

COLOR & ART TRENDS

STYLE TRENDS THAT IMPACT COLOR TRENDS THAT IMPACT ART TRENDS.

for 2025

By Chris A. Paschke, CPF, GCF

Color, art, and design all feature predictions every year, but it's the consumer that often proves movement towards a specific trend. Yet without predictions, artists and designers would not have any commonality to create new, cohesive looks.

Last year was huge for minimalism, and 2025 continues to embrace warmer minimalism with its biophilic design—a minimalist aesthetic that uses live, green plants and large windows to bring the outside in. This design is influencing current color palettes, shapes, and textures with warmer tones of cream, beige, and camel.

"2025 is all about merging elegance with storytelling," said Wild Apple's Anita Peterson. "Each trend reflects a deep desire for art to be both personal and timeless, whether through simplicity, bold color, or nostalgic themes."

Bold colors like pink, yellow, blue, and orange are being selected as accents, walls, and/or ceilings, called color drenching, and both wallpaper and stencils still remain design trends for ceilings. Soft shapes and rounded edges are still in vogue, as curves help break up sharp corners and straight lines to create an inviting and relaxing space—very feng shui. Mo-

cha and espresso are warm and comforting, while their lighter tones of beige and camel accent beautifully.

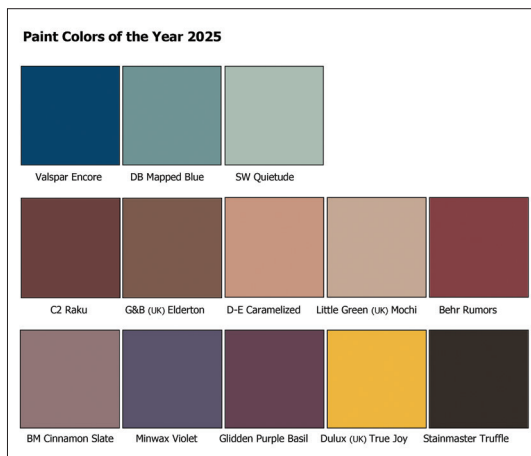
WGSN/COLORO

Setting the stage for global fashion and décor trends is WGSN and Coloro, a global color system that offers physical and digital solutions to ensure color accuracy for the design industry. Future Dusk has been labeled color of the year. A dark, moody, and intriguing hue, it sits between blue and purple, giving a sense of mystery and escapism. The rest of the palette includes Transcendent Pink, a barely-there hue that feels more like an elevated neutral than a traditional pink, giving it a grounding and balancing appeal; Aquatic

Awe, a transformative turquoise that celebrates the strange and wondrous aspects of nature; Sunset Coral, an energizing, feel-good color that appeals to the pursuit of joy; and Ray Flower, a radiant yellow with a warm and inviting quality, inspired by regenerative practices that protect biodiversity.

PANTONE

Designers worldwide also look to Pantone to inform their annual trend palettes. At the time of this writing, they had not yet released



● Paint manufacturers' colors of the year: Valspar, Dutch Boy, HGTV Sherwin Williams, C2, Graham & Brown, Dunn-Edwards, Little Greene, Behr, Benjamin Moore, Minwax, Glidden, Dulux, and Stainmaster.



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their color of the year for 2025, but this year's seven palettes in the Pantone View Home + Interiors 2025 Forecast have colors that fit into every trend, including refreshing blues and greens, gentle pastels, earthy and eclectic retro 1970s bolds, smoky and sophisticated luxury, and vibrant tones for technology—so, a little bit of everything.

PAINT COLORS OF THE YEAR

Decorating colors evolve every year with trends. The stark whites, dated grays, and cool neutrals of the past few years have finally given way to rich, warm neutrals. Earthy neutrals like terracotta, ochre, and sage bring a grounding effect to interiors, reflecting nature and promoting a sense of tranquility while also being versatile when used as base colors or accents, complementing a variety of styles and trends.

Brown is the new black this year. Softer browns taken from chocolate and coffee are shifting to caramel and toffee. Stainmaster Truffle is a saturated shade, a chocolate-meets-taupe color, creating luxury in interiors and darker designs. Other scrumptious browns include Little Greene (UK) Mochi, a rich tinted brown with peachy-pink undertones, more saturated than a traditional beige, and Dunn-Edwards Caramelized, a warm neutral with earthy tones of a sunbaked landscape. It adapts well to both natural and artificial light, appearing lighter and golden in bright spaces or deeper and more muted in dim lighting. C2 Raku, a rich mahogany shade, is a burnt, brownish-red color directly inspired by ancient Japanese tea ceremonies and the centuries-old pottery often used during them. Graham & Brown (UK) Elderton is a well-balanced neutral brown reminiscent of the deep brown leaves of a native shrub. Paula Taylor, G&B trend specialist, said that "Elderton is a chameleon color that can be sophisticated yet cozy depending on the mood of the space it is in."

