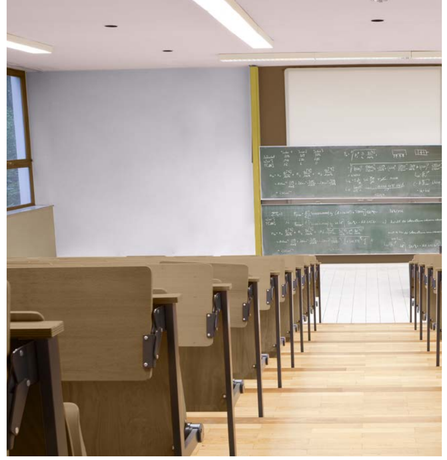
wall

00YY 26/220	19YR 13/558	50RR 10/229	30BB 17/158	95BG 23/044
10YY 55/163	70RR 57/070	30RB 50/072	14BB 55/113	30BB 62/004

ceiling & wall

80YR 83/035	50RR 83/034	23RB 76/036	04BB 75/027	93YY 89/012





EDUCATION



CLASSROOMS

Classrooms, designed to accommodate numerous students engaged in learning and reflection, should foster focus and concentration through the strategic use of colour. Subdued colours are generally most effective in these environments. Warm, earthy tones can help reduce anxiety, while soft, muted cool colours enhance concentration. The overuse of deeply saturated bright hues should be avoided as they can overstimulate students, making it challenging for them to maintain focus. Applying colour behind whiteboards while keeping the remaining walls neutral helps direct attention to the learning wall

accent & feature wall

30YY 41/700	50GY 37/335	10RR 22/178	31BB 15/212	20BB 08/051

wall

50YY 65/454	95YY 39/329	30RB 50/072	10BB 30/203	95BG 23/044
54YY 71/171	45GY 55/052	70RR 64/034	14BB 55/113	30BB 62/004

ceiling & wall

67YY 82/072	89YY 80/039	90RR 83/021	02BB 81/030	93YY 89/012

ART CLASS

Academic research suggests that blue and green can enhance creativity and originality. When designing an art room, it is beneficial to use light, minimal, and neutral colours that are still inspiring, as this allows student artwork to be the focal point. Ideally, the art room should have windows with the best views in the school to foster learning and creativity. Bright white walls should be avoided due to their reflective properties, which can cause eye strain and fatigue.

accent & feature wall

52GY 24/050	30BG 23/124	70BB 15/081	81YR 06/003	20BB 08/051

wall

20GY 46/067	50BG 44/094	10BB 39/100	53BB 36/004	95BG 23/044
50GY 57/096	61BG 68/049	18BB 59/133	50YY 63/041	30BB 62/004

ceiling & wall

50GY 83/060	56BG 81/023	29BB 75/065	00NN 83/000	93YY 89/012





EDUCATION

SPORTS FACILITIES

Sports are essential for students, providing a balance between physical health and intellectual growth while encouraging determination and healthy competition. When designing sports halls, it's important to consider the visual environment to enhance visibility and minimise distractions. It is recommended that wall colours provide sufficient contrast for seeing sports equipment, such as nets and balls. Avoiding large expanses of bright white is crucial, as it can cause visual discomfort and glare. Opting for cool, unobtrusive colours can help create a more focused atmosphere, as large expanses of vivid colour can be too distracting in a busy sports hall environment.

accent & feature wall

30YR 21/505 | 39YY 52/691 | 64YY 38/505 | 10BB 11/350 | 20BB 08/051

wall

34YR 35/025 | 30YY 36/185 | 12GY 39/101 | 93BG 18/066 | 95BG 23/044

50RR 54/018 | 54YY 63/072 | 96YY 66/036 | 30BG 56/045 | 30BB 62/004

ceiling & wall

30BB 83/013 | 81YY 81/016 | 30GY 83/021 | 72BG 75/023 | 93YY 89/012

STAFF ROOMS

Teachers need a dedicated space for relaxation and rejuvenation throughout the school day. Choosing calming and uplifting colours for staff rooms helps maintain motivation and well-being. Accent colours can add a spark of energy and vibrancy to these areas. By thoughtfully managing contrasts in lighting and colour, you can create a distinctive environment that offers teachers a refreshing escape from their daily responsibilities, whenever they need it.

accent & feature wall

26YR 18/404 | 20YY 28/613 | 90GG 28/133 | 22BB 08/161 | 20BB 08/051

wall

57YR 32/176 | 11YY 37/219 | 50GG 40/064 | 16BB 27/091 | 95BG 23/044

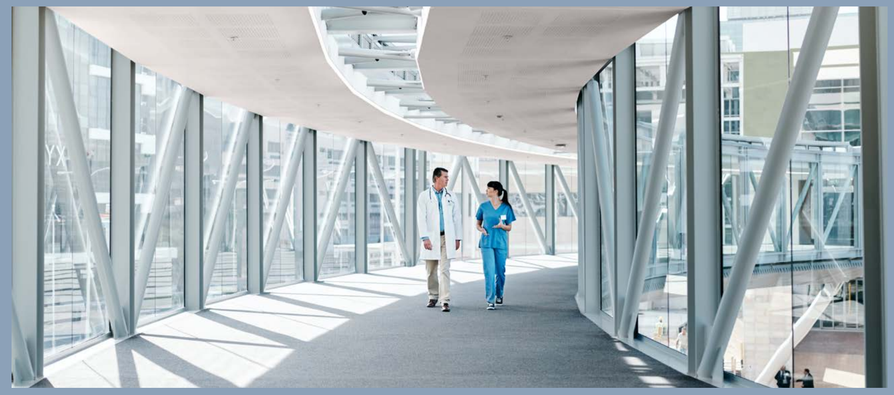
21YR 67/074 | 30YY 67/084 | 94GY 66/038 | 30BB 62/044 | 30BB 62/004

ceiling & wall

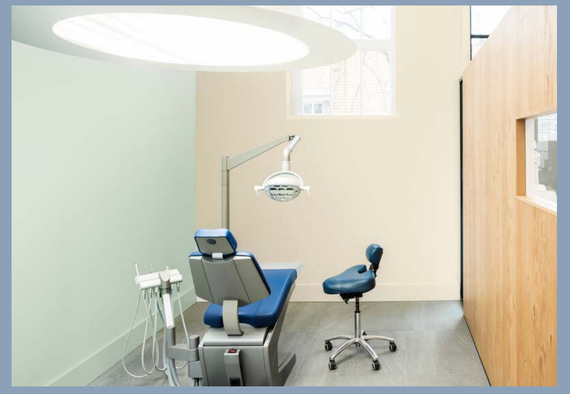
50YR 74/043 | 67YY 88/044 | 45GY 83/023 | 30YY 72/018 | 93YY 89/012

