

TREND REPORT

mindful moodboards

The top three colour palette combinations of 2020 blend Mother Nature's most superb earthy influences and marine elements to create a conscious mood of calm



SERENE SCENE

A gentle neutral is used to promote peace in this restful bedroom designed by Studio Quarters.



LIGHT TOUCH

Milky tones and gentle greys win the day when it comes to picking out perfect pales

1 Porter's Paints Irish Linen. **2** Porter's Paints Wood Smoke Half Strength (Wood Smoke also appears on the walls in the image below). **3** Porter's Paints Mist. **4** Porter's Paints Chintz Grey. All the paints are Eggshell Acrylic, \$130 per 4L. **LEFT** Saxon bar stool, \$255, Coco Republic. Ferm Living 'Shell' pot/sculpture, \$169, Designstuff. HK Living 'Smoke Grey' glass vase, \$59, House of Orange.

almost whites

There's no question that whites work wonders in a room – they make the most of the available natural light and can help a space feel larger than it is. But not all whites are created equal. “A ‘true white’, which has no colour tint to it, can sometimes feel a little cold and sterile,” says Sydney interior designer Sarah Yarrow. “You might find an almost-white tone, which has either a warm or cool base, is more pleasing to the eye.” Take tonal inspiration from late-summer grasses, smooth seashells and the palest eggshell blues. These colours are easy to live with, whether you use them on your walls, your bed or in artworks or furniture. “For walls in a south-facing room, it's best to select a white with warmer undertones to counteract the lower levels of natural light,” says Sarah. “Choosing a cool white could make it feel icy and clinical. The reverse applies to a north-facing room.”



PHOTOGRAPHY: PRUJE RUSCOE (ABOVE), CLAIRE TAKACS (RIGHT).
STYLING: CLAIRE DELMAR (ABOVE)

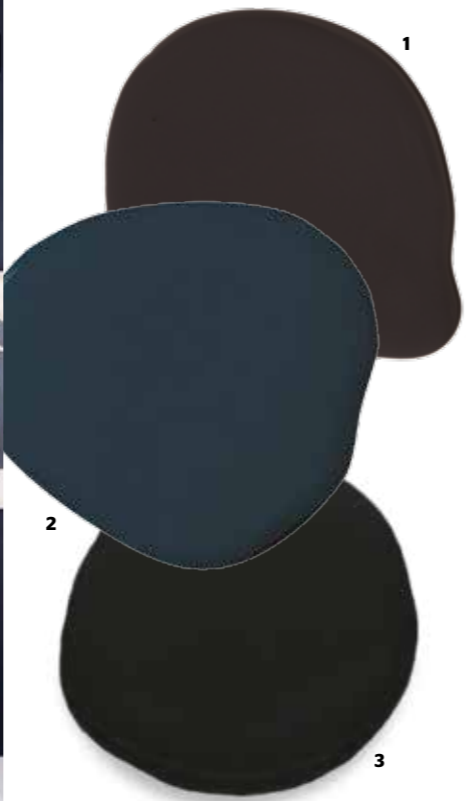
WORDS SARAH PICKETTE



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STAR STAIRS
Thanks to its recessive quality, black is a great choice for this Sydney home's under-stair study, designed by David Boyle Architect.



