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These are the Hottest Colors for 2022, According to Interior Designers

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Photo Credit: Margaret Wright

Color is about so much more than aesthetics. Your choices in paint, upholstery, and decor can also affect how you feel — and as a result, how you function — at home. So if you're in need of a major shift with the new year, consider outfitting your space with colors that enhance your mood and well-being. It's an easy but high-impact way to set the stage for all the new routines you're hoping to implement.

Need some inspo? Here are seven colors interior designers predict will surge in popularity in 2022.

Sage

Georgia Zikas, principal and founder of Georgia Zikas Design, predicts light sage or muted green like Sherwin Williams' Evergreen Fog will dominate in 2022. "I think more and more people are gravitating toward incorporating some sort of color, even in the most muted shades, into their homes the more time they spend there," she says. "This green is warm enough to evoke a feeling of harmony and comfort, yet neutral enough to work well as a backdrop for many design styles," she says. Zikas suggests pairing a sage green with other warm neutrals, such as ivory, caramel, or ecru, or contrasting shades of lilac, navy, or espresso.

Deep Green

Jewel tones, especially deep greens, are stunning on walls, upholstery and cabinets, says interior designer Susan Wintersteen. "These are tones that are organic and can be elevated to luxury in the blink of an eye," she says. "Green represents growth and being outside and not cooped up, perhaps a nod to being quarantined for so long."

Muted Brown

While the past few years have been all about cooler colors, we can expect the design world to embrace more earthy tones in 2022 — think warm and neutral brown and muted terracotta, which were also popular in the 1970s. "The 70s era is becoming a big influence due to the earthiness as well as the fluid and relaxing feel it brings," says Jennifer Guerin, an interior designer and color expert.

Cream

While grays had a 10-year run, more and more people are gravitating toward warmer tones, especially creamy whites and beiges, which add a cozy feel to interiors (especially when paired with light wood, such as white oak), says Lina Galvao of Curated Nest Interiors. Benjamin Moore Simply White, White Dove, and Swiss Coffee are great examples of this warm and cozy vibe.

Dusty Lilac

Principal interior designer Emma Beryl predicts dusty lilac — a fresh, fun take on the muted earthy tones surging in popularity — will come back in a big way in 2022. "It's a color that's often associated with child-like playful spaces when it's more saturated, but the chalk-like finish of dusty lilac elevates it and feels unexpected," she says. "I personally would love to use Calluna by Farrow and Ball in a room soon, which is a sophisticated take on this color."

Green and Pink

Abbey Hunter, an interior designer with M+A Architects, says 2022 is all about green and pinks — in a way we’ve never seen them before. Think more deep, jewel-toned greens and rooted, terracotta pinks. Hues of green, Hunter says, are soothing and signal safety, while the deep pinks in muted palettes radiate warmth and comfort. “This muted palette is demonstrative of collective renewing as together we move forward with a greater value on healing, safety, and well-being than ever before, all emotions elicited by these hues,” she says.

Sunset Orange

According to Yoselin Castro, a senior interior designer at Mackenzie Collier Interiors, sunset orange will be showing up in the home in small doses, such as linens and furniture pieces (like this quirky, mid-century style credenza). “The idea of incorporating color in items that are easier to change throughout the seasons is becoming more common, allowing people to have more fun with the things they bring into their home,” she says.

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