Blues have been favored for a few years now, but deeper shades are in for 2025 with Valspar Encore, a rich, saturated, sapphire jewel tone. Lighter shades of blue will also be popular, including Dutch Boy Mapped Blue, a versatile medium blue with yellow undertones, allowing it to complement a wide range of colors and aesthetics. HGTV Sherwin-Williams Quietude sets the stage for biophilic serenity. Reds and purples are also in the mix this year: Behr Rumors is a fresh take on a modern, warm, red-based earth tone, and Glidden Purple Basil is a high-impact hue for maximalists. Benjamin Moore Cinnamon Slate is a mauve plum with brown undertones; Minwax

Violet is a purple hue that lives in the blue color family having red undertones, providing a balanced shade that feels both classic and contemporary. Then there's Dulux (UK) True Joy, a yellow reflecting WGSN's Ray Flower, stimulating a sense of vibrance, positivity, and joy either as a statement wall or accent piece.

COLOR AND STYLE IMPACTING ART

Interior trends are somewhat familiar with tactile textures, natu-

ralism, warm minimalism, and bold maximalism all moving into 2025. Tactile textures include 3-D art, sculptures, sculptural wall art, layered materials, and art collections that emphasize texture, like embossing.

Naturalism includes earthy tones, organic shapes, and natural materials like reclaimed wood and stone. Wall décor capturing the essence of the natural world—botanical



● Warm minimalism from Wild Apple showcasing birds, butterflies, and soft brown tones.

prints, landscapes, or abstract takes on nature's beauty—tie perfectly into this design aesthetic.

Minimalism is all about balance, calm, and cohesion. This year is about blending clean lines with warmth and comfort using soft neutrals, natural materials, and decor that's carefully curated to feel personal and meaningful. Art should enhance a space without overpowering it with simple yet impactful pieces: line drawings, minimalistic landscapes, and botanicals. Scandinavian de-

sign is here to stay. Maximalism is still here, too, featuring bold colors, eclectic patterns, and a touch of curated chaos, embracing self-expression. From bold abstract prints to eclectic gallery walls, the demand for unique, eye-catching art is on the rise.

"Color trends are rather strange to predict for artworks as unlike fashion, which changes seasonally, art col-

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or trends much less cyclical,” said Larry Winn, CEO and creative director of Grand Image. “Black and white are still staples for both residential and commercial, but browns and creams predominate residentially, with more cinnamon and even burgundy as accents. Green continues to be strong on its own or combined with blacks.”

COLOR AND ART IMPACTING FRAMING

A wide variety of nature-inspired art including botanicals, florals, landscapes, and nature-inspired collections, may be framed with materials like light-colored wood or bamboo to enhance the overall organic vibe.

The textural push in décor will also impact new tactile and visual textures in moulding and matboard. In the world of matboard, Crescent Select Earthcores offers 6-ply matboard reflecting natural elements of earth, stone, and plants, perfect for the Biophilic trend. Peterboro matboards has also boarded the textile train, launching its



● Nielsen’s Pop Culture collection features 10 new bold colors into their 117 line.

newest designer Fabrics collection featuring new suedes, fine linens, and naturals to their existing line.

Sue Losko, director of product management at Crescent Brands, said, “At 2024’s home furnishing and design expos, we repeatedly saw curved outlines, carved textures, and a celebration of natural wood graining. Colors from sandy pastels to jewel tones to bold primaries have our creative juices flowing!”

Color is being promoted to work with current décor trends. International Moulding has their new Garden Rakes in eight colors, and Nielsen’s new Pop

Culture collection offers 10 bold colors that echo the WGSN palette for 2025.

New mouldings promise both tactile and visual textures enhancing earthy art. Gold, bronze, and copper tones remain popular, bringing luxury to interiors, while warm metallics pair beautifully with both neutral and bold color schemes. Silver tones are also coming back, providing a versatile option for different design styles.

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Textures for moulding are everywhere with new collections from Nurre Caxton with their Marrakesh line of floral embossing in soft metallic finishes. Arquati Marmo features four metallics, and Unagi in four profiles in subdued tactile metallics. FramERICA offers Venetian Gold, as well as Pebble Beach Leather; and Omega Moulding

has launched their Italian Arielle and Volta metallics that stack beautifully. Woodgrain remains strong with Decor Moulding & Supply's Princeton full eight-profile collection, and Studio Moulding is showing their tactile Ash collection.

Tinted greens reigned supreme in 2022; primary colors grew stronger while greens remained a grounding color in 2023; and 2024 boasted blues, greens, and the beginning of browns. Darker tones and shades are here for 2025 with greens remaining as a continuum supporting other colors in palettes and art, as well as browns with undertones of red and green. And never forget all the textures! **PFM**



● *Black on Black I and III by Chris Paschke, Wild Apple, showcases minimalist, textural, and abstraction elements.*



Chris A Paschke, CPF, GCF

Chris A. Paschke, owner of Designs Ink in Tehachapi, CA, is a professional picture framer with over four decades of experience. She is an artist, a National Conference educator, has authored numerous magazine series, including *The Essence of Design*, *Design Concepts*, and *Digital Directions* for PFM, and has four self-published books on mounting. She currently writes the *Mastering Mounting* column for PFM and is a contributing writer to *The Artist's Magazine*, *The Pastel Journal*, and *Watercolor Artist Magazine*. She was honored with the PPFA Award of Distinction for Leadership 2008, the Vivian Kistler Recognition for Innovation Award 2010, and the PMA Distinguished Service Award 2012.



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