

Decorate Like a PRO

10 FOOLPROOF PAINT COLORS

So You Can Avoid the Do-Over



DETAILS
INTERIORS



Written by Wendy Woloshchuk
Owner - Interior Designer & Decorator

Welcome to the NEW & IMPROVED 10 Foolproof Paint Colors ~ So You Can Avoid the Do-Over!

I'm Wendy. I'm an interior designer & decorator and the owner of Details Full Service Interiors, located in western Massachusetts.

My business services my local area and also online clients across the U.S.

I am a Certified True Color Expert and was inspired to update this eBook. The other ones weren't wrong and had some beautiful colors in them.

But, I think

that 22 colors may be overwhelming to the average homeowner.

So, I've narrowed it down to 10 of my favorites and I've added a bit more information about the colors, including the undertones. When you look at the undertones in the colors you're working with it's much easier to put together a coordinated palette.

Happy painting!

Why is choosing the perfect paint color SO difficult?

It's difficult because there are undertones that don't go together and don't go with what you have in the space.

Also, there are so many choices out there, but you want to make sure you pick the perfect one, the first time.

Well, I've taken the guess work out of it for you!

I've chosen 22 paint colors that will work in almost any room.

Now, with that said, every paint color is not guaranteed to work in every room.

Here's what you need to do once you've narrowed down your selection.

- Get a big piece of white poster board
- Paint it with a sample of the color you've chosen
- Hang it up in the room you want to paint with a white posterboard behind it (NOT the current wall color)
- Look at it in the daylight
- Look at it when it's cloudy
- Look at it when it's sunny
- Look at it at night
- Look at it next to the trim color
- Look at it next to the furniture

Here's what NOT to do with your sample board.

- Do NOT look at it in relation to your current wall color. That color is going to be gone, remember?
- Do NOT look at a wall color horizontally. Look at it by standing the sample up vertically, or taping it to the wall.

Once you've decided that it's the right color for your room, it's time to get painting!

Light & Airy

If you're going for a light and breezy feeling in your space, try one of these soft colors.



Benjamin Moore

Wispy Pink

A perfect pale pink

It's sophisticated and soft. It looks great with gray or black.



Sherwin Williams

Sea Salt SW6204

A chameleon of blue and green

It really it changes with the lighting. It can look gray, green, or blue, depending on the light.

It's one of my favorites!



Grays

Gray is so popular right now. But, it can be a difficult color to choose.

Sometimes it can look lavender, or blue, or green.

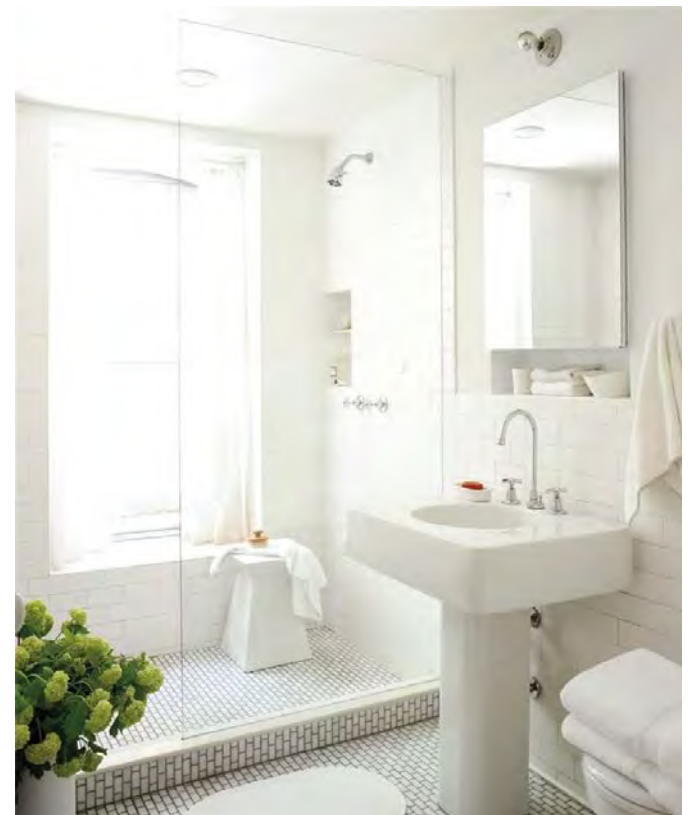
You need to pick a gray with undertones that go with the undertones in your furnishings.



