

No more SHADES of grey

Want a one-room makeover or whole home overhaul that doesn't require much time, effort or money? Then get your paintbrush and roller out and follow the advice from the experts on the hot colours of the season. ■ By **LUISA VOLPATO**

Just as we slip into warmer and darker clothing and apply deeper shades of eyeshadow and lipstick, so too can our homes do with a little makeover in preparation for the cooler months ahead.

Paint is one of the simplest decorating tools that can really transform a space—quickly and cheaply—and if you're a little bit handy it's not too hard to do it yourself. Paint colours can really help set the mood of a space and in turn can have a positive effect on our mood too.

WINTER WARMERS

Each year Dulux looks at the trends in design, colour and finishes from around the globe when making its seasonal predictions. And the prediction for this winter is for deep and decadent hues that are perfect for adding warmth to our interiors spaces during the colder months.

The warm and earthy winter palette from Dulux includes moody browns, violets, greys and dusty pinks offset with a spark of colour or metallic tones.

The top picks include Double Bass (a rich charcoal

with a brownish undertone) and Laylock (a moody violet) with accents in colours such as Moroccan Leather (an earthy brown), Cosmic Aura (a skin tone pink) and Stellar Glow (a metallic shade with a warm, reflective, coppery feel).

CONTRAST AND HIGHLIGHT

Speaking on behalf of Dulux, artist Geoffrey Carran said home decorators could draw inspiration from expressive, decorative periods such as Deco, Baroque and Renaissance, choosing a contrast between dark backgrounds and illuminated highlights.

"It's natural to want to hibernate in the winter and this season will bring about contrast of warm and cool colours," Geoffrey said. "Bring a sense of solidarity and balance to your space by contrasting a gorgeous metallic hue, such as Dulux Stellar Glow, with a contrasting deep charcoal brown, such as Dulux Double Bass.

"Then pile on some luscious, textured textiles with a blend of patterns and surround yourself with your favourite things to create an escape from the bleak weather outside."

WINTER BLUES

While winter skies might not be as blue as we'd like, the hot tip from interior designer and Taubmans brand ambassador and colour creative director, Shayna Blaze, is to bring some blue into your home with paint. While there may be fifty shades of grey, Shayna says you only really need to choose

BELOW: The warm and earthy winter palette from Dulux includes moody browns, violets, greys and dusty pinks.

					
Double Bass	Laylock	Stellar Glow	Moroccan Leather	Cosmic Aura	Regal Violet
Color: #333333	Color: #806492	Color: #C4A08D	Color: #A0522D	Color: #E9967A	Color: #806492
1L/3.78L: \$55	1L/3.78L: \$55	1L/3.78L: \$55	1L/3.78L: \$55	1L/3.78L: \$55	1L/3.78L: \$55
5L/18.9L: \$275	5L/18.9L: \$275	5L/18.9L: \$275	5L/18.9L: \$275	5L/18.9L: \$275	5L/18.9L: \$275
10L/37.8L: \$540	10L/37.8L: \$540	10L/37.8L: \$540	10L/37.8L: \$540	10L/37.8L: \$540	10L/37.8L: \$540
15L/56.7L: \$810	15L/56.7L: \$810	15L/56.7L: \$810	15L/56.7L: \$810	15L/56.7L: \$810	15L/56.7L: \$810
20L/75.6L: \$1080	20L/75.6L: \$1080	20L/75.6L: \$1080	20L/75.6L: \$1080	20L/75.6L: \$1080	20L/75.6L: \$1080
25L/94.5L: \$1350	25L/94.5L: \$1350	25L/94.5L: \$1350	25L/94.5L: \$1350	25L/94.5L: \$1350	25L/94.5L: \$1350
30L/113.4L: \$1620	30L/113.4L: \$1620	30L/113.4L: \$1620	30L/113.4L: \$1620	30L/113.4L: \$1620	30L/113.4L: \$1620
35L/132.3L: \$1890	35L/132.3L: \$1890	35L/132.3L: \$1890	35L/132.3L: \$1890	35L/132.3L: \$1890	35L/132.3L: \$1890
40L/151.2L: \$2160	40L/151.2L: \$2160	40L/151.2L: \$2160	40L/151.2L: \$2160	40L/151.2L: \$2160	40L/151.2L: \$2160
45L/170.1L: \$2430	45L/170.1L: \$2430	45L/170.1L: \$2430	45L/170.1L: \$2430	45L/170.1L: \$2430	45L/170.1L: \$2430
50L/189L: \$2700	50L/189L: \$2700	50L/189L: \$2700	50L/189L: \$2700	50L/189L: \$2700	50L/189L: \$2700

