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colour report

x

red wine hues

Deep, dark burgundy and aubergine are having an interiors renaissance – the richness of these shades will elevate the luxe levels of any room

FEATURE Kiera Buckley-Jones **FOREWORD** Ellen Finch and Oonagh Turner



COSY CORNER

'We love to cocoon our cinema rooms with colour; the deep burgundy tone adds warmth and comfort,' explains Camilla Clarke, creative director of Albion Nord. 'When using one tone, the key is to mix up the textures. Here, we've chosen a rich red velvet sofa to sit against horsehair fabric panelled walls and a bespoke ottoman upholstered in an antique rug in the same hue.' **Sofa in** Cedar velvet, Rose Uniacke. **Wall panels in** Strie, George Spence Designs

There's a depth and intensity to one of the biggest colour trends of 2024 that the design world's previous darlings, off-white and pale beige, cannot match. Like brown – another shade on the up – red wine tones like burgundy and aubergine are dark, moody, intriguing. A sign, perhaps, of turning inward and embracing our homes as a respite from a restless world.

But how to use such spirited shades? As with many darker colours, it's often best to go all-in. In many designs – see Kingston Lafferty's hallway, right – we've seen the two shades used together, a tonal match that miraculously works in traditional and contemporary spaces alike. It's a pairing made even better, we think, with a third accent colour. Chartreuse, for example, could be the surprising third addition to the party that takes a room from moody but muted to dynamic and energetic.

And for lighter schemes, a creamy white looks clean and balanced, Brooklyn interior designer Julia Mack told us: 'Begin with dark burgundy walls, which will recede in your space, then add in a textural white – consider a bouclé. Then add pops of red as an accent colour in artwork and decorative accessories to create a layered, interesting space.'

Texture is always welcome in a scheme where deep, intense shades take centre stage: burgundy and aubergine will stand up to wool, bouclé and shearling. And of course, incorporating these materials will only help to amplify the feeling of luxury these colours create – isn't that what we all want from our interiors right now?



1 ALL THE GLOSS

In this hall by Kingston Lafferty Design, burgundy, aubergine and red lean into the lack of light. 'We went quite rich and moody with the palette,' says founder Róisín Lafferty. '[The wall paint] gives a sense of drama and brings all the colour tones tighter. The contrast of the orange in the console and the bold red artwork completes the space.' **Walls** in Eating Room Red, Farrow & Ball. **Console**, Martin & Brockett at 1stDibs. **Art**, Carlos Sangro. Bespoke **mirror**, Kingston Lafferty Design. Vintage Murano **chandelier**, Acquired.ie

2 SMOOTH OPERATOR

If painting walls and ceilings in this rich shade feels like a design step too far, dip your toe in with an upholstered piece that nods to the trend. Here, a velvet headboard in an indulgent shade of claret creates a focal point in an otherwise neutrally decorated room by Studio Duggan. **Stool** and **headboard**, bespoke; try Rose Uniacke for similar. **Bedside table**, Made Goods. **Lamp**, Retrouvius ➤





3 CHECK MATE

In this modern twist on a country-style kitchen, Miriam Frowein added lacquered cupboard fronts and painted window frames. 'The scheme was inspired by the red bricks of the surrounding buildings,' she says. 'The worktop is made from Rosso Levanto polished marble and the checked floor is aubergine and off-white encaustic tiles.' **Kitchen in** Eating Room Red, Farrow & Ball. **Blinds in** Olive Sacking/Rosewood by Guy Goodfellow Collection

4 ELEGANT DINING

Warm metallics and dark woods blend successfully with deep purple-reds in this space by Bespoke Only. 'Drenched in a rich aubergine, a wall of classic Shaker-style cabinetry flanks the otherwise pared-back plaster brick fireplace,' says principal designer and founder Melissa Lee. **Cabinet in** Brinjal, Farrow & Ball. **Dining table,** antique. Pigreco **chairs,** Tobia Scarpa

PHOTOGRAPHS (CHECK MATE) BÉNÉDICTE DRUMMOND



GET THE LOOK

Achieve this deeply luxurious ambience in your home with our pick of beautiful pieces

Zellige **tiles,**
£142.80sq m,
Mosaic
Factory

Stanhope **coffee table,**
from £5,154, Novocastrian

Small lacquered scalloped
tray, £90, Abask

Chess **rug,** from £490, Layered

Aldbury
armchair,
from £1,340,
Ercol