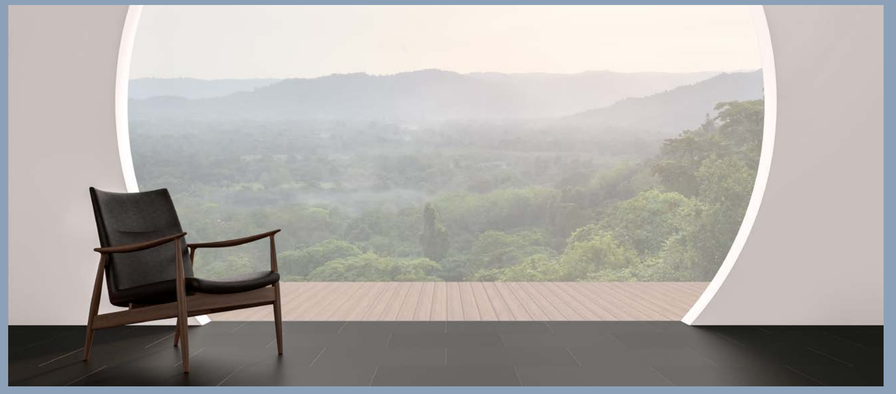
HEALTHCARE

Designing for
Healing & Comfort













HEALTHCARE

KEY INSIGHT

There is a growing awareness of the importance of hospital design for patients, staff and visitors. A key challenge for hospital design is that healthcare facilities need to balance the clinical needs of the building with the well-being of users. The traditional model of a hospital environment is often perceived as cold, sterile and institutional, which can have a negative impact on patients and staff. To address this, there has been a shift towards incorporating design principles that promote a more welcoming, comfortable, and aesthetically pleasing environment. However, it's important to consider the diverse needs and sensitivities of the users, especially considering the growing healthcare consumption, driven in part by an aging population.

COLOUR SOLUTION

When applied with the user's needs in mind, colour can significantly contribute to a healthcare facility that promotes well-being for everyone who uses the building. Thoughtful colour design can improve a patient's quality of life, reduce stress and anxiety, and aid in recovery. In practical applications, colour serves as a valuable tool for wayfinding and navigation, making spaces easier to understand for people with dementia, visual impairments, and other conditions. In addition to colour, elements such as lighting, materials, art, planting, interior climate, and acoustics need to be considered to create a positive, welcoming, and comfortable environment for patients, staff, and visitors. Healthcare spaces should move away from overly clinical aesthetics to embrace a design approach that is friendly, visually appealing, and supportive of well-being.



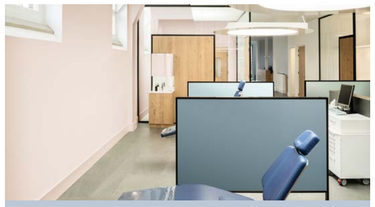
1 Enhance Comfort and Well-being

Colour design plays a key role in promoting mental and emotional well-being in healthcare environments. When selecting colour palettes, consult with patients and staff to better understand their preferences. Soft, nature-inspired tones like blues and greens can help reduce stress, while warmer shades promote comfort. A personalised approach, involving user input, ensures the colour choices cater to emotional needs.



2 Support Wayfinding and Clarity

Colour can significantly improve navigation in healthcare settings, especially for those with visual impairments or cognitive conditions. Ensure high-contrast colour schemes for important areas like corridors and reception areas. For visibility, use more saturated colours and ensure a minimum of 30 points difference in light reflectance values between adjoining surfaces to enhance clarity and orientation.



3 Create a Welcoming, Non-clinical Atmosphere

A healthcare facility should feel welcoming and less institutional. Involving patients and staff in the design process can help create spaces that feel more personal and comforting. Soft tones in patient rooms can foster relaxation, while brighter, uplifting colours in common areas can boost morale and contribute to a positive aesthetic that enhances the overall experience.







HEALTHCARE

RECEPTION & CORRIDORS

A highly visible and welcoming entrance lobby and reception area can help reduce anxiety for patients and visitors by providing a sense of comfort and ease upon arrival. These spaces should be designed to be easily navigable and include clear wayfinding signs with contrasting colours to help guests access different areas within the healthcare facility. Accessibility can be further improved by using high-contrast colours throughout the building, making it easier for people with visual impairments to navigate.

accent & feature wall

27BB 10/138	87YY 27/274	39YY 52/691	38YR 17/442	28GG 22/002
70BG 32/238	61YY 39/443	45YY 61/368	60YR 31/368	46YY 53/062

wall

76BG 72/113	83YY 72/129	60YY 83/156	70RR 74/051	63YY 80/051

ceiling & wall

02BB 81/030	77YY 86/032	65YY 90/062	90RR 83/030	11GY 85/016

WAITING AREAS

A comfortable and reassuring waiting room can help reduce anxiety and stress for individuals in physical discomfort and high-stress situations. Simple, domestic colours combined with neutrals and subtle accents can create a more intimate and calming environment. The use of natural elements, such as plants and natural light, can further enhance the calming effect and promote well-being. Additionally, decorative ornaments and artwork that evoke positive emotions can create a more personalised and welcoming atmosphere.

accent & feature wall

52BB 08/128	08GY 36/175	99YR 23/456	54YR 12/074	28GG 22/002

wall

10BB 30/203	61YY 39/443	23YY 44/541	04YR 27/258	46YY 53/062
14BB 55/113	50YY 49/191	30YY 65/171	10YR 50/101	63YY 80/051

ceiling & wall

89BG 72/060	30GY 76/017	57YY 86/073	67RR 66/044	11GY 85/016



RESTAURANTS & CAFE'S

The restaurants and cafes in healthcare facilities should possess a different atmosphere compared to other areas in the building. An open and inviting restaurant or cafe attracts visitors. While their decor must complement the healthcare facility, soft lighting paired with brighter colours that are not too saturated are ideal. Since this is a place where visitors can relax and eat, the colours should support an air of warmth and informality.

accent & feature wall

56BB 07/196	78GG 19/078	30YY 21/438	50YR 15/377	28GG 22/002

wall

30BB 33/163	90YY 35/169	40YY 49/408	04YR 27/258	46YY 53/062
30BB 63/097	64YY 65/071	40YY 67/196	16RB 69/065	63YY 80/051

ceiling & wall

39BB 81/032	81YY 81/016	30GY 88/014	74RR 76/023	11GY 85/016



HEALTHCARE

PATIENT ROOMS

Calm and comfortable patient rooms provide a safe haven for rest and recovery. Colours should be carefully selected and lighting should be delicately positioned to create a peaceful and healing environment. To ensure accurate visual diagnosis and prevent overwhelming visual stimulation, it's generally advisable to limit the use of high-intensity hues on large areas. Bright green should be minimised in patient rooms, as it can cast an unflattering reflection on the skin. A combination of soft tones with some colour accents is ideal for creating a balanced and soothing atmosphere.

accent & feature wall

70BB 09/241	87YY 27/274	75YR 27/487	04YR 18/324	28GG 22/002

wall

54BB 39/103	50GY 43/120	10YY 38/316	10YR 37/143	46YY 53/062
30BB 63/084	70BG 56/061	30YY 64/149	50YR 65/056	63YY 80/051

ceiling & wall

17BB 79/028	50BG 76/023	45YY 82/098	30YR 83/023	11GY 85/016



HEALTHCARE



INTENSIVE CARE

Intensive Care Units need utmost care & attention. Soft lighting, controlled by dimmers, creates a restful area with minimal visual clutter. While wall colours should be kept neutral and light with either a flat or matt finishing, some colour accents may be used sparingly in selected areas to avoid monotony. The environment must be kept clean, safe & restful for the patient, while also supporting advanced medical equipment to function smoothly. Avoid bright white since it could create glare.

