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# 2022 TRENDS

*to watch out for*

By Designer Diana Rose



We've already seen green make a big splash as the 2022 colour of the year – chosen for its cooling, calming effect and strong connection to nature. In the past, we've seen this colour personified as a literal interpretation of nature (think lush, leafy vibrancy).

But green is a multi-faceted hue indeed, and the movement toward organic, sustainable living and environmental awareness has influenced its iteration for 2022. The new "it" green appears in a much more muted form, in what I think may herald the return of a neutral colour palette on our walls and everything in between.

But of course, popular trends don't resonate with everyone, and green certainly isn't everyone's cup of tea. Luckily, neutral colours can echo the up-to-the-minute nature trend without the colour commitment. Don't get me wrong – I personally love using colour in the right places and doses. But while other colour trends come and go, neutrals have longevity.

**Here's how to use neutrals with an eye to what's trending in 2022.**

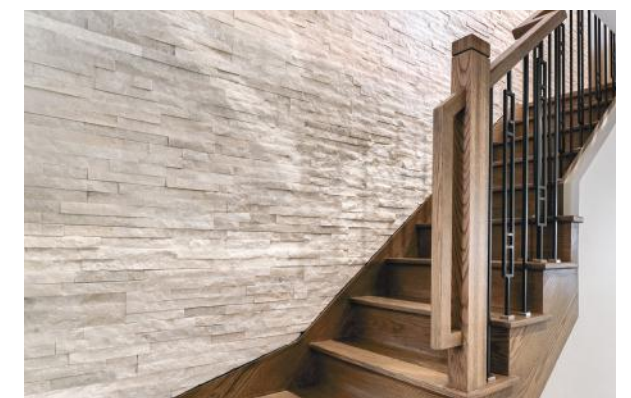
## FULL SPECTRUM OF NEUTRALS:

Contrary to popular belief, a neutral colour palette offers many more choices than just variations on cream, beige and oatmeal hues. Trending palettes in 2022 will include a full spectrum of light- and mid-toned neutrals, ranging from the aforementioned soft sage green to creamy-whites with pink undertones and barely-there blues. Their subtlety gives them versatility while infusing a touch of colour. And like true neutrals, they perfectly pair with pops of vibrant colour, a variety of metals, and a wide range of materials and finishes.

On the other hand, these gentle neutrals can also be used as an accent colour for details and trim, brightening and balancing darker hues like deep blue or an almost-black aubergine.

## TEXTURE:

This isn't a new trend by any stretch, but it will be a star on the design and decor stage in 2022, bringing life to the neutral and nature trends. I often layer a variety of organic materials, such as wood, stone, concrete and organic textiles. Texture creates depth and adds interest, with a subtle nod to nature.





# LIGHTING:

All eyes will be on bold, statement lighting in 2022. I've always held that lighting should never be just a bulb. It should be viewed as a thing of beauty, a feature and focal point in a room. Every light in the home is an opportunity for art and expression.

But of course, lighting plays an important functional role as well, lighting your space and highlighting its features. Pay careful attention when it comes to the "temperature" of your bulbs. A warm bulb, which gives off yellow light, could compromise your colour intentions. The same is true for cool light bulbs, which can appear fluorescent or even blueish. Look for "daylight" bulbs, which mimic natural light and offer a true representation of your palette. If you want to create ambiance, consider adding dimmers to every light source.

## The new year promises to be an exciting one, in decor and many other ways, too.

As new home and product trends start swirling, perhaps the most important one to keep your eye on is the increasing desire to focus on self – healing, growth and happiness. Let those goals guide your renovation or interior refresh. Look to what brings you joy and comfort. When you achieve that atmosphere inside your home, you just might find that your view of the outside world gets warmer and brighter, too.



Photo: Benjamin Moore



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