"Bring a sense of solidarity and balance to your space by contrasting a gorgeous metallic hue... with a contrasting deep charcoal brown"

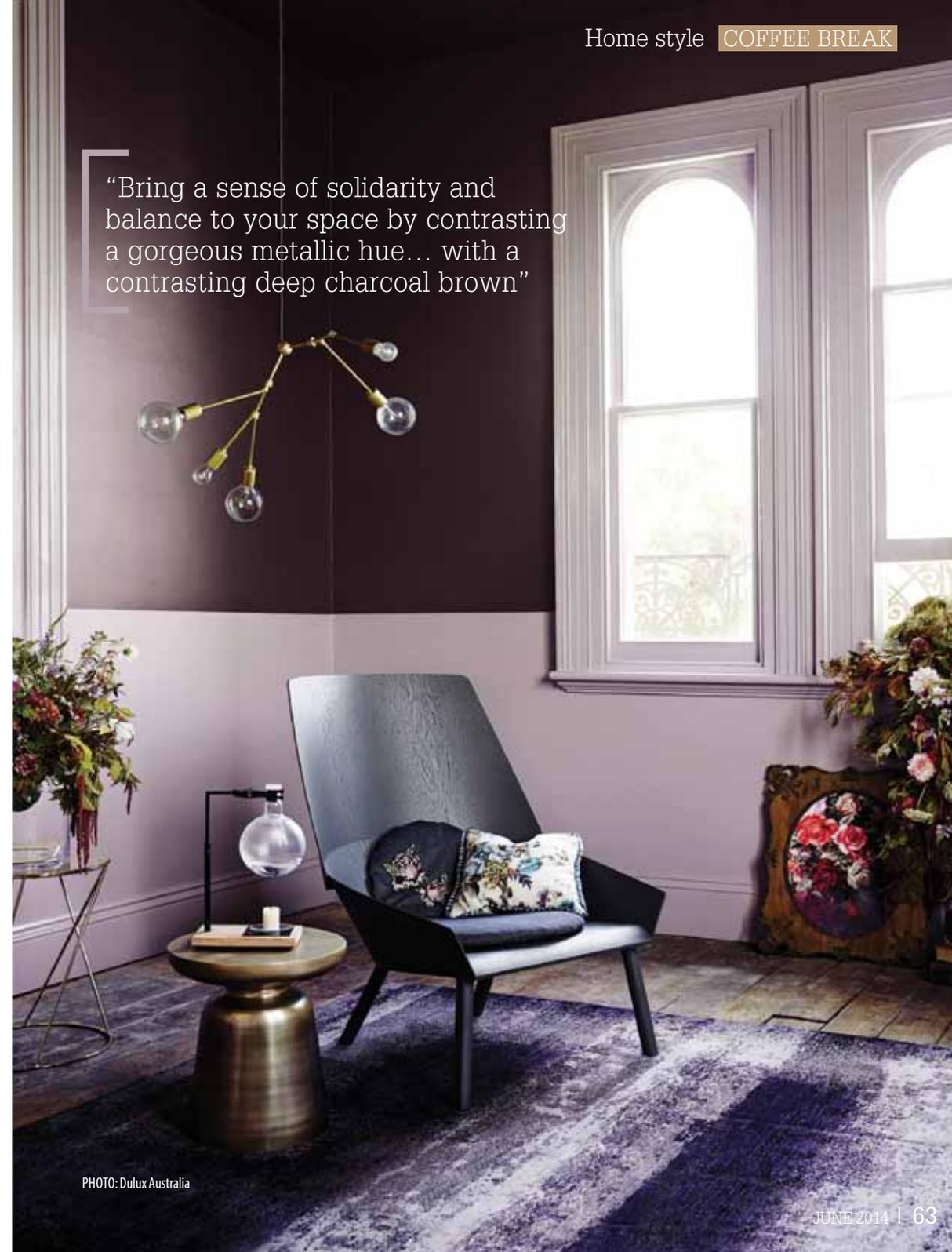


PHOTO: Dulux Australia



PHOTO: Dulux Australia



PHOTO: Taubmans

between a light, medium or dark blue, depending on the mood you want to create in any room.

