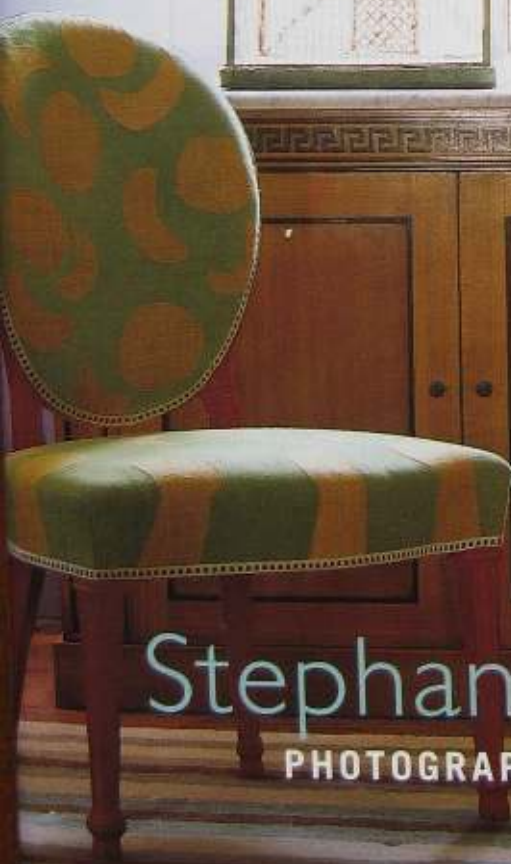


choosingBLUE

Color You Can
Live With



Stephanie Hoppen

PHOTOGRAPHS BY ANDREAS VON EINSIEDEL



PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY FRANCESCA WEZEL

Instead of artificial and plastic paint finishes, try a limewash or a chalky emulsion paint. You will get a great effect naturally created by the light and the paint itself. It dries with texture.

When testing limewash color, be sure to test in full sunlight, in the darkest part of the room, and somewhere in the middle as well. Limewash must be applied directly to bare surfaces: brick, cement, stone, you can strip surfaces with a wire brush. Plaster requires a newly skimmed surface. Limewashes can be sealed with acrylic diluted with water.

Remember, the downside with limewash and similar finishes is that they cannot be cleaned. They can be dusted and vacuumed but not washed. This may not be an ideal surface for a child's room, but then, how often in a lifetime does one wash one's walls? The beautiful effect is worth it.

Francesca Wezel



Blue Jeans

Denim is a youthful, carefree color, forever associated with jeans. As a paint color, it makes a good backdrop for ethnic statuary or natural objects such as driftwood and seashells. But it can be sophisticated too. Plain denim fabric will brighten up a traditional interior and add an irreverent touch to a seriously modern monochrome scheme. The best neutral colors for denims are the textured limewashes with an almost imperceptible hint of cream or pink, to add a touch of warmth. All the bright pinks are great accent colors for denim.