

How to Pick a Color Scheme

If you're trying to pick out a new color scheme, you know just how overwhelming it is to find the right match to create a pulled together look. Here are some tips on how to make your room look like a professional did it.

One: Pick a pattern.

- It could be a picture, the rug, a bedspread, or maybe even the fabric on a chair or couch.

Two: Choose three colors.

- From within this pattern, pick a light, medium, and darker color.

Three: Use your light color as the background.

- Color the walls and floor with the lightest color.
- You can add a touch of gray or white if the color seems too vivid to use a background color.
- It's best to have the floor color a bit darker than the walls and ceiling. It helps to ground the room.

Four: Put your medium tone on the largest pieces.

- Window covering and large furniture pieces should be painted with the medium-tone color.

Five: Add the darker color as an accent.

- Put the darker color on the accessories and small furniture pieces.
- Distribute them evenly throughout the room.

TIP ON COLOR SCHEMES

The feeling of a room is created with different combinations of a color.

Monochromatic: If you want calmer, quieter rooms use a neutral color such as brown or gray. Apply it in different shades to various parts of the room. It's a quite popular approach because it allows you to vary the look of the room by changing the accent and accessories. You can add interest with textures on the floor, walls, and furniture.

Related Colors: For a relaxing room, use related colors. Greens and blues or rose and peach would be an example of this kind of color scheme. Keep the strength of the colors similar. Use a color wheel to help select similar colors; they'll be next to each other.

Strong Contrast: If you want a stimulating and lively environment, use colors that strongly contrast with each other. You can pick similar colors in their dark, vivid hues, or select complimentary colors (these will be opposite one another on the color wheel)

Bring your samples home and look at them at many different times of the day. Use both natural light and incandescent lighting when looking at this. Remember that dark colors fade over time more than lighter ones.

The Color Wheel



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