accent & feature wall

30BB 17/158 | 79GY 36/106 | 30YY 35/249 | 10YR 37/143 | 28GG 22/002

wall

90BG 44/049 | 79GY 59/017 | 40YY 60/103 | 30YR 64/044 | 46YY 53/062

84BG 66/028 | 70GY 72/025 | 53YY 77/064 | 50YR 73/022 | 63YY 80/051

ceiling & wall

30GY 83/021 | 90GG 83/011 | 83YY 88/033 | 60YR 83/009 | 11GY 85/016

PAEDIATRY

Children often feel fear or anxiety in clinical settings, so paediatric units should create a sense of comfort and familiarity. Spaces designed for play and emotional release can help children better cope with treatment. Colour plays a key role—whether evoking playfulness or promoting calm—and should be carefully considered to support both emotional and clinical needs. For example, bright yellow should be avoided in baby units, as it can make it harder to detect signs of jaundice. Designs should also consider the needs of neurodivergent children, who may respond differently to sensory input. For further guidance on inclusive colour use, see the Neurodiversity section.

accent & feature wall

56BB 07/196 | 57GY 28/292 | 20YY 32/494 | 22YR 18/488 | 28GG 22/002

wall

69BG 40/190 | 90YY 58/424 | 50YY 60/538 | 90RR 28/245 | 46YY 53/062

30BG 72/069 | 70YY 66/130 | 20YY 64/171 | 10YR 67/100 | 63YY 80/051

ceiling & wall

45GG 81/022 | 66YY 88/114 | 23YY 86/081 | 18YR 83/042 | 11GY 85/016



HEALTHCARE



CONSULTATION ROOMS

The colour choice for consultation rooms depends greatly on the purpose, function and type of treatment or therapy. As patients typically come for short consultations or treatments, and the space is often limited, using light colours is recommended to make the room appear more spacious. Welcoming, light and pale colours are generally a good choice for consultation rooms. However, applying bolder accents can uplift the mood, eliminate monotony and add some positivity for both patients and staff.

accent & feature wall

50BB 27/232 | 45YY 51/365 | 10BG 38/119 | 85YR 32/167 | 28GG 22/002

wall

70BB 49/082 | 45YY 63/251 | 74GG 60/059 | 10YY 64/048 | 46YY 53/062

70BB 64/035 | 58YY 72/095 | 49GG 77/014 | 10YY 72/021 | 63YY 80/051

ceiling & wall

59BB 81/022 | 85YY 74/012 | 93YY 89/012 | 60YR 83/009 | 11GY 85/016

TREATMENT ROOMS

The active therapy or treatment room should encourage and motivate patients in their recovery process, particularly through physical exercises. More intense and saturated colours, such as red, orange and yellow, can be applied in these spaces to encourage patients to actively participate in their treatment's process and progress. In spaces where patients are in therapy to regain the ability to walk, floors could be divided into sections of different hues, which could stimulate and engage them visually to track their accomplishments and stay motivated.

accent & feature wall

27BB 10/138 | 18GY 38/328 | 23YY 44/541 | 00YR 18/531 | 28GG 22/002

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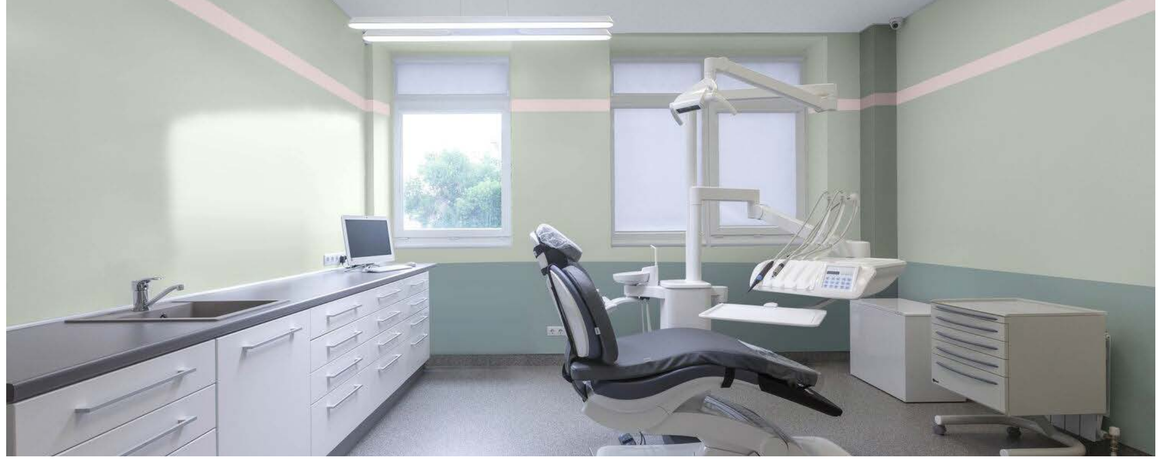
wall

77GY 68/066 | 60YY 72/225 | 20YY 69/120 | 60RR 62/086 | 63YY 80/051

ceiling & wall

30GG 83/025 | 64YY 83/058 | 20YY 83/063 | 26RR 73/037 | 11GY 85/016

HEALTHCARE



OPERATING ROOM

Operating theatres around the world are often blue green. There is a functional reason behind this colour choice. A monochromatic colour scheme, made up primarily of either green or blue, reduces visual strain caused by prolonged visual concentration on the surgical area. Green is considered particularly suitable because it neutralises the after image caused by the colour of blood. Additionally, it minimises glare owing to the intense light emitted from operating room lamps, creating a more comfortable environment for the surgical team.

accent & feature wall

18BB 19/153	10BG 26/134	50GG 23/085	08GY 26/190	28GG 22/002

wall

70BG 56/061	68GG 53/098	79GY 57/120	13GY 52/120	46YY 53/062
74BG 73/042	50GG 63/042	90GY 73/059	16GY 66/078	63YY 80/051

ceiling & wall

72BG 75/023	90GG 83/011	90GY 83/033	94YY 83/072	11GY 85/016



STAFF ROOMS

Not only do patients need their space for resting and recovering, but staff also need their space. When performing under high pressure, it is particularly important to be able to withdraw periodically. Relaxing, restful and uplifting staff rooms help keep healthcare professionals motivated to support patients through their recovery process. Contrasts in colour and lighting can help staff differentiate between their work and rest areas, contributing to a more organised and supportive environment. The health and wellbeing of both patients and staff is essential for a thriving healthcare environment.

accent & feature wall

81BG 12/055	30GY 31/202	20YY 23/525	39YR 11/342	28GG 22/002

wall

87BG 27/077	90YY 48/255	21YY 45/405	50YR 23/365	46YY 53/062
90BG 63/043	94GY 66/038	40YY 70/138	10YY 55/163	63YY 80/051

ceiling & wall

06BB 79/016	63GY 83/021	64YY 83/058	10YY 72/021	11GY 85/016

DEMENTIA & ELDERLY CARE

Designing for Dignity
& Independence













DEMENTIA & ELDERLY CARE

KEY INSIGHT

Dementia is one of the major causes of disability and dependency among older people. Worldwide, over 50 million people have a dementia and every year, there are nearly 10 million new cases. The estimated proportion of the general population aged 60 and over, with a dementia is between 5-8% [11]. Dementia has a physical, psychological, social, and economic impact, not only on people with a dementia, but also on their carers, families and society at large. With numbers set to rise to over 153 million people with a dementia by 2050, there is an increasingly urgent need to provide living spaces that provide wellbeing and comfort for dementia-patients.

