



The RUSSIAN room

The Russian word for red, *krasnaya*, once meant 'beautiful' and it is this close association that explains the prolific use of the rich colour throughout Russia. In fact, many of the nation's important cultural sites still reflect the combined usage of the word.

Perhaps the most well known cultural site that reflects the use of the word *krasnaya*, is Red Square. Consistently called Red Square since the 17th century, its name, contrary to what most people believe, has little to do with the soviet revolution which happened much later in 1917. In fact, when the word 'red' is not incorporated into the name of an iconic site in Russia, the colour simply speaks for itself – as seen in the Kremlin and Saint Basil's Cathedral.

RED CORNER

Before 1917, many Orthodox family homes in Russia would have had a *krasnyi ugol*, or beautiful/red corner where religious icons would be displayed. However, under the soviet rule every school, factory, military base and government office had to use its own small, red corner to display Lenin's portrait along with other communist symbols.

BOLD STATEMENT

From the delicate, bejewelled beauty of Fabergé eggs through to the rich colour in elaborately embroidered Russian traditional dress and on Babushka dolls – when thinking about exotic colour schemes, Russia certainly tops the list for strong and bold hues.

FOLKLORE

Originally part of the Soviet Union, Uzbekistan is known for its beautiful textiles. Ikat is just one popular textile style that's constantly featured in modern interiors, and now the fashion pack is discovering the beauty of the rich Russian colour palette as well. The nostalgia trend is now well and truly

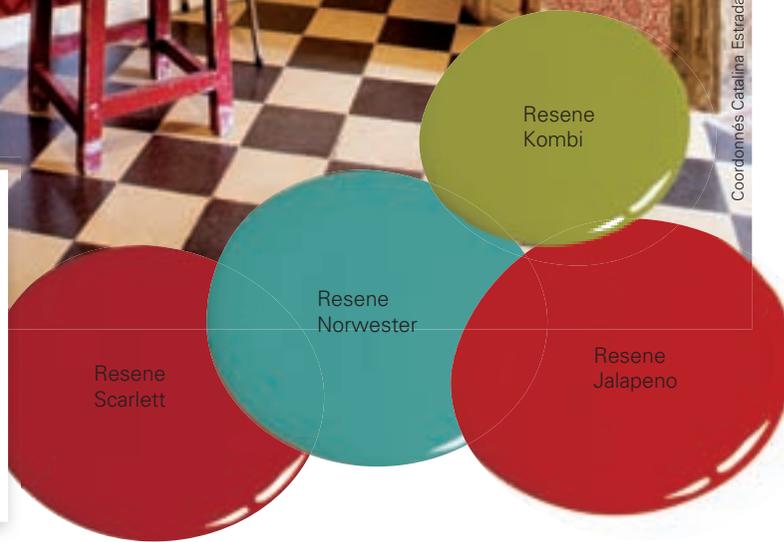


MH | COLOUR PALETTE

Coordonnés Catalina Estrada collection, Verve Designer Collections



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entrenched in our lives, with the recognition of the appeal of one-off folk designs that are typically from places like Russia.

Designers are scouring the planet for textiles from traditional folk designs that can be re-purposed for furniture and homewares, ensuring an eco-friendly and sustainable outcome. People then build unique interior schemes around these statement pieces. It is the designs from traditional Russia that are creating some of the most exciting colour palettes seen in years.

DESIGN INSPIRATION

The Coordonnés Catalina Estrada collection from Verve Designer Collections is a Spanish design that relies heavily on inspiration found in the beautiful folk textiles and artefacts of Russia. These mural wallpapers will really make a statement and nail the look, however if you're feeling less adventurous, simply inject some exotic paint shades from Resene reminiscent of the Russian palette into your decorating scheme.

