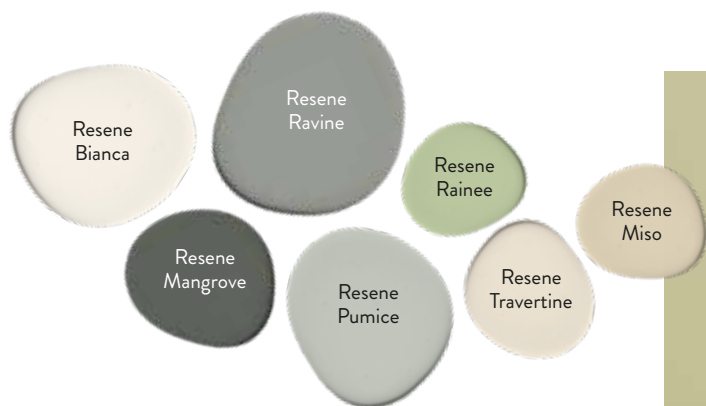


# Colour as a *remedy*

Nature and wellness remain key drivers of colour trends during challenging times, but there's a brighter future ahead.





As the anniversary of the first lockdown measures passed, there was marked recognition of the changes that have impacted virtually every aspect of our lives. And like any anniversary, it offered an opportunity to reflect on just how much the past year has had a toll on our mental wellbeing and livelihood in a way we've never experienced before.

But with that discomfort came a reminder to slow down, look inwards and refocus on what's important. It brought to light that our constant busyness may be clawing away at our quality of life and gave many a chance to take a breath and spend some quality time with their families. This shift has been by far and large the biggest factor in shaping both current colour trends and what's yet to come.

As the global vaccination rollout gains steam, there is also a collective sense of hope hanging in the air. Finally, there is a light at the end of the tunnel, and while we're not sure exactly when we'll get there, this turn towards positivity has also had a profound effect on our long range colour forecast.

We look at the hottest Resene colours that are trending today and what colours we can look forward to.

## Natural healing

When we ask our specifying audience what inspires them, the most common answer is their local natural surroundings. Whether it's hues pulled from the expansive sea and sky or lush native forests, there's no stopping the popularity of dusted blues and greens. Not only do colours like Resene Gothic, Resene Rainee and Resene Celtic work well within the complexities of our harsh UV-laden light, they also carry an inherent energy of rejuvenation. As animals at heart, it's innate for our habits and energy to follow the ebbs and flow of nature's cyclical path. And after a difficult 'season' of focusing on our survival, we know that surrounding ourselves with these colours is just what the doctor ordered.



**above:** Colours derived from nature continue to be among Resene's most popular hues. Use them to smooth the harshness of manmade shapes and increase biophilic response. Background and tabletop in Resene Nirvana with blocks in Resene Possessed, Resene Celtic, Resene Gothic, Resene Half Aubergine, Resene Home Run and Resene Bianca.

**opposite:** Right wall in Resene Mangrove with Resene FX Paint Effects medium coloured with Resene Ravine, left wall in Resene Ravine with Resene FX Paint Effects medium coloured with Resene Mangrove, floor in Resene Pumice with FX Paint Effects medium coloured with Resene Ravine, large vase (with toetoe) in Resene Nirvana, plant pot in Resene Miso and small vases in Resene Travertine and Resene Possessed. Bench and cushion from Bauhaus.

- Resene Nirvana
- Resene Possessed
- Resene Celtic
- Resene Gothic





Resene  
Ziggurat

Resene  
Otter

Resene  
Kilimanjaro

Resene  
Navigate

**above left:** As we try and reassemble a sense of normalcy, we're sometimes surprised that although the pieces are all there, they might not fit together the same way. Background in Resene Navigate with broken plates in Resene Ziggurat, Resene Hot August, Resene Vanquish, Resene Dust Storm, Resene Otter, Resene Kilimanjaro and Resene Hot Toddy.

**below left:** An increase in working from home has driven many to refresh the spaces where we get down to business with hues that comfort and inspire. Background in Resene Otter with stationary supplies in Resene Kilimanjaro, Resene Ziggurat, Resene Navigate, Resene Hot August, Resene Dust Storm, Resene Vanquish and Resene Hot Toddy.