Benjamin Moore

Gray Owl OC-52

A cool gray with blue undertones



Sherwin Williams

Anew Gray SW7030

A warm gray, with a green undertone, more of a greige. It really morphs with the light, sometimes appearing beige, sometimes gray.

Another one of my favorites!



Beautiful Beiges

They say beige is making a comeback. To me it never really left.
These beiges are classic and timeless.



Benjamin Moore
Manchester Tan HC-81
A timeless true beige.
It is pale and soft with a green
undertone.



Sherwin Williams
Wool Skein SW6148
Another true beige.
It is warm and inviting.



Whites

Whether you're picking a white trim or cabinet color or a white for your walls, with hundreds of whites to choose from, picking the perfect white is challenging.

You need to match the undertone of your white to the undertones in your space.

If you're not sure what white a white is, simply hold it up against a true white and you'll immediately see whether it's blue, off-white or cream.

Blue whites, whites with a blue undertone, are the coolest white.

A blue white is perfect for ceilings, but if there isn't enough natural light in the room it can look a bit blue.

In that case you should choose a true white.

A true white is warmer than a blue white and has no undertone.

Next are the off-whites. They're a bit warmer than the true white.

And finally there are the creams.

These are even warmer, with more of a yellow undertone.

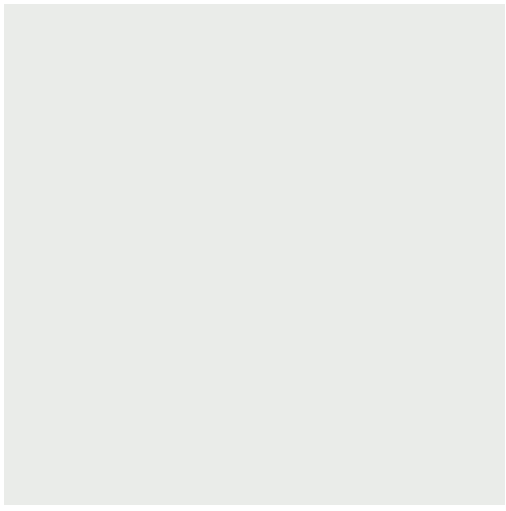
White pairs well with clean, fresh colors, blacks and grays.

While off white can go either way, depending on the undertone you've chosen to go with it.

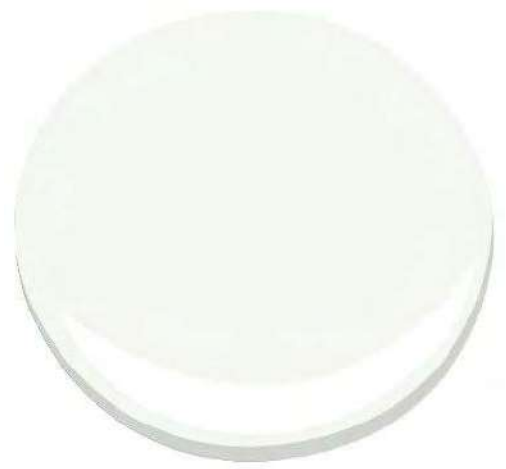
Earth tones look best with creams.

Below are some favorites.

