

Picking Paint Colours - Mary Anne Marchildon

FIRST....YOU MUST REMEMBER THAT THIS IS NOT ROCKET SCIENCE...AND NO ONE WILL DIE IN THIS PROCESS....EVEN THOUGH IT SEEMS LIKE THEY MIGHT!

Here's the process of getting to the paint colour in a room....just the way I work with the clients I see.... I ask them:

“are you staying here or is this for resale?” as the choices make a difference - We can be a bit more daring with colour if we are not appealing to the masses!

“how do you use the room?” and “who uses the room?” ..”What kind of light does it get!”

“What's the feeling you want when you come in here?”
Bigger Brighter Lighter or Smaller Darker Cozier

What is already going on in the room “pre existing”things we MUST work with like fireplace stone colours/carpet colour/Furniture colour etc.

The flow to the other areas of the home....it is so important! What do you see from other rooms/hallway?

Then – selecting the actual colour. I always work with Benjamin Moore paints as I love their quality and I find that “what you see is what you get” when looking at the small chips especially in the Historical line of paint. It tends to be more of a muted/soft tone....some would call it “greyed” and I like that! NOT for all rooms.....but generally. Pacific Paint on Hillside near Quadra sells Moore..... you can rent a fan deck from them (up to a week with a \$ 30.00 refundable deposit).

Look at the various tones/shades within the range you've decided on.). You can also see them in larger samples in the store (approx.36 " X 36") or they sell small paint pots and you can do a small sample board and move it to all different locations in the room and look at it in all different lights...times of day etc. Also – the people in that paint store on Hillside are wonderful for their customer service and colour expertise.

Take in pictures of your room and areas around it to show them and as many samples as you can of your existing elements.

If you are a more visual person....you may have an item that has the colour in it that you love.....take that in and they will colour match it for you on their computer.

Once the colour is selected: Ask: "Can we accent with varying shades of paint colour.....IE: coves white /darker wall/ half tint of the wall colour on ceiling...possible focal wall???"

Mouldings in white....Cloud White is my favourite...as it goes with every white going. And try not to be anal with whites. **CUT THE WORD MATCH from your Vocabulary and put in BLEND.**

VERY IMPORTANT: once the colour is up there....give it time to grow on you!
At least a week!

Decorators have their "best colours" ...their "tool box" ...that's why using a Decorator could save money in the long run! (funny story about a paint colour picked by my friend)... when she came home from the weekend...she has had to live with lilac walls to this day because there was NO WAY her husband was repainting the whole place!!! So I got called in to pick for the Family Room....and the pre-existing element is that colour throughout the entry way.....we picked a grey with a plum base to tie it all together!

I know some people balk at the fact of using a decorator ...having to pay to just "pick a colour" But the hourly rate you'll pay is far less than the angst you'll go through or cost of paint and labour to do something again! Someone who works with this every day....has the tools at their fingertips. We all have scissors in our home...but we don't cut our own hair!

Paint is something we look at EVERY DAY!!!!!! It's the largest base in the room!!!
IT'S IMPORTANT!