

COLOR DINING ROOMS

Set the scene for memorable dinners. There's nothing like a great color for creating magic and romance.

Interviews by CHRISTINE PITTEL



"In a Palm Beach dining room, where the light is pure and white, yellow creates a sense of warmth. But it's also neutral enough to meld everything together. This is a sandy, enveloping color. Think of a picnic on the beach with lobsters and mussels and white wine—what could be better?"

HARRY HEISSMANN VALSPAR JEKYLL CLUBHOUSE YELLOW 3006-6C "Flesh tones are intimate, and this peach with a touch of yellow is like a woman's blush. It makes a pretty room, and you'd look pretty in it. To give it a little twist and make it come alive, I'd do indigo blue chairs and a yellow ceiling."

NANCY BOSZHARDT FARROW & BALL FOWLER PINK 38 "This rich chocolate brown looks luxurious, like a really expensive leather. It makes you feel special. I'd do burnt orange, crimson, or mauve on the chairs, with an eight-foot round table—a table of equals. It's more conducive to conversation. At a rectangular table, the people at either end often get left out."

HEATHER MOORE BENJAMIN MOORE RIDING BOOTS CSP-300





"This red doesn't jump out at you. That little bit of brown in it has a calming effect and makes it more cozy and inviting. There's something about red that just draws you in. You must see this in candlelight. Art looks great, and so do people. It's like seeing them through rose-colored glasses."

PAMELA BANKER BENJAMIN MOORE SEGOVIA RED 1288



"Not brown, not purple, but more of a raisin tone—this is unconventional. Offset by crisp white trim, it's a dramatic backdrop. Everything stands out—guests in their party clothes, gleaming flatware, white linens, sparkling crystal, a fuchsia centerpiece. Even mahogany furniture takes on a warm glow."

SHERRILL CANET FARROW & BALL BRINJAL 222



"This is not an insipid pale gray, yet it doesn't feel too dark and somber. It's elegant and romantic, like that gray light you see in Paris. You could put anything with it. Pink, coral, lime—if you want to feel fresh and young. Or black, if you're doing a gray-flannel kind of room. It's a sophisticated color."

PENNY DRUE BAIRD BENJAMIN MOORE GRAY TIMBER WOLF 2126-50 often used for special events, and you want them to be fun. There's no reason to have a sedate white dining room. It doesn't even look good in candlelight. This is a blue on the cusp of green. In an old Nantucket house, it creates a buoyant mood. It's a gesture of hospitality, a color that makes people want to be in the room."

"Dining rooms are

THOMAS JAYNE SHERWIN-WILLIAMS SPA SW 6765 "This is a beautiful mossy green, with a hint of yellow, that gets duskier in candlelight. It's a sexy green, very romantic. If you like to linger over dinner, this will make you want to settle in and talk for hours. And everything, including food, looks great against it."

JENNIFER GARRIGUES BENJAMIN MOORE MESOUITE 501 jewelry has that creamy softness to it? So does this color. Dark and moody shades are great when nobody goes into a dining room except for a dinner party. But if you're going to use the room all day, you want something fresh. In the morning, this always feels sunlit. It would be incredible with turquoise, brick, or sage green."

"You know how old ivory

CHRISTINE MARKATOS PRATT & LAMBERT CEVLON IVORY 9-26









"A dining room is an intimate space. You're there in the evening. You want to relax. I like to use a dark, rich color that adds to the experience and sets the room apart. This is a stone gray, softer than charcoal. It has an East Coast, Cape Cod kind of feel. Old family portraits in gilded frames or modern art would look phenomenal."

NATHAN FISCHER CLARK & KENSINGTON OMINOUS CLOUD 5044



"If you're looking for one of those colors you can't pin down, this is an evasive blue-gray-green, the color of Spanish moss on a cloudy day. It's actually a warm blue, which is unusual. Very soothing. I like it with dark red, orange, and lemon."

RALPH HARVARD WILLIAMSBURG APOTHECARY SHOP BLUE MEDIUM LIGHT CW507



"Like being out on the grass on a summer afternoon, this makes me feel happy. It could be informal with wicker chairs and a reclaimed wood table, or more serious with mahogany, needlepoint cushions, and an animal-print rug. Whether your dishes are stoneware or Blue Willow, it still works. It's refreshing."

CYNDIE SEELY
PRATT & LAMBERT
GREEN BARLEY 20-24 •

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