

RICH mellow mustard hues

Colour consultant Samantha Bacon looks at the characteristics of some favourite colours and explains the best combinations of paint, wallpaper and fabric to add impact to decorating schemes.



Samantha Bacon MDIA

Neutral tones are always a winner in the decorating stakes as they provide a fabulous backdrop for introducing splashes of colour. Neutral is indicative of being neither one thing nor another – but what if you want something quite plain yet yearn for a colour with just a bit more personality? Mustard, although generally not everyone's first choice as a favourite, meets this requirement well. The range of mustard hues is generally made by combining orange and green, which in themselves contain yellow, blue and red, so it's a very complex hue and the result is a wonderful, rich golden-greenish colour that provides warmth and interest to a decorating scheme. Of course, this colour can be lightened by adding white or darkened with black to make a stunning exterior render colour.

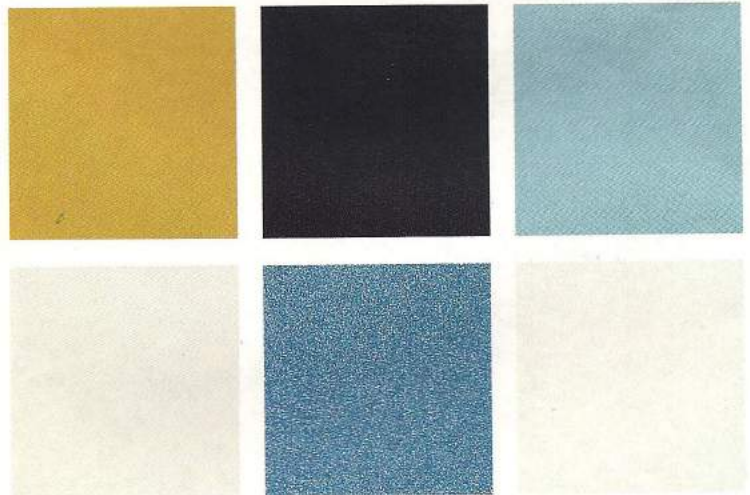
Blue is a great partner for mustard. For exteriors, a really dark, almost black charcoal blue looks fabulous with it. Use it for the trim colour and the front door to really make a statement. Remember when you're decorating, colour – more than any other design element – has the ability to create mood. A gentle powder blue used in an interior scheme softens a palette of mustards beautifully. Crisp white brings a fresh contemporary edge to it and warm off-whites create a mellow mood. Use a warm mustard with a higher orange content for south or east-facing rooms and save the cooler, greener mustards for north and west-facing ones.



VERVE COLLECTIONS FROM LEFT: Oslo Blue fabric, Modena Wheat fabric, Happy View wallpaper 350343, Modena Aqua fabric, Happy View wallpaper 350374.



Verve Early Bird wallpaper



TOP: Resene Frizzell
BOTTOM: Resene Spanish White

TOP: Resene Blackjack
BOTTOM: Resene Boomtown

TOP: Resene Bounce
BOTTOM: Resene quarter Spanish White

The Happy View range by Verve Designer Collections is a wonderful partnership of mustard and blue, and the wallpaper designs are perfect for a contemporary setting. Resene paints have some beautiful colours that complement these designs very well. Frizzell is a fabulous warm mustard hue. This can be toned down by pairing it with the colour Bounce, or for a touch of glamour try Boomtown, a soft glittering hue. For a lighter effect use Spanish White as the predominant colour in the palette with a quarter strength of this on the trim and ceiling. And Blackjack is a very contemporary neutral, which offsets the soft blue and mustard colours perfectly.