

trends of the future

We have an ongoing fascination with observing design trends, where they originate from and how they evolve into the products and colours we long to use in our own homes. Do we still religiously follow these trends or have they rather morphed into lifestyle and consumer behaviour which we have chosen to adopt? **By Lucy Sutherland**

Every year, trend experts around the globe release their predictions on how they think our homes will look in years to come. A simple online search will lead to a plethora of trend blogs and seasonal forecasts. Here in Australia we take our cues from overseas trend experts and forecasts as well as trends that are unique to our culture, climate and environment.

Trend experts at the ISCD (International School of Colour and Design) in Sydney get

together on an annual basis to workshop their predictions on what design styles and colours will mould and shape homes of the future. They also incorporate observations from overseas design fairs and installations. Some of the key directional themes they identified for future design trends include the continued focus on sustainable living, the emergence of African culture and style elements, the new space-age influence on fashion and interiors, and the ongoing evolution of geometric design in both interiors and exteriors. Five key themes that ISCD pinpointed as important for design moving forward were Greenscape, Earthenware, Vivid, Geometrix and Galactic.

GREENSCAPE

Greenscape is more than just a collection of green colours; it is a natural palette inspired not only by nature, but by our awareness of preserving nature. Sustainability, recycling and environmental responsibility are all practices that have now become an integral part of our daily lives and the products which we use regularly. Greenscape includes concepts of growth or new sprouts, new ideas and social issues. Areas such as sustainability, recycling and environmental care in design have now been fully integrated into our way of life and are here to stay. Our future will focus on maintaining this awareness and enhancing the ways we protect the world and our resources.

Karen Warman from Resene Paints describes the source of this trend as "the strong push for sustainability and the collective effort that has evolved to become a personal responsibility for each of us, shifting the focus of the green palette as we combine our lifestyles with more sustainable living rather than just sustainable living



defining lifestyle. Caring for the environment has become embedded in our culture and the way we do and think about things — a part of our daily lives — challenging preconceived ideas of what is truly 'green.' Karen believes this mindset "underscores a move away from basic earthiness towards the warmth and comfort of copper browns, a shift from gold towards yellows, and a fusion of warmth with the green palette. Brown-enhanced golds, such as Resene Fleetwood, warmed yellow greens, such as Resene Kombi, and rich greens, such as Resene Green Room, will grow in popularity."

The Greenscape palette that has been developed by Resene features a range of soft blues and greens. Karen describes the range as having "a misty, soft and thoughtful cast over sectors of the green and blue palette, with frosted, pale aquatic colours such as Resene Comfort Zone. The soft focus hints at subtle depths and lends a sense of ethereality. Blues are softened and diluted, moving away from strong nautical-influenced shades to hues reflecting the freshwater aquatic. Ambiguous colours such as Resene Guru, difficult to place in a single-colour palette, cross the line between blue and green."

Greenscape is about a green mood, a feeling of freshness, vitality and growth and recreating natural textures in a variety of new ways.

EARTHENWARE

Another natural colour trend emerging, Earthenware offers a strong textured range of colours suggesting warmth and safety in a rich palette across all areas of design. Burgundy, terracotta, aubergine, chocolate and mauve are all appearing in interior and textile designs. Earthenware encompasses textures that echo the patterns of nature from the earth, desert and sand. Fabrics demonstrate sandy ripples, velvety sheens