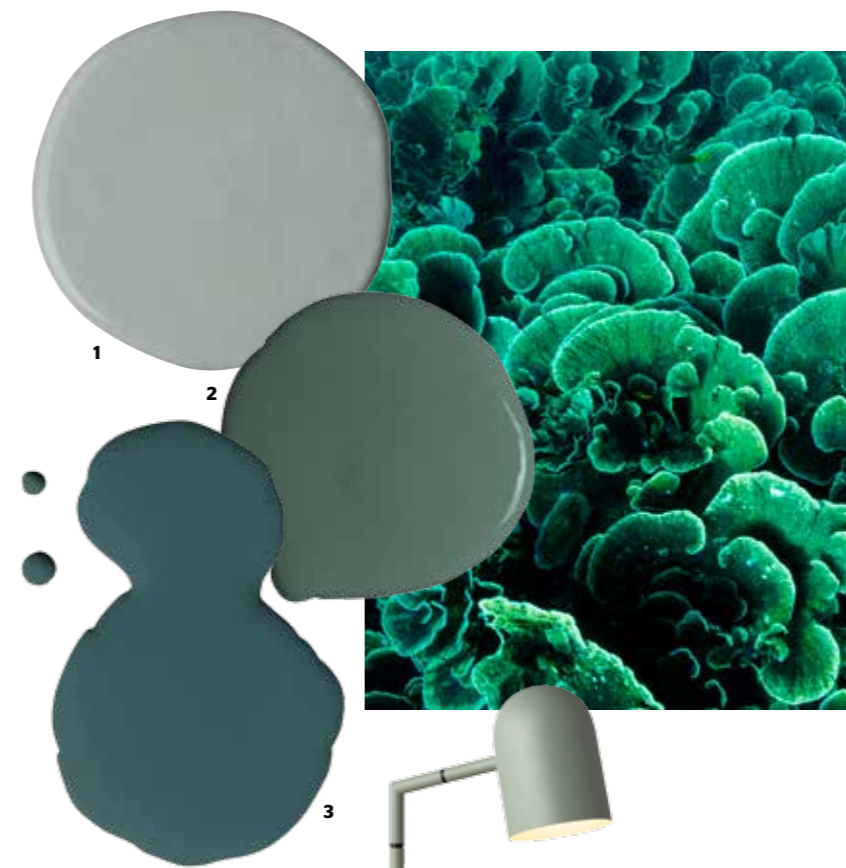
DARK ARTS
Go deeper with the deliciously intense tones of pure black, charcoal grey and rich navy
1 Porter's Paints Squid Ink.
2 Porter's Paints Yacht Race.
3 Porter's Paints Aniseed.
 All paint is Eggshell Acrylic, \$130 per 4L.
BELOW Juno 'Florence' one-seater sofa in Navy Velvet, \$1445, GlobeWest. Ligne Roset 'l'lot' stool in Cloud Marine, from \$875, Domo. Lady vase in Charcoal, \$180, Clay Canoe.

dark and moody

Rich navy, inky black, deep charcoal grey – dark, saturated colours have the power to provide intimacy to a room, making it feel cosy and homely. “They can also create a sense of drama and make smaller rooms appear bigger,” says Sydney interior designer Lynne Bradley. “In my opinion, rooms that are already dark are best painted with dark colours to make them more inviting. I love to contrast the depth with lighter-coloured furnishings and trim, to balance the space.” Many people are frightened by darker tones because they think they’ll make their space appear darker and smaller. “In fact, they have the opposite effect when used correctly,” says Lynne. “Painting your already-dark room in a paler colour will often make the space colder rather than brighter. And dark walls are a great backdrop for art and photos.” Pair intense colours with metallic accessories or trim, have crisp light-toned contrasts on your skirtings and architraves, and add pops of playful colour.



PHOTOGRAPHY: CHRIS WARNES (THIS PAGE), ALAMY (OPPOSITE TOP), CHRIS COURT (OPPOSITE BOTTOM).
 STYLING: CLAIRE DELMAR (THIS PAGE)



EARTHLI BEAUTIES
Calm and endlessly alluring, blues and greens evoke the beauty of the natural world
1 Porter's Paints French Green. **2** Porter's Paints Bayleaf. **3** Porter's Paint's Gulf Stream. All the paints are Eggshell Acrylic, \$130 per 4L.
ABOVE Mia desk lamp, \$200, Trit House. Hay '1 Dot' cushion in Warm Grey, \$195, Cult. Linen queen duvet-cover set in Olive, \$355, Cultiver. Fogia 'Bowl' coffee table, \$1540 for small, Fred International.

it's only natural

“The magic of bringing the blues and greens you find in the natural world into your home is that it's almost impossible to tire of them,” says Melbourne interior designer Camilla Molders. Liveable and soothing, they can evoke the feeling of walking beneath shady eucalypts on a spring morning or gazing out to a still ocean. “I personally love the ‘dirtier’ blues and greens in the colour spectrum – those that have a touch of grey to them. In fact, I can't think of a colour they don't work well with.” Whichever shade of blue or green you favour, know that these colours are perfect for using prominently, whether that's on your walls or in large-scale pieces like a sofa, bed or rug. “You can go big with them because these are colours that recede and won't overpower a space, which allows other elements in the room to stand out,” says Camilla. Work these colours back in with other nature-inspired pieces: accessories with organic lines, vases of extravagant foliage, and soft fabrics. It's also a great idea to pair blue *with* green – who says they can't be seen? **10**



RELAXED ELEGANCE
Soothing green is used to beautiful effect in stylist and designer Sibella Court's beachside home in Sydney.