COLOUR SOLUTION

It is important that interior designs consider and embrace all users of the facility, including staff. Good colour design can create a comfortable, safe, and supportive environment, enhancing both ambiance and functionality. Thoughtfully selected colours and contrasts can help reduce anxiety and disorientation, which are common challenges for people with a dementia. Poor colour choices can contribute to confusion or distress, making navigation more difficult and increasing the risk of getting lost. Our carefully curated palettes provide clear visual cues and contrast between critical surfaces, aiding wayfinding while minimising the risk of trips and falls. These contemporary palettes reinforce a sense of dignity, familiarity, and reassurance, fostering positive personal connections and creating a more navigable, engaging space.

* Source 11: WHO, Sept 2021 https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/dementia



1 Involve Users in Design

Creating dementia-friendly spaces involves consulting with both patients and staff to ensure the environment meets their needs. Involve them in colour decisions through feedback or surveys to promote comfort and dignity. Thoughtful, familiar colour choices can help patients feel more at home, fostering a sense of belonging and enhancing emotional well-being.



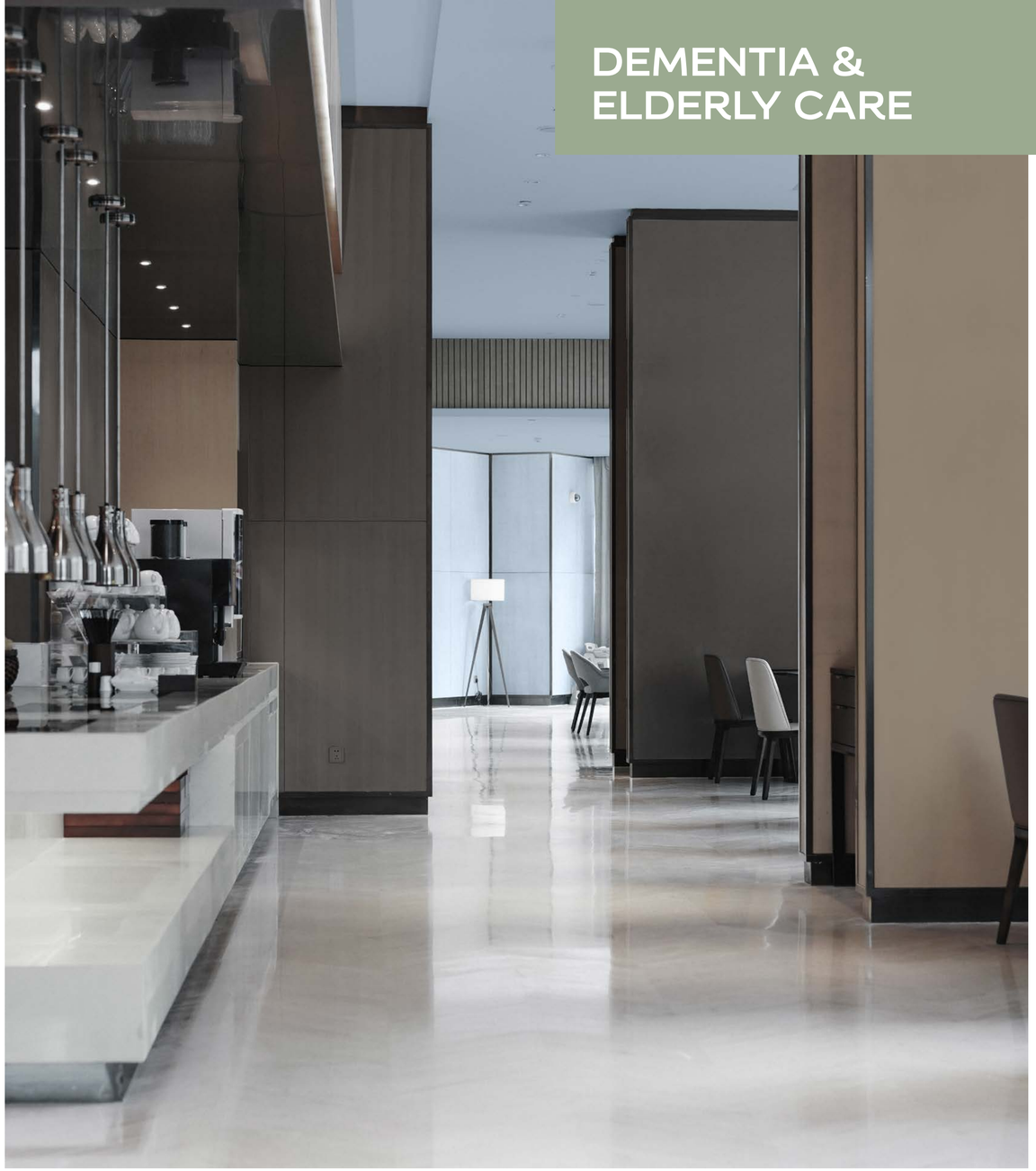
2 Guiding Movement with Colour

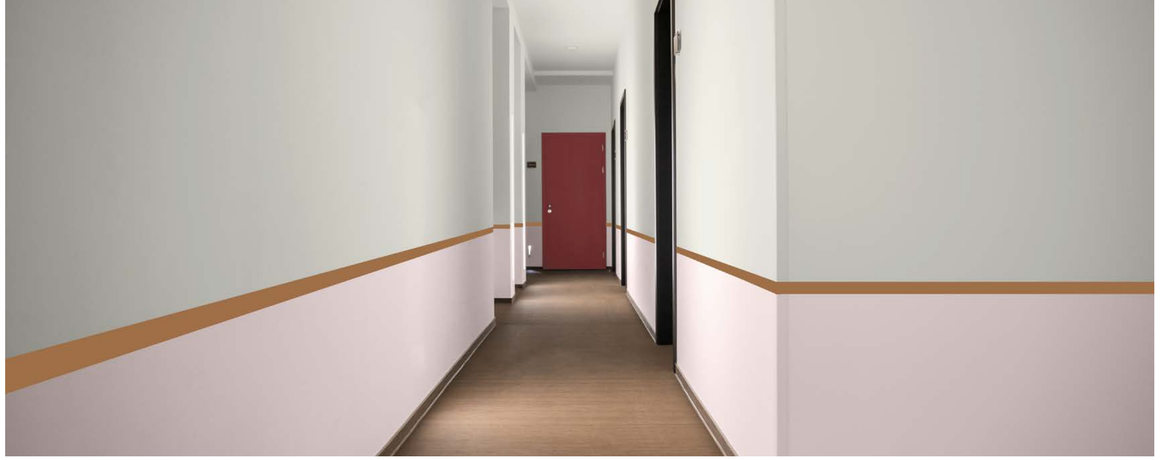
Colour plays a vital role in wayfinding for dementia patients. Use contrasting colours for doors and walls to clearly indicate spaces that can be entered, or to reduce visibility of restricted areas by painting doors to blend with the surrounding walls. This simple technique helps improve safety and reduces confusion.



3 Create Calming and Comfortable Spaces

Incorporating calming colours can help reduce anxiety and agitation for individuals with a dementia. Shiny floors may be perceived as water, while dark mats can appear as holes in the ground, leading to confusion and distress. To minimise these effects, opt for matt finishes to reduce glare and create an inviting, non-distracting environment that supports overall well-being.





