

PINK & MAUVE

Yes, it's romantic and feminine but the combination of deep, dirty pink and dusty mauve creates a classic warm atmosphere that is ideal for making a space of comfort, says Julie McCarry, general manager of Rowmark.

This palette is particularly suited to bedrooms, sitting rooms or nurseries. Dulux colour planning and communications manager Andrea Lucena-Orr suggests choosing tonal shades for an elegant, muted effect. "Blues are warm, feminine colours that can make a room feel soft, romantic and cozy," she says. "To create a lovely soft combination, use shades that are similar in tone, for example soft pink and soft mauve — this reduces the contrast between the colours and creates a subtle effect."

TIP: "Colour can be added subtly through shape and texture," says Ms Blomqvist. "Think glass-vertically veined stripes in cushions in an accent or seasonal colour."

Hot vase, \$29.95, from Freshness; book box, \$29.95 (small), from Baker & Shickman; velvet hocker, \$12, and tealight holder, \$1, both from Lotus Gift & Home; bamboo striped cushion, \$44.95, from Baker & Shickman; Plato cushion in mauve, \$19.95, from Freshness; Eder & Erik night candles, \$10.50 (big), and \$9.50 (small), from Lotus Gift and Home; vases.

PALE BLUE & TURQUOISE

For a chic twist on traditional blues, try turquoise teamed with a pale blue base colour.

"Blues give a tranquil, serene feeling and give the room the illusion of spaciousness," says Ms Lucena-Orr.

Ms Blomqvist likes Wright's Tealight Box and Persian Turquoise. "Colour can be very powerful and a small amount can go a long way," she says. "Do not underestimate the impact a small amount of colour with accessories can have."

Different textures and materials can be used to create interest when decorating with colours from within the same family. "Combining textures are crucial to creating an interesting space when using colours from the same hue," Ms Boyd says.

TIP: Complete a colour scheme by adding colour with appliances, recommends Ms Johnson.

"Drifting away from the standard steel to the vibrant colours that are now available makes an impact (see above) on the kitchen bench."

"Decorators in interesting shapes and colours on the bench and colourful kitchen stools against the kitchen bench can also stand out."

CONTACTS

Baker & Shickman, 88 Levey, 9227-9037; Rowmark, South Presoville 9433 1008; Belle Life Style 0433 698 233; City Chic, Highgate 6460 4962; Country Road 1800 861 902; Domain Outdoor Park, 9440 7505, and Bonaika, 9204 2877; Dulux, 13 25 25; Empire Tailors, 7988 131, and Myer's, 9330 8820; Ikea, Issacell 9262 4332; International School of Colour and Design, 027 9334 9988; Lotus Gift and Home, 9001 2331; Target, 1300 130 000; Westly 13 21 21.

Glass veint vase, \$36.99, from Target; Laguna bottle vases by Metro Style, \$24.95 (big) and \$17.95 (small), from City Chic; Ahoia cushion in mauve, \$19.95; Chelsea cushion in teal, \$26.95, and Marston coral bowl in ocean, \$4.95, all from Freshness.



1 side photo, p. 62; Barocco 4, \$29; vase in barrel, classic, on by spectrum 1, \$29; \$199 (part of