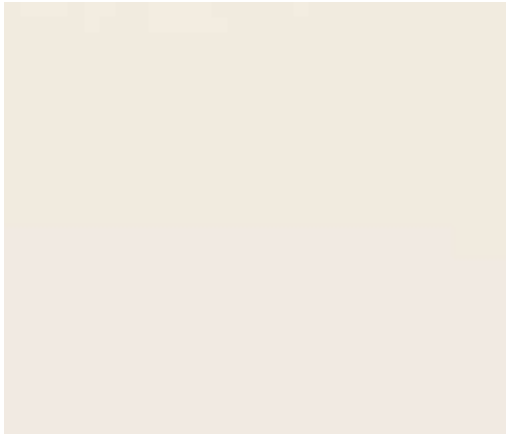
Please keep in mind that these swatches look less white against the white background, but when used as trim will look white, off white or cream next to a wall color, unless of course the wall is a true white, like this page.



Sherwin Williams
Ceiling Bright White SW7007
This is a bright white with a blue undertone in rooms without a lot of natural light



Benjamin Moore
Chantilly Lace OC-65
This is a true white with no undertone.



Sherwin Williams
Alabaster SW7008
Sherwin Williams 2016 Color of the Year
It's an off white, warmer than white but cooler than cream. Alabaster is the perfect off-white and one of my favorites that I use for trim all the time!



Benjamin Moore
White Down BM 979
This is a soft cream that looks beautiful with browns and golden wood tones.





Bonus Painting Tips

1. Spend the money on a good, quality brush and roller. It may take a little extra time to clean them after, but they produce a better paint job. Cheap rollers don't hold enough paint. You'll have to constantly re-dip and it'll take longer to paint the room.
2. If you need to take a short break from painting but you don't want to clean the roller or brush, you can cover them with plastic wrap so that the paint stays wet and they'll be ready for use when you get back to it. Don't leave them for too long. They'll dry out eventually.
3. Clear out the room before you paint. If it's something big, pile it in the center of the room and cover it with an old sheet or tarp. It'll be much easier and faster to move through the room and you won't risk getting any splatter on anything.
4. Make sure that you've cleaned thoroughly before you start painting.
Any dust on the walls or trim will leave bumps in your paint.
So vacuum and dust before you start painting and be sure to wipe down the walls.
5. Paint the trim first, then the ceilings and walls.
Professional painters usually follow an order when they paint a room.
They paint the trim first, then the ceiling, then the walls.
That's because it's easier to tape off the trim than to tape off the walls. And you don't want to tape them both.
Once the trim is dry you can tape it off and paint your ceiling and then your walls.
6. To avoid marks, overlap your strokes and roll your roller the entire height of the wall. Also, keep even pressure on the roller, never pressing harder on one side.
This will help to avoid the lines of extra paint you can leave on the wall when you're pressing too hard, and if you have pressed too hard, the overlap will take care of that.



Flat, Satin, Semi Gloss, Oh My!

Choose your sheen based on how much traffic there is in the area.
Also, consider how easily cleanable it needs to be.

Flat is a low-sheen paint with a non-reflective finish that touches up well and hides minor imperfections. It's perfect for low traffic areas, walls and ceilings.

It almost has a bit of a chalky feel to it.

You might notice that I don't use flat for walls.

That's just my personal preference.

I don't like the feel of it or the 'flat' look of it, except on ceilings.

It's a must on ceilings.

But, it might be what you're looking for.

Matte has a low luster finish that is durable, easy to clean, also touches up well, and also hides minor surface imperfections. It works well for low to moderate traffic areas, such as bedrooms.

Eggshell has a soft, velvety appearance with a little more reflectiveness than the others above. It's a good choice for moderate traffic areas such as living rooms.

Satin has a very subtle pearl-like appearance, and is good for moderate to high traffic areas or areas that have some exposure to moisture, such as kitchens and bathrooms.

Semi-Gloss is good if you want a sleek, slightly shiny sheen that is great for cabinets and trim, furniture, high-traffic areas and high-moisture areas.

Hi-Gloss creates a brilliant, shiny appearance with a glass-like finish. This is great for high-use surfaces and furniture.

It's also good for a little drama.

Painting a home office a hi-gloss navy blue would be fabulous.

If you're using semi-gloss or hi-gloss make sure your surface is pretty perfect and apply multiple, thin coats so that you get a smooth finish.