DEMENTIA & ELDERLY CARE



CORRIDORS

Using accent or feature colours in corridors can break up long stretches, create distinct wayfinding cues, and help residents or patients feel more oriented and secure. Clear visual distinctions between critical surfaces—such as walls, floors, and doors—also reduce the risk of trips and falls. As a reminder, ensure a minimum 30-point difference in Light Reflectance Value between adjoining surfaces.

accent & feature wall

52BB 08/128 | 48RR 08/146 | 05YR 08/272 | 18YR 05/072 | 02YY 32/054

wall

30BB 33/163 | 42RR 26/194 | 07YR 21/415 | 00YY 18/346 | 46YY 53/062

30BB 63/084 | 30RB 68/084 | 75YR 64/102 | 24YY 63/200 | 30YY 68/024

ceiling & wall

06BB 79/016 | 50RB 83/005 | 50YR 83/025 | 20YY 83/063 | 40YY 83/021

BEDROOMS

Colour can reinforce positive personal connections and create a stimulating yet secure environment. In bedrooms, where relaxation is key, soft and light hues help reduce stress and promote a soothing atmosphere. Accent or feature wall colours can be used not only for aesthetic appeal but also to subtly highlight obstacles—such as pillars, handrails, or radiators—to aid in wayfinding. Thoughtful use of colour and contrast ensures that these spaces remain calming and safe, supporting both comfort and orientation for residents or patients.

accent & feature wall

70BG 07/086 | 14GY 12/129 | 00YY 07/093 | 09YR 05/305 | 02YY 32/054

wall

10BG 22/248 | 08GY 26/190 | 10YY 21/500 | 04YR 27/258 | 46YY 53/062

30BG 56/097 | 16GY 66/078 | 20YY 57/178 | 19YR 67/058 | 30YY 68/024

ceiling & wall

10GG 83/018 | 75GY 81/005 | 14YY 88/041 | 50RR 83/006 | 40YY 83/021



COMMUNAL SPACES

The communal area is the space where residents spend a large part of the day, so a warm homely atmosphere where people feel comfortable and at ease is important. Including soft, natural and textured materials can add a comforting homely depth and softness to the space. While creating contrast to highlight critical surfaces remains the priority, it's also important to remember that furniture needs to contrast with the surrounding walls and floor. For example, use contrasting background or floor colours behind chairs and tables to avoid any confusion and to prevent trips and bumps occurring.

accent & feature wall

50GY 06/077	30YY 09/175	50YR 12/406	10RR 08/100	02YY 32/054

wall

87YY 27/274	30YY 33/613	70YR 27/404	70RR 19/190	46YY 53/062
70YY 65/090	60YY 72/225	90YR 64/166	10YR 57/080	30YY 68/024

ceiling & wall

43YY 81/051	57YY 86/073	11YY 85/042	10YR 83/015	40YY 83/021

DEMENTIA & ELDERLY CARE



HOSPITALITY

Designing for Experience
& Connection













PREVIOUS PAGE

NEXT PAGE

HOSPITALITY

KEY INSIGHT

Hospitality spaces, whether hotels, restaurants, or libraries, must strike a delicate balance between being functional and inviting. These environments need to feel appealing and welcoming to attract visitors and create a “home away from home” experience. However, operational demands, such as high foot traffic, durability, and cost-effectiveness, can result in design choices that prioritise practicality at the expense of guest comfort. Poorly considered aesthetics or overwhelming layouts can lead to spaces that feel uninviting, ultimately impacting guest satisfaction and profitability.

COLOUR SOLUTION

Thoughtful colour design can help hospitality spaces feel more welcoming, functional, and aligned with a brand’s identity. By using colour strategically, hospitality environments can balance the need for practicality with creating a sense of warmth and comfort. For example, cohesive palettes can unify spaces while ensuring critical areas like entrances, pathways, and zones for rest or activity are visually distinct. This approach helps guests feel oriented and at ease while supporting operational efficiency.



1 Cater to Diverse Sensory Needs

Incorporate colour choices that suit both stimulating and calming spaces to accommodate varied guest preferences. Nature-inspired tones and biophilic elements can enhance comfort and well-being.



