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HOW TO USE COLOUR

FROM BOLD KITCHEN
SHADES TO BRIGHT
BATHROOM FIXTURES

TAYLISTmedia



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EXCLUSIVE
Linda Barker's
amazing new
kitchen

Inside
our guide to
using concrete
(and how to get the look)

HOW TO USE COLOUR IN THE KITCHEN

Whether you go all out or just include a splash – we show you how to be creative and clever with bold and beautiful shades

Words: Charlotte Luxford

Like in fashion or interior design, kitchen trends are cyclical. “Grey has been the most dominant colour over the last 10 years, so much so that new-build houses have moved away from using magnolia paint and now use white to complement the grey trend,” says James Charity, kitchen specialist at MKM Stirling. “However, people are ready to embrace colour again and are looking for brighter and bolder designs to create a personal design statement. This trend is being fuelled by social media, with influencers and interior design experts demonstrating how to incorporate colour tastefully and creatively.”

According to Charlotte Campbell, senior designer at Harvey Jones, this demand for bolder designs is also branching out from charcoal greys and inky blues into deep reds, dusky pinks and lush greens. “It’s not just cabinetry, it’s following through in worktops, with people opting for darker, heavily veined statement marble. Texture is also becoming more understood and used, with surfaces and handles moving from high polish to include honed and satin finishes, as well as reeded designs for a more layered look.”

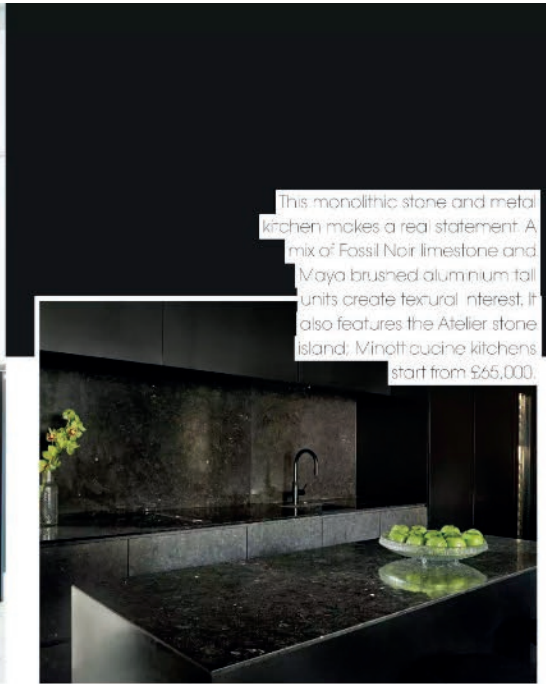
Whichever colour you choose, it’s important that it’s liveable, so timeless tones such as mid greens, dark blues, light greys and off-blacks are all versatile options – whether you go classic or contemporary. You can choose a high-contrast look, such as dark

cabinetry with light walls and worktops, or colour drenching, where the units blend into the walls. This can either create drama or a sense of serenity, depending on how deep the shade is. “To brighten a room without overpowering it, paint it a neutral or muted pastel shade to provide contrast – these tones will help bring down the intensity of a colour and ensure a more understated impact,” advises Graeme Smith, head of retail and commercial design at Life Kitchens. “Feature walls can also help highlight cabinetry colour and bring it to life. Look at using more natural materials for the floor, such as timber – the visual and textural appeal can draw attention away from bold shades. Patterned tiling is another way to maintain balance, as it helps break up the space and you can employ similar hues on those in your design.”

If you’re inspired to update your existing cabinetry, the next question is which paint to use. Eggshell is not too shiny and easy to clean, although matt finishes have improved a great deal to create a slick modern finish. Satin paint is durable enough to wipe away finger marks or stains. If you prefer a more reflective finish, opt for a semi-gloss or gloss paint. Walls can also get easily scuffed and are prone to grease build up, so consider a specially formulated kitchen paint in a matt finish that is hard wearing and washable. Ready to be bold? The question is which colour you will go for... >



This kitchen designed by Paul Webburn shows Urbo and Metro cabinetry in Sanderson's Burn Black with antique mirror splashback and a Vitoria Regia polished worktop. Roundhouse kitchens start from £30,000.



This monolithic stone and metal kitchen makes a real statement. A mix of Fossil Noir limestone and Maya brushed aluminium tall units create textural interest. It also features the Atelier stone island. Vinott cuisine kitchens start from £55,000.

In this kitchen, natural light bounces off the glass paint all around the room, bringing a real warmth to the space. British Standard Cueboards start from £590, with an average-sized kitchen costing around £8000.



Colour stretch your space by blending the cabinets into the walls, which can either create drama or a sense of serenity, depending on how deep the shade is. Fusion tap in matt black, £1490. Quaker.



BLACK

Black is becoming more mainstream, adding drama and solidity – and it's surprisingly versatile to work with. "It can put a contemporary spin on even the most traditional space," says Justyna Korczynska, senior designer at Crown. "If you incorporate black into your kitchen in a subtle way, such as painting your base units, it will add depth to the room without having to completely change the space. It's a classic tone that can be easily brought in and used alongside existing pieces." Black cupboards work well with muted pastels, plus it's also worth considering your textures – matt, charred and black-stained wood finishes offer a slightly softer look. However, if you're keen for a real statement, go black-on-black and combine striking dark worktops and units. >