

# These Are the 45 Best Paint Colors For Your Living Room

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When it comes to living room design, a flattering color palette is one of the first things you need to nail down. It will likely drive the whole design scheme and set the mood for years to come. Plus, your living room is probably the most-used room in the house, so choosing colors that make you look forward to spending time in it is a must! Whether you want something bold and bright, neutral, or dark and moody, we're spotlighting tons of living room paint color ideas ahead to help you get inspired. All you have to do is put on your overalls and grab a roller—or, you know, hire someone else to do the dirty work. The hardest part will be deciding between all these designer-approved living room colors, but it's a win-win-win decision.



Paul Raeside

1 of 45

Light Lime Green

Take your cues from the bold pattern mixing and modern artwork on display in [this living room](#) designed by [Les Ensembliers](#). A light green color on the ceiling is an unexpected surprise that ties the whole room together. Here, it pairs beautifully with the yellow curtains, geometric green ottoman, and plenty of gray tones throughout.



Chris Mottalini

2 of 45

Steel Gray

This New York City living room designed by Nanette Brown is a lesson in dark paint decorating that strikes the balance between formal and casual, sophisticated and easy-going, elevated and cozy. The exact color pictured is Amethyst Shadow from Benjamin Moore.





Lisa Romerein

3 of 45

Cream

This sunny living room designed by Thomas Callaway exudes warmth, despite the grand size and ceiling height. Callaway broke the room into zones to enhance intimacy and then used soft buttery glaze on the walls to give the room a golden glow, and layered rich yet mellow fabrics.



Jared Kuzia Photography

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Dark Blue-Green

Designer Cecilia Casagrande chose rich jewel tones for this Boston Colonial living room. It's classic yet fresh. The paint color—Farrow & Ball Hague Blue—in particular, straddles that duality of modern and traditional styles, perfect for a historic home. Casagrande also mixed contemporary elements with more traditional ones to further play with that juxtaposition between old and new.





Thijs de Leeuw/Space Content/Living Inside

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Dusty Rose

Atelier ND and homeowner Carice Van Houten used a variety of plant species to liven up the room and create visual intrigue with different heights and shapes. It really freshens up the bold pastels and rich earthy tones for a unique composition. Pro tip: Don't forget to paint the ceiling for a more immersive impression.



Anna Spiro Design

6 of 45

Buttercream

Instead of painting the walls blue, designer Anna Spiro covered the hardwood *floors* in a cheerful blue color. She also made the windows extra sunny by painting the frames buttercream yellow.

Brie Williams

7 of 45



## Pitch Black

Dark black walls and lots of warm gold and caramel tones make [this living room](#) designed by [Ariene Bethea](#) super cozy but also formal and regal—the ideal balance if your living room doubles as the family room. She used [Tricorn Black](#) by Sherwin Williams.



Kendall McCaugherty

8 of 45

Peach



The open floor plan in [this](#) Chicago family apartment designed by [Bruce Fox](#) called for cohesion between the dining and living room areas. That soft peachy paint and deep pink sofa are reflected in the printed armchair at the head of the dining table, and also mimic the rosy glow of the pendant light. The color scheme was inspired by a photograph taken of the family in London during spring when the city was veiled in cherry blossoms.



Read McKendree

9 of 45

Clay

Dark gray walls can be a bit brooding, like stormclouds, but in the case of [this sunny Manhattan apartment](#) by [Elizabeth Cooper](#), they look playful and contemporary. Cheerful pinks, a dash of cobalt blue, traditional granny-chic patterns, and whimsical artwork lighten the mood.



Robert McKinley

10 of 45

Olive



Robert McKinley wanted to keep the color scheme in this country retreat earthy and neutral, but also wanted to inject it with a little warmth. He opted for a quietly sophisticated shade of olive green for the walls while the chose a cream color for the wood-paneled ceiling.



Paul Raeside

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Lemon Yellow



Does the thought of painting your living room yellow scare you to your very core? How about now that you've seen this timeless and cheerful living room designed by Michael Maher? One glance at this space, and we're about ready to repaint our own: It radiates warmth and offsets the cool blue tones.



Nicole Franzen

12 of 45

Off-White

While bright colors can help liven up a room, it's not the only route. Take this neutral-toned living room by [Kristin Fine](#): Soft and texture-rich upholstery mix with off-white paint, rustic wood pieces, and plenty of antique accents to make a surprisingly modern impression with lots of character.



Simon Watson

13 of 45

Glossy Black-Green

Deep, dark, and glossy, the lacquered black-blue-green color makes this living room by Kristin Hein and Philip Cozzi seductive and mysterious. Paired with bohemian furniture and accents, the more moody qualities become more approachable and cozy.



Heidi Caillier

14 of 45

Light Fawn

This muted fawn color in a living room designed by [Heidi Caillier](#) is hard to pin down, and that's exactly why we like it. Not quite brown, not quite beige, it's a nice offbeat earth-tone option that functions as a neutral.





Maura McEvoy

15 of 45

Kelly Green Splash

"I love the juxtaposition between the traditional space and the modern staircase," says Eliza Crater of [Sister Parish Design](#). The rich kelly green accent wall and decorative floral curtains help bring some fullness and warmth to otherwise all-white surfaces in [her home](#).