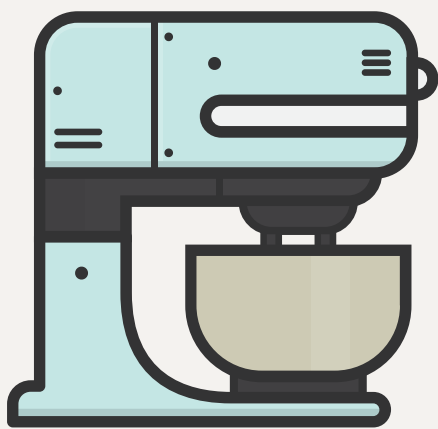
So you've picked your color, but should you get
semi-gloss, eggshell, flat, satin?
Why are there so many sheens?

The sheen of a paint is super important and depends entirely on what you're painting. Here is a general guideline, but please keep in mind that if you have any type of imperfections in what you're painting, the glossier the sheen, the more the imperfections will show.



Bathroom

Satin or Semi-Gloss



Kitchen

Satin or Semi-Gloss



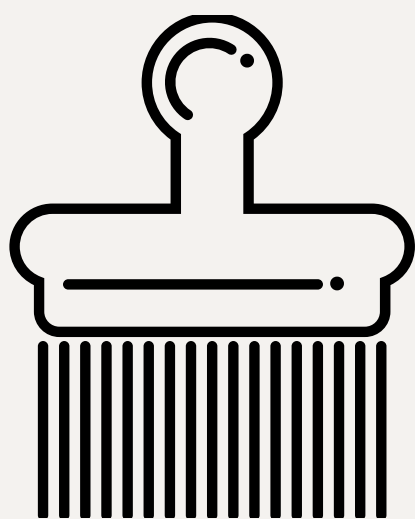
**Living Room
Family Room**

Matte, Eggshell
or Satin



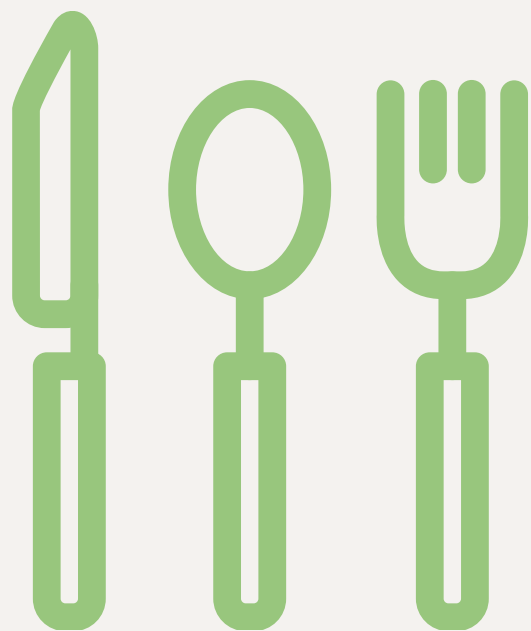
Bedroom

Matte, Eggshell
or Satin



Trim and Doors

Semi-Gloss
or Hi-Gloss



Dining Room

Matte, Satin or
Eggshell

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semi-gloss, eggshell, flat, satin?
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	Bathroom	Satin or Semi-Gloss
	Kitchen	Satin or Semi-Gloss
	Living Room Family Room	Matte, Eggshell or Satin
	Bedroom	Matte, Eggshell or Satin
	Trim and Doors	Semi-Gloss or Hi-Gloss
	Dining Room	Matte, Satin or Eggshell



For more inspiration
head over to
www.DetailsFullServiceInteriors.com
www.Facebook.com/DetailsFullServiceInteriors

There you have it!
10 Foolproof Paint Colors

Happy Painting!



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Please be sure when you order your color that the name and the number matches.
Always double check to be sure it's the color you want.
Details Full Service Interiors and Wendy Woloshchuk are not responsible in any way for any
errors in color.