

How a Successful Color Scheme is Created

Play Around with Color to Create a Welcoming Home

Create a Stunning Color Scheme

Every house has the basics of flooring, furniture, lighting and doors. The way to make a/your home stand out is through color. As a unifying force, color schemes make a space inviting. Play with your favorite hues to showcase your personality and creativity.

Add

Neutral rooms are timeless for their clean and simple look. However, a bold splash/inclusion of color can energize a space, giving the room visual interest. For example, an all-white room comes to life with kelly green built-ins, an area rug or tiles. Gold hardware and lighting provide a pleasing contrast and a touch of metallic glamour to a gray or beige palette. Make a stylish impact/flourish by painting the ceiling a statement color. Consider aquamarine, coral or violet as top choices. Keep the color accent to one strong selection/piece.

Repeat

Color can be intimidating for the uninitiated. To create a starting point, select a multi-hued accent such as a piece of wall art, a throw pillow or an exotic rug as inspiration. Study the hues used and pick out which ones would look best in your home. Be mindful, however, that only using primary colors (basic red, blue and yellow) can be somewhat unimaginative. Pull out a kaleidoscope of hues, perhaps including cranberry, teal and gold. Think a crimson area rug, teal accent pillows and gold lampshades tied together with poufs that have all of these majestic colors on display. Window treatments, furniture and walls are blank canvases to repeat vibrant hues.

Play

Hues within the same color family always match, creating a cohesive look. Layering color is the perfect way to play. Shades can vary from pastels and jewel tones to the deepest hues. Monochrome works because it is easy and allows homeowners to change their mind without too much fuss. The shared undertone can always be changed or added to easily. Instead of color, the focus can be on architectural details and textures. Select one dominating undertone and add interest with various combinations of the hue. Think navy, peacock, turquoise and baby blue for the lighting fixtures, rugs and wall art. Variation/Visual interest/texture can come in faux fur or sisal rugs, coffered ceilings and wood floors.

Explore the wonderful world of color with these tips inspired by the April 1962 issue of Better Homes & Gardens magazine.