

Bonnie Krims

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"Color Schemes"
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Color: Schemes



Warm and Wonderful

Instead of a conventional mix of neutral colors, this living room scheme combines apricot walls with a red sofa and pink chair. The warm colors are balanced by a white door frame that opens into a cool pastel green and white dining room.

***Color Tip** Plan schemes so colors flow from room to room without clashing or abruptly changing from light to dark.

PAINT COLORS
ALL FROM GLENN
LIVING ROOM WALLS: APRICOT 80YR 57293
TRIM: HEAVY BARK WHITE
DINING ROOM WALLS: AIR CASTLE 800Y 83065

The following pages
are filled with colorful
ideas that can add
beauty and personality
to your rooms.



Mood Indigo

Picture the color of the night sky between twilight and complete darkness and you have the wall color in this kitchen. A mix of blue and purple, this hue can be especially nice when placed against contrasting white cabinets and a white ceiling to frame the walls. The addition of gold accents, like the mirror and decorative hardware, add warmth and sparkle to the room.

***Color Tip** This vibrant color provides most of the atmosphere, so take a understated approach to furnishing and accessorizing. Light and warm colors provide contrast and relief from the high intensity of the main color.

PAINT COLORS

ALL FROM SHERWIN-WILLIAMS:
WALLS: PURPLE MARTIN #SW 1816
CABINETS, TRIM AND CEILING:
PURE WHITE #SW 1004

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Advice from Color Expert Bonnie Krims

- Paint colors appear brighter on the wall than they do in the can.
- Consider using bright colors in dim rooms. People tend to think of using light colors in a dark room, but a rich color can energize a room that lacks light.
- To make small rooms look large, use all light colors or all dark colors—colors similar in value. The more color contrast in a room, the smaller it looks.
- To lengthen a hallway, paint walls a deep tone and the floors and ceiling a lighter one.
- To make a square room seem less boxlike, paint one wall in a deeper tone than the others.
- To minimize the sense of separateness between spaces and the distance between rooms, paint all the trim the same color throughout the house.
- Generally, the more colorful the furnishings, the less color you need on the walls.



- The eye is attracted to the lightest color in a room.
- If you want to accent an item in the room, paint the wall behind it in a contrasting color.
- Warm colors will cheer up rooms with northern light; cool colors mellow out rooms with strong southern light; neutral colors work well in rooms with eastern and western light.
- When choosing colors, always check out the lighting first. Fluorescent light tends to eliminate some of the color's warmth.

BONNIE KRIMS IS A PAINT-COLOR CONSULTANT AND AUTHOR OF FOUR BOOKS INCLUDING PERFECT PALETTES FOR PAINTING ROOMS (ROCKPORT PUBLISHERS, 2003)

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