Bonnie Krims

as seen in:

Better Homes and Gardens
Color Schemes
2007

"Reading Rainbow"

dryers are very efficient, conserving more water than traditional machines. They offer LCD display, a 1,200-rpm spin speed, and quiet operation. LG washer, $1,399, and dryer, $1,049, in Wild Cherry; www.lg.com

cabinets from Alno. The Germany-based company manufactures unique, high-end kitchen fronts that you can change as often as you like through the Picture Line program. Choose from 150 predesigned motifs or pick from your personal photo collection to add living color to your storage spaces. Alno Kitchen World Picture Line; www.alno.co.uk

Reading Rainbow

Before plastering your walls with that flamingo-pink paint, thumb through our top picks for color reading—you may discover that your dream color scheme is right before your eyes.

PICK YOUR PALETTE

The Color Palette Primer: A Guide to Choosing Ideal Color Combinations for Your Home by Joann Eckstut; Broadway Books; www.randomhouse.com/broadway; 2005; $24.95.
Color is the backbone of decorating, and this practical manual is a great tool to help you choose the perfect palette. It includes color terminology, ins and outs of the color wheel, and the effects of light and space on different hues. It also shows 750 foolproof color combinations used in home decor sketches, and each color corresponds to a nationally branded paint so you can find it in stores. The gray tear-out viewer is a bonus for scrutinizing your new samples.

PAINT YOUR PROJECT

Painting Your House Inside and Out: Tips and Techniques for Flawless Interiors and Exteriors by Bonnie Rossier Krims and Judy Ostrow; Thunder Bay Press; www.thunderbaybooks.com; 2003; $19.98.
Once you're ready to roll, this handy manual has lots of advice for getting the job done. It shows how to paint indoors and outdoors and displays real home examples of each color family. It covers paint bases and finishes and tools of the trade, so all you'll have to do is pick up your brush and get started.

Photographers: Jason Donnelly, Jay Wilde

Add extra kick to your flour power with a colorful array of stand mixers from KitchenAid. With 10 speeds and a 5-quart bowl capacity, these Artisan Series tilt-head appliances come in 19 brilliant shades so you can mix in style.
KitchenAid Artisan Series Tilt-Head Stand Mixer, $349.99; www.kitchenaid.com

THE COLOR PALETTE PRIMER

PAINTING YOUR HOUSE INSIDE AND OUT