Bjorn Wallander

16 of 45

Charcoal

The traditional, neutral furniture in this room designed by Balsamo Antiques and Interior Design make a minimal visual impact so the moody colors, artwork, light fixtures, and other decorative accents can stand out. A deep, almost purple-gray tone turns out to be a wonderfully complex and evocative backdrop, so don't be afraid to try something different.





Douglas Friedman

17 of 45

Navy

Ann Pyne worked with decorative painter Arthur Fowler to create a contrasting geometric pattern on the walls. "I think of the puzzle-like shapes as a metaphor—it's a game of fitting all these disparate 'treasures' into a graphically coherent whole," she says. Matte navy blue and a gritty mustard tone work together to set a pensive and seductive backdrop—perfect for a smaller living room.





Thomas Loof

18 of 45

Lilac

In this eclectic living room designed by Royce Pinkwater, a misty lilac color on the walls and curtains helps ground lively animal prints and sculptural furniture items. The soft purple is subtle enough to function as a neutral and also has a somewhat sweet nature to it so the room doesn't feel too over the top.



Heather Hilliard

19 of 45

Crisp White

A crisp, matte white is totally timeless. [Sherwin-Williams Pure White](#) is there for you when you just can't with trends anymore (see ya never, [millennial pink](#)).



Francesco Lagnese

20 of 45

Mint Green

Channel a lush tropical oasis, as Thomas Jayne and William Cullum did, with this fresh color. In a living room where the paint stretches all the way up to the rafters, the hue changes depending on the way the light hits it, shifting between sharp mint and soft sea foam green.





Paul Raeside

21 of 45

Khaki

Designer Garrow Kedigian defines a neutral as "anything that isn't jarring," which is a super helpful way to reframe things if cream, white, or gray simply isn't cutting it in your living room and you can't figure out why. Certain spaces just call for something outside the box, whether it's because of an architectural style, light exposures, or existing furniture. Here, the walls are painted Benjamin Moore's Rattan.



Bjorn Wallander

22 of 45

Coral

Interior designer Janie Molster says there's no such thing as too much pink, and we agree—especially when it's emboldened by red-and-white-striped furniture. But if you just want to dabble in the bright color, start by painting a smaller area in your home, like a pretty window nook. It imparts a bit of a romantic glow without feeling like you painted the walls with bubblegum.





JAMES MERRELL

23 of 45

Royal Blue

The deep blue paint alone is a bold color choice for this azure living room by [Kate Reid](#), but the high-gloss finish adds some extra punch. It's basically the color of wanderlust right in your own home: It'll make you feel like you're on vacation, even if the closest you're getting to an island escape is your laptop's screensaver (sigh).



Shade Degges

24 of 45

Ever-Changing Neutral

Designer Jae Joo opted for a soft palette in this 1885 Boston living room. The light pink armchair adds some youthful buoyancy to the dark wood pieces while also bringing out the warmer tones in the versatile neutral backdrop. In some lighting, it appears light gray-green and in others, a more beige hue.





Tamsin Johnson

25 of 45

Sage Green

Turn to nature and bring gorgeous shades of sage indoors. Green-infused grays feel like a breath of fresh air and add just the right touch of intrigue as a backdrop for the gallery wall in this living room designed by Tamsin Johnson proves.



Werner Straube

26 of 45

White and Marine Blue

It was a challenge marrying the two styles of his clients, designer Corey Damen Jenkins explains. "The wife loved jewel tones and embellishment, while the husband was on the total opposite end of the spectrum—no color, no wallpaper," Jenkins tells us. So the living rooms walls were painted in Garlic Clove by PPG, "which has enough warmth to counter balance the bright white of the often snowy landscape," while a door to the adjacent room got a splash of color with Navy Masterpiece by Benjamin Moore.



## Violet

Why pick one fun paint color when you can pick two? We're loving the romantic yet surprisingly fresh color combination of fire engine red and violet in this space by [Katie Brown](#). The bohemian embroidered throw pillows tie everything together nicely. That's another great way to approach the living room design process: Start with a fun pair of throw pillows and then pull out your two favorite colors to highlight on the walls and ceiling.



SIMON WATSON

28 of 45

Marigold

Before we even comment on paint color, can we just take a moment to appreciate that wild gallery? This marigold living room designed by Brockschmidt & Coleman is at once classic and quirky, unique and timeless. The walls are covered in Mustard Olive by Benjamin Moore and bordered at the ceiling in black.



Fiona Lynch

29 of 45

Pistachio

Designed by [Fiona Lynch Studio](#), this modern living room is a masterclass in how to use bold, offbeat colors with restraint. The lime wash pistachio wall and painted fireplace add just enough texture to make a statement yet still feel minimalist.



Annie Schlechter

30 of 45

Tangerine

The unexpected orange walls in this room by [Matthew Bees](#) set a dynamic scene for artwork and an emerald green lampshade. They make the room feel so sunny.

[Next](#)



## The 16 Best Neutral Paint Colors for Your Home



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