LIGHT ROMANTICS

“Light blues are great for creating a soft, romantic and relaxed feel in a room,” she said. “A light blue like Taubmans Endure Blue Cascade works particularly well in a couple’s bedroom as the pastel tone of the blue is gender neutral unlike a pink or mauve, which can be too feminine.

“For a crisp look use layers of textured fabrics in whites and creams or taupe, mocha and browns for a relaxed feel. Team with a soft blue like Taubmans Endure Dream Cloud for timber trims and cornices.

“Light blue colour schemes also work well in home offices and guest bedrooms and help make small rooms appear larger. The softness of the blue will create a calming mood no matter what the room’s purpose.”

SOPHISTICATED SHADES

For a contemporary and sophisticated look you can’t go past medium shades of blue, often with a strong dose of grey in them, says Shaynna.

“Medium blues are great for a bedroom, living area, hallway or just a cosy nook,” she said. “Make a bold statement in a living room by painting all walls in a medium blue like Taubmans Endure Evening Shadow paired with black and white furniture, bold textures, patterned fabrics and leather. Accessorise with gold and silver metallic accented lampshades and coffee tables.

“If you like a nautical theme, pair a medium blue such as Taubmans Endure Mariner with dark red, navy, turquoise and white accessories. Medium blues are also great for an exterior colour scheme teamed with neutral or dark timber trims and gutters.”

Darker colours such as Taubmans Endure Starry Night Blue are best used in large rooms with lots of natural light or just as a feature wall...



DARK DETAILS

For those who are more adventurous, Shaynna recommends experimenting with dark and energetic blues, suitable for both kids’ and adults’ bedrooms, either as a feature wall or as the base colour of a room.

“Darker colours such as Taubmans Endure Starry Night Blue are best used in large rooms with lots of natural light or just as a feature wall, such as a backdrop to a bedhead, in smaller rooms. A feature wall will frame the bed, creating a focal point in the room.

“Don’t be afraid to use dark blues, such as Taubmans Endure Crushed Velvet in smaller spaces in your home like hallways and alcoves. These darker tones not only create a moodier, more mysterious feel but also work as the perfect backdrop for large pieces of artwork. Alter the feel of the room with floor lamps and feature lighting.”

ABOVE: For a contemporary and sophisticated look you can’t go past Taubmans Endure’s medium shades of blue.

Painting 101

While you might be tempted to just get stuck in, preparation is everything when it comes to painting. Interior stylist Luisa Volpato shares her tips.

WIPE CLEAN If walls are in good condition without flaking or peeling, then just wash them down with sugar soap that is great for removing dirt, grease or mould.

SAND SURFACES If there’s peeling or cracked paint start by scraping off any flakes or bubbles and then smooth out with sandpaper. If the area is only small and the flakes are fine, you can get away with a light sand. But if there are layers of paint peeling off, then you will need to brush on some chemical liquid paint stripper. Spray on strippers make it easier to remove paint from hard to get places or timber trims and doors that have had layers of paint applied to them over the years.

COVER CRACKS Fill in any cracks and holes in the walls with a quick set filler then sand them down once they’re dry. If there are holes, dents or chips in interior timber trims, these are best filled with plastic wood or water-based timber filler. It sets fast, ready for sanding.

APPLY UNDERCOAT Just like a professional manicure starts with a base coat, so too does a good paint job. Especially for areas that have been largely sanded or filled, an undercoat will ensure that the top coat goes on more evenly.

THE RIGHT TOOLS Buy the best quality painting tools that you can afford. They’ll make your job better and easier and you’ll have them for years to come. Use a broad brush for around the edges of walls and to get a great finish on doors. Your main investment should be in a good roller as that will give you the most even coverage over large surfaces. Just make sure to stay away from corners, use a painting pad instead to avoid drips of paint getting stuck in there.

READY, SET, GO Remember to stir paint well every time you open the tin and occasionally during painting. Always start by painting ceilings first, then around the corners of the walls, followed by the walls, doors and trims.

If the preparation has been done right, painting can be therapeutic and the results rewarding. Good luck and enjoy!