Thanks to the internet, clients are also more educated on colour theory and design principles than ever before. With knowledge about the psychological benefits of biophilic design becoming more mainstream, its popularity is on the rise among clients looking to increase connectivity to the natural environment through the incorporation of direct and indirect natural elements. While this trend was initially driven by design experts, it seems the desire to strengthen the tie between our interiors and exterior surroundings is being driven by savvy consumers as well.









Where cooler colours have dominated the popular palette in the past two decades, we're seeing a strong shift towards warmer undertones, with hues like Resene Bianca and Resene Possessed gaining traction. The same goes for our nature-inspired hues, with silver sages making way for salty celery greens like Resene Nirvana and evergreens and emeralds transitioning to saturated olives like Resene Seaweed – which make a lovely complement to popular red terracotta hues like Resene Hot August. When it comes to blues, look to colours like Resene Ziggurat and Resene Navigate to bring warmth to coastal palettes.

### Caffeinated comforts

We often turn to nostalgia for comfort. It's a habit that has impacted colour trends through an increased demand for tones that were popular in the 70s and those hues are still holding strong. But it's the sharp turn away from our reliance on cool grey as the key neutral that we see as a trend that's here for the long haul.

Coffee and chocolate browns from milky Swiss whites through to deep cocoas are trending – especially those characterised by complex undertones, which makes them a far cry from the variations that dominated in the 70s and 90s. The subtleties of sleek and supple Resene Otter and fully saturated Resene Kilimanjaro, in particular, make them frontrunners for becoming go-to palette grounders.









- |  |   |   |  |
|--|---|---|--|
|  Resene Bianca  |  Resene Dust Storm |  Resene Hot August |  Resene Possessed |
|  Resene Nirvana |  Resene Hot Toddy  |  Resene Vanquish   |  Resene Seaweed   |

The most common advice we hear from specifiers on how to get 'unstuck' on a project is to take a walk and get a warming beverage. Could looking to a cuppa for inspiration be a driver in the increase in popularity of coffee-coloured hues? Background in Resene Ziggurat, plate, cream and sugar set in Resene Dust Storm, mugs in Resene Hot August and cutlery in Resene Navigate.





**above:** There's nothing like a courageous colour to elevate simple forms. Background in Resene Sandbar with square in Resene Hot Toddy, cube in Resene Aviator, balls in (from top to bottom) Resene Vanilla Ice, Resene Half Aubergine and Resene Home Run and pool noodles in (from top to bottom) Resene Home Run, Resene Mulberry, Resene Rouge and Resene Hot Toddy.

	Resene Mulberry		Resene Home Run		Resene Aviator
	Resene Vanquish		Resene Half Aubergine		Resene Half Resolution Blue

## Reignition sequence

In the aftermath of a year like no other, it's clear that we're ready for a more positive perspective – and our longer range forecast does not disappoint. We're soon to see a sharp rise in punchy colours that will be sure to put some more pep in our step. For starters, golden yellows like Resene Sandbar and Resene Hot Toddy, which have perennial popularity in Australia, will be popping up on the eastern side of the Tasman as well. And if that's not enough to get you fired up, watch for electric blues like Resene Aviator and Resene Half Resolution Blue, plums and raspberry reds like Resene Half Aubergine, Resene Mulberry and Resene Vanquish and enthusiastic greens like Resene Home Run that will really get the motor running.

And while we thought the penchant for petal pinks might have fizzled out by now, it seems it will instead be reinvigorated with this push for positivity. Watch for paler shades like Resene Vanilla Ice and richer ones like Resene Rouge making a resurgence.

We're sure that even those that don't feel the same love for pinks that others do will agree that it's high time for a rosy outlook. **BW**

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**images** Bryce Carleton



Left wall in Resene Vanilla Ice, right wall in Resene Half Aubergine, floor in Resene Half Resolution Blue, vase in Resene Rouge, balls in (from large to small) Resene Half Aubergine, Resene Home Run and Resene Vanilla Ice and foam arches (from front to back) in Resene Sandbar, Resene Hot Toddy, Resene Home Run, Resene Aviator, Resene Half Aubergine, Resene Mulberry, Resene Rouge and Resene Vanilla Ice. Chair from Good Form, lamp from ECC.