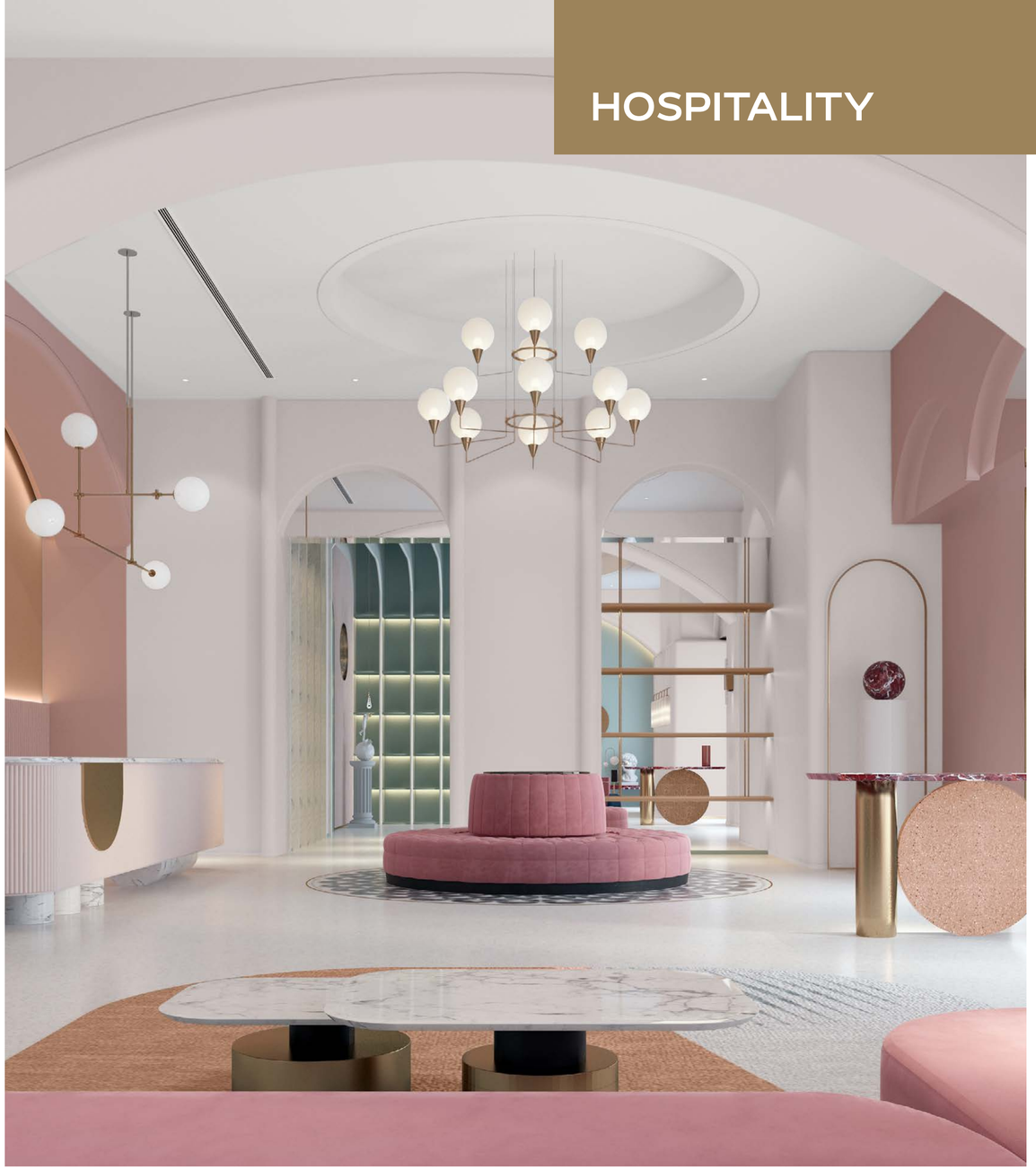
2 Define Zones Clearly

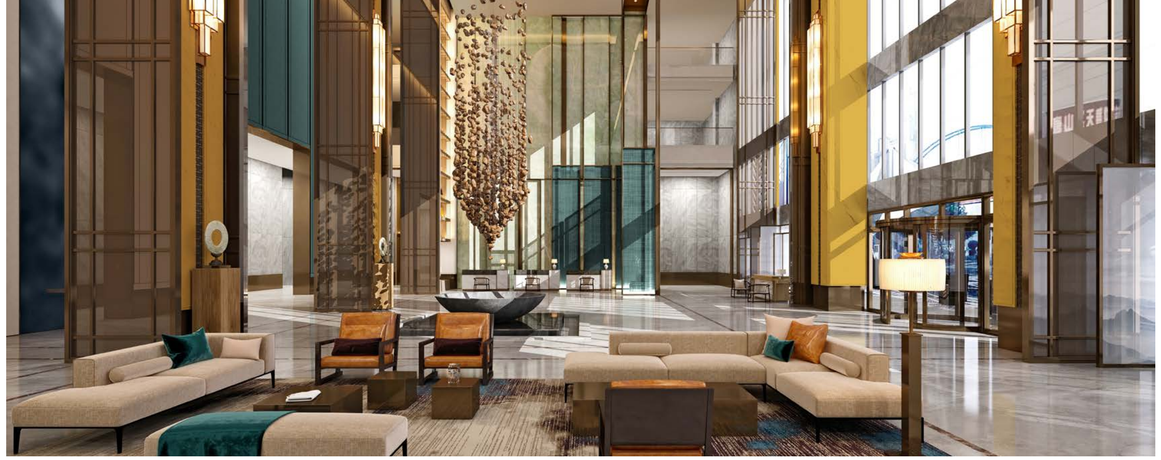
Use colour to differentiate key areas and guide guests intuitively through the space. Durable finishes and subtle contrasts maintain clarity and functionality in high-traffic environments.



3 Reflect Brand Identity

Use a cohesive colour palette to align the space with your brand’s personality, creating a memorable and inviting environment. Balanced and harmonious hues elevate the overall aesthetic without overwhelming guests.





HOSPITALITY



ENTRANCES & LOBBIES

The entrance and lobby set the tone for the entire hospitality experience, creating an immediate, memorable first impression that embodies your brand's identity. A well-coordinated, inviting colour palette guides guests intuitively while establishing a harmonious transition between public and private spaces. By balancing vibrant accents with calming tones, these key areas become both functional and welcoming, ensuring that guests feel at ease from the moment they arrive. Thoughtful colour design in the entrance and lobby lays the foundation for a cohesive environment that enhances overall guest experience and leaves a lasting positive impact.

accent & feature wall

78GG 19/160	92BG 08/031	30YR 08/236	09YY 18/226	20YY 11/017

wall

30GY 31/202	95BG 23/044	50YR 23/365	25YY 38/510	40YY 41/054
70YY 57/098	54GG 47/053	30YR 49/097	20YY 43/200	50YY 63/041

ceiling & wall

30GY 83/021	10GG 72/022	00YY 74/053	40YY 67/087	30YY 78/035

SPAS AND QUIET AREAS

Spas and quiet areas—such as lounges, libraries, or study spaces—should promote relaxation, focus, and well-being, offering guests a retreat from busy surroundings. A carefully balanced colour palette with soft, calming hues and subtle contrasts enhances tranquillity while defining key zones. By ensuring a seamless transition between these spaces, colour can create a harmonious and restorative environment, encouraging both rest and quiet productivity. Thoughtful design supports a luxurious yet peaceful experience, making these areas feel inviting and rejuvenating

accent & feature wall

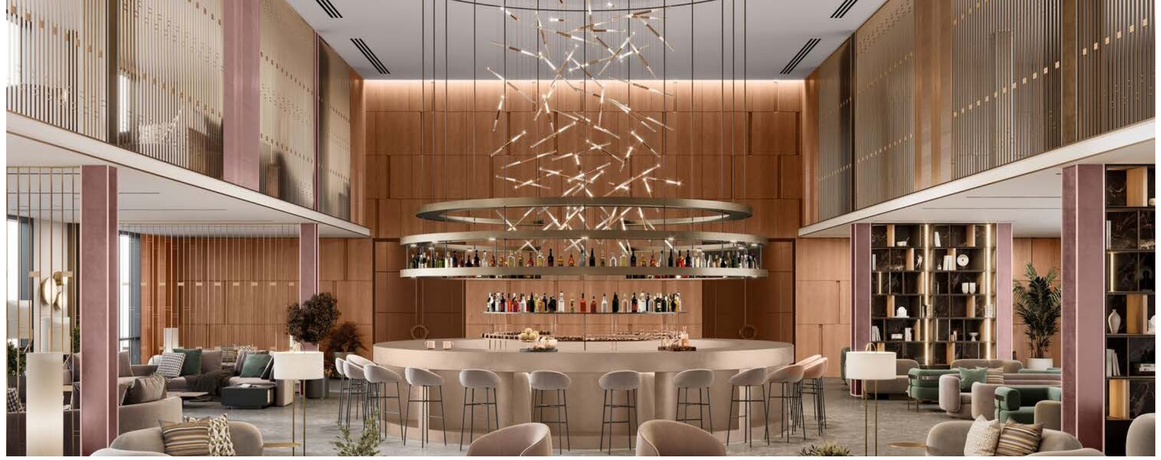
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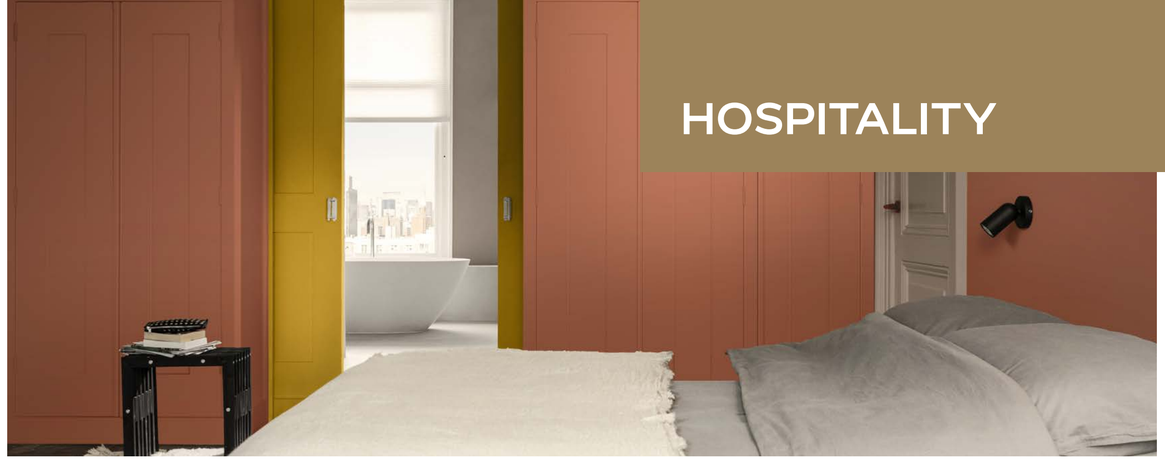
wall

