

keeping it natural

As both a winner and a judge of the Resene Total Colour Awards, well-known architect Paul Leuschke may like earthy tones... but could be swayed by pink!



What do you love most about your profession as an architect?

I enjoy meeting new people and together we take a journey of discovery. I give them something more than they imagined, but still within their comfort zone. It's a house they love living in every day. I love that I have made their life more enjoyable.

We all love the sun and subconsciously follow it around during the day – from the morning cuppa on the kitchen steps, to the backyard barbecue in the afternoon. I like to design for the way people live today, the feeling of being outside but still protected from the elements.

What is your favourite decorating colour?

Resene Double Alabaster. It is a forgiving white, not too clinical and not too dirty either.

Have your colour choices changed during the years?

No not really. Colours change with fashion, but a colour scheme that is 95% neutrals and 5% any colour you want seems to work well. When the fashion colour becomes dated then there is only a modest repaint needed to bring it back into fashion. The neutrals, like clear-finished timber floors or white bathroom ware never go out of fashion.

What are your three favourite colours from Resene's new The Range fashion colours fandeck and why?





My favourite new season colours are Resene Smashing, Resene Bonfire and Resene California. Resene Smashing and Resene Bonfire are red browns while Resene California has orange tonings. I chose them because they complement the colours of timber, stone and other natural materials.

Is there a colour you would never use in your home?

Never say never. Over the years we have used just about all of the colours in the rainbow. Seriously thinking about pink again!

What colour or design advice would you give?

I love paint as it is an easy and cost-effective change. Using paint for colour adds interest and personality. Don't put colour in enduring items such as appliances, bathroom fittings and building materials. If you use high-fashion colour expect to repaint it within five years. Having said that, we are currently creating a colour scheme around a pastel Smeg retro fridge. **H**

- Resene California 
- Resene Bonfire 
- Resene Smashing 
- Resene Double Alabaster 

Background
Paul's winning entry from 2011, using Resene Colorwood interior wood stain.