70BG 44/129	70GG 39/088	45YY 53/151	02YY 32/054	40YY 41/054
14BB 55/113	80GG 67/036	54YY 63/072	10YY 48/071	50YY 63/041

ceiling & wall

64BG 78/058	70GG 83/023	53YY 89/081	10YY 72/021	30YY 78/035





HOSPITALITY

RESTAURANTS & BARS

Restaurants and bars require colour schemes that strike a balance between energetic vibrancy and intimate comfort, supporting both lively social interactions and a relaxed dining experience. Warm, inviting tones encourage guests to linger, while carefully applied contrasts define dining and bar areas, adding visual interest. By harmonising dynamic accents with a soothing base, these spaces foster both excitement and ease, creating a memorable environment where guests feel engaged and at home.

accent & feature wall

75YR 18/393	98YR 26/291	91YR 10/089	30BB 05/022	20YY 11/017

wall

50YR 18/223	24YY 39/319	09YY 28/180	48YY 12/123	40YY 41/054
12YR 45/079	20YY 55/151	20YY 37/094	54YY 46/065	50YY 63/041

ceiling & wall

70YR 74/045	30YY 79/070	30YY 69/048	30BG 72/017	30YY 78/035

GUEST ROOMS

Bedrooms are personal sanctuaries that should prioritise rest and comfort. Opt for calming, harmonious colour palettes that promote relaxation and a sense of retreat. Ensure flexibility in design to cater to diverse guest preferences, while maintaining a soothing and universally appealing ambiance.

accent & feature wall

48YR 09/077	00YY 19/261	30BG 10/111	00BB 06/017	20YY 11/017

wall

52YR 18/350	21YY 45/405	08GY 32/058	21BB 12/077	40YY 41/054
70YR 50/086	12YY 47/184	99YY 55/056	90BG 41/040	50YY 63/041

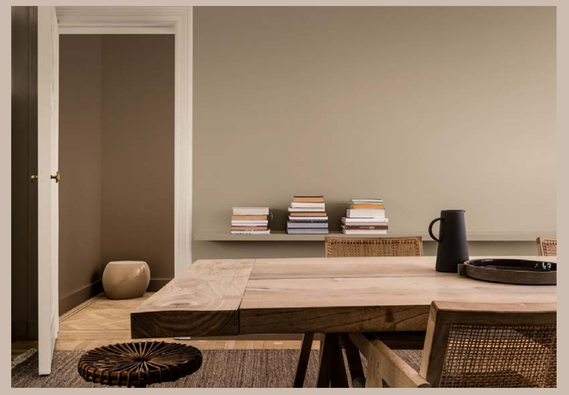
ceiling & wall

81YR 77/022	45YY 73/081	50YY 83/029	30BB 72/003	30YY 78/035

RESIDENTIAL

Designing for Home
& Well-being













RESIDENTIAL

KEY INSIGHT

Creating a home that balances functionality, comfort, and aesthetic appeal is a challenge for residential spaces. Modern living demands multi-purpose environments that cater to diverse activities, from work and relaxation to socialising and self-care. Achieving this balance requires thoughtful design that considers the psychological impact of colour and its ability to influence mood and behaviour. Additionally, designing spaces that feel cohesive while allowing for personal expression can feel complex.

COLOUR SOLUTION

Colour is key to defining zones, enhancing functionality, and setting the mood within a home. Its versatility allows you to craft a dynamic yet harmonious environment that adapts to each unique space. Soft, neutral tones create a serene base, while accent colours add personality and vibrancy without overwhelming. A well-considered colour flow not only adds visual interest but also seamlessly connects different areas, ensuring each space—from calming bedrooms and invigorating kitchens to welcoming living areas—contributes to a cohesive whole. Thoughtful contrasts enhance navigation, and natural-inspired hues invite a connection with the calming essence of nature. This strategic use of colour ensures that every space meets its purpose while remaining visually engaging and integrated throughout the home.



1 Create Comfort and Calm

Choose tones that promote relaxation and emotional well-being. These colours foster a soothing atmosphere, making the space feel more inviting and restorative for daily activities and moments of unwinding. This is key to improving the overall comfort and well-being of those who use the space.



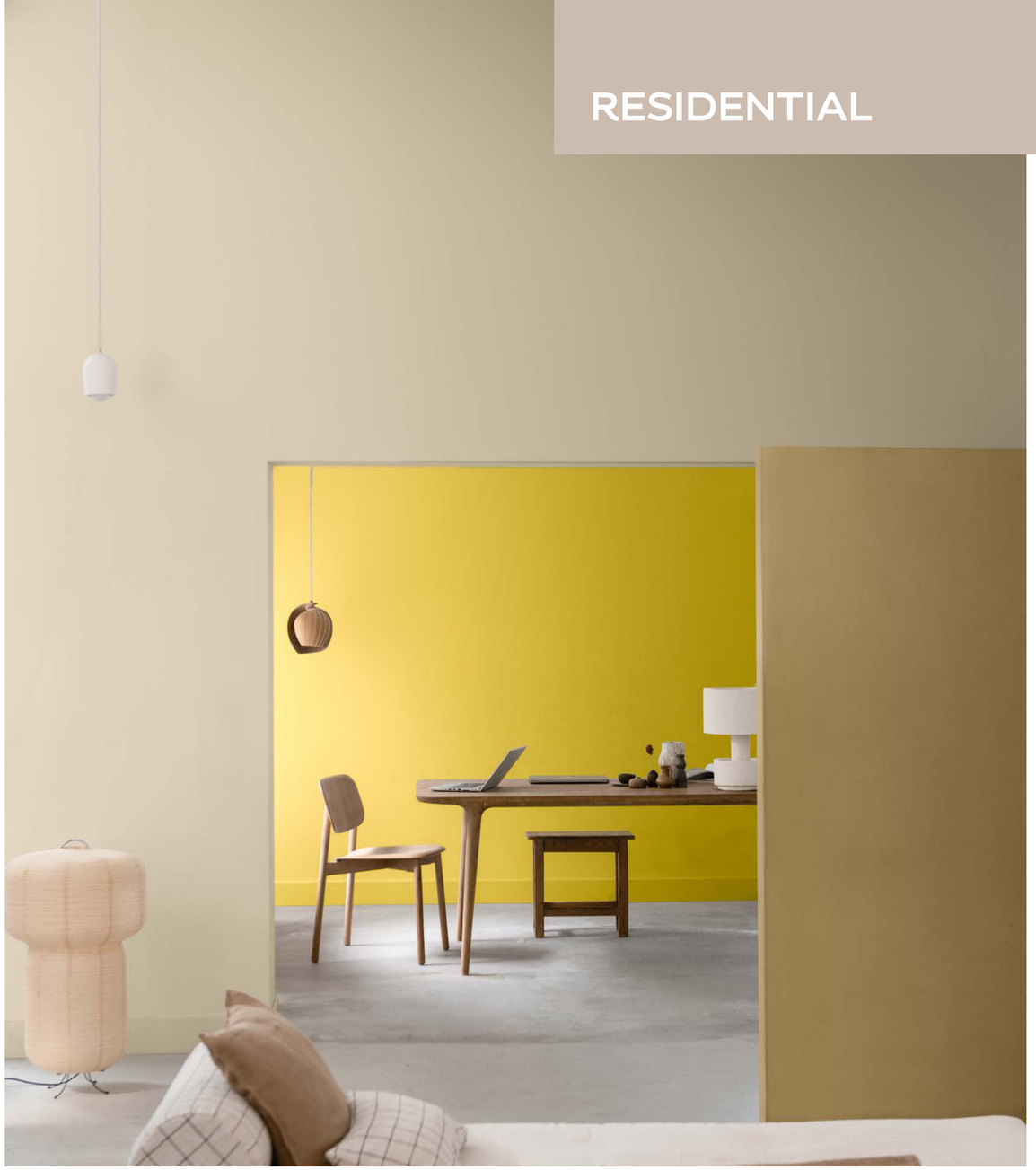
2 Define Spaces and Improve Flow

Select a range of colours from a single, cohesive palette that are aligned yet distinct enough to differentiate zones. Creating a continuous colour flow throughout the space not only enhances visual rhythm but also aids in navigation and focus. These deliberate colour transitions improve functionality, ensuring every area feels connected yet purposeful.



3 Design with Timeless Harmony

Select a balanced, cohesive palette that serves as a flexible foundation for personal expression. The palette should offer harmony while allowing accent pieces to shine, helping create an environment that reflects individual style yet maintains a serene, unified aesthetic throughout the home.









RESIDENTIAL

ENTRANCE

The entrance is the first impression of a home, setting the tone for what's inside. Choose colours that reflect the warmth and personality of the space while maintaining a welcoming, inviting atmosphere. Lighter hues can open up the entryway, making it feel spacious and airy, while deeper shades can add elegance and depth. Balance is key, so consider using accents or subtle contrasts to create a sense of harmony between the colours and furnishings, enhancing the flow into the rest of the home.

accent & feature wall

50YR 21/318	40YY 49/546	30GY 23/232	90BG 11/101	60RR 07/002

wall

81YR 38/111	50YY 49/191	54GG 47/053	90BG 31/124	30YY 60/104
30YR 64/044	54YY 63/072	94GY 66/038	30BB 72/040	43YY 81/051

ceiling & wall

13YR 80/033	57YY 86/073	45GY 83/023	50BB 83/006	71YY 90/027

LIVING SPACES

Living spaces, including lounges and sitting spaces, form the heart of a home, providing areas for socialising and relaxation. Select a versatile palette that blends warmth and sophistication, creating a welcoming atmosphere. For kitchens and dining areas, colours should invigorate the space while maintaining practicality. By defining areas with clear contrasts, you can enhance the functionality of the space, making it easy to use and enjoy. Both types of areas benefit from a design approach that balances aesthetic appeal with everyday usability, allowing for spaces that are both stylish and practical for daily life.

accent & feature wall

70YR 13/140	98YR 26/291	30YY 23/246	89BG 09/087	60RR 07/002

wall

50YR 18/223	10YY 33/163	50YY 49/191	90BG 35/068	30YY 60/104
90YR 48/062	20YY 60/104	47YY 62/143	30BB 45/049	43YY 81/051

ceiling & wall

10YY 73/042	40YY 83/021	39YY 77/091	10BB 73/039	71YY 90/027







RESIDENTIAL

BATHROOMS

Bathrooms are spaces for self-care, and the tone of colour should be chosen based on the ambiance you wish to create. Lighter shades can make a bathroom feel open, airy, and fresh, while darker tones can add a sense of luxury, intimacy, or drama. Both options work well, depending on the size of the space and the desired mood. Lighter neutrals and pastels are great for a calm, spa-like effect, while deeper hues can create a cosy, relaxing atmosphere. Consider balancing dark tones with lighter accents to maintain a sense of balance

accent & feature wall

49BB 19/182	17GY 27/098	30YY 23/246	93YR 22/305	60RR 07/002

wall

32BB 33/133	10GY 40/296	47YY 40/227	66YR 33/286	30YY 60/104
14BB 55/113	50GY 57/096	47YY 62/143	10RR 56/029	43YY 81/051

ceiling & wall

90BG 72/063	10GG 72/022	27YY 77/042	74YR 68/064	71YY 90/027

BEDROOMS

The bedroom should be a sanctuary for rest and relaxation. Opt for soothing, muted tones to create an environment conducive to restful sleep. Avoid overly bright or harsh colours that may disrupt the tranquillity of the room. Soft accents or subtle feature walls can enhance the ambiance without overwhelming the space, ensuring the room remains a peaceful retreat.

accent & feature wall

10BB 07/150	30GY 11/076	13YR 07/157	79YR 19/096	60RR 07/002

wall

84BG 18/143	08GY 26/190	30YR 18/212	00YY 26/220	30YY 60/104
90BG 42/106	10GG 53/030	30YR 49/097	90YR 59/108	43YY 81/051

ceiling & wall

88BG 62/005	72BG 75/023	30YR 74/045	00YY 83/046	71YY 90/027



STUDY

A home office or study should be designed to foster focus, productivity, and creativity. Choose tones that are calming yet invigorating, creating an environment conducive to work without feeling too sterile. Soft neutrals or nature-inspired colours can create a peaceful backdrop, while deeper tones can help promote concentration. Accent areas or decorative elements in contrasting colours can add personality and vibrancy without overwhelming the space.

accent & feature wall

81BG 12/055	78GG 19/078	91YY 31/059	20YY 31/106	60RR 07/002

wall

18BB 19/153	10BG 38/119	90YY 52/138	30YY 53/124	30YY 60/104
30BB 33/163	30BG 56/097	99YY 77/080	44YY 69/069	43YY 81/051

ceiling & wall

30BB 63/097	90BG 63/043	65YY 90/062	41YY 82/071	71YY 90/027



CHILDREN'S ROOMS

Children's rooms should spark imagination and encourage play, while still offering a sense of comfort and security. Colour can energise and inspire, but it's important to balance brighter tones with softer hues to avoid overstimulation—especially in areas used for winding down and sleeping. Gentle contrasts and playful accents help create a dynamic space where children feel safe, creative, and at ease. To better support children with sensory differences, refer to the Neurodiversity section for additional guidance on inclusive colour use.

accent & feature wall

30BG 33/207	10GY 40/296	40YY 41/603	80YR 34/468	60RR 07/002

wall

50BG 44/094	90YY 48/500	50YY 51/519	60YR 40/297	30YY 60/104
14BB 55/113	94YY 67/164	46YY 61/201	50YR 66/091	43YY 81/051

ceiling & wall

64BG 78/058	91YY 82/235	83YY 89/055	70RR 83/040	71YY 90/027

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Please ensure that you use a colour chip or test a small amount of mixed product on the actual surface to be painted before undertaking your decoration. This will give you a stronger indication of the appearance of the actual colour, which can be affected by the substrate and the texture of the surface, or by soft furnishings and the shape, size and lighting of the room.