

BEAUTIFUL
OLD HOMES

DECORATING
& SHOPPING

GARDEN
INSPIRATION

ANTIQUES
& VINTAGE

RENOVATION &
MAINTENANCE

BRITAIN'S BEST-SELLING PERIOD HOMES MAGAZINE

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PERIOD LIVING

Forever homes

From a Georgian farmhouse to a cosy listed cottage

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IDEAS FROM
VICTORIAN
GARDENS

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Timeless spaces
that exude
heritage charm

Spring florals

Decorate with whimsical
chinoiserie-inspired prints

PEARL LOWE'S
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CHARACTERFUL KITCHENS

Create a rustic design that celebrates the beauty of natural materials





linked

inextricably with the enduring beauty of nature, green is a timeless and versatile hue. From bold botanical greens and vivid emeralds to soothing sage and refreshing mint, verdant shades have the ability to be invigorating and energising yet also bring a sense of tranquillity and renewal. With its roots in the natural world, green is a grounding and comforting shade that connects us with the landscape, which is something we crave in changing times. 'Often used to bring the outdoors in, the colour green aids our emotional well-being,' says Francesca Wezel, founder of Francesca's Paints. 'It has a soothing, non-threatening energy, making us feel safe and at peace.'

Used within interiors for centuries, green's botanical origins mean the colour pairs wonderfully with calming neutrals and earthy tones. When used on walls, it is also a beautiful foundation shade, ideal for layering printed wallpapers and fabrics, artwork and decorative pieces as part of characterful, traditional interiors. 'Greens are the universal colour choice in decorating - or so thought JW von Goethe in 1810. His reasoning was that because it was made from two primary colours it rendered balance and harmony, and was popular with most people. I agree with him in many ways; used in its wide range of hues, green is incredibly versatile and can add drama or calm to a room,' says Edward Bulmer, founder of Edward Bulmer Natural Paints. 'I also believe that due to its make-up, it forms a very reliable background for a whole range of other natural materials like wood, stone and terracotta. For this reason, green is a very good choice on which to hang pictures.'

With so many inspiring ways to decorate with green, it is a good idea to first examine the features of your room and to think about the feeling that you want to create, advises Ruth Mottershead of Little Greene. 'When designing a colour scheme, it is important to consider the colours that already exist within the space, be that flooring, furniture, artwork or textiles - these are all elements that should be included as colours within your palette,' she says. 'If you are thinking of painting a room in green then consider the tone and warmth of the colour as well as the position and lighting of the room. While many greens are beautifully neutral and work well in all sorts of situations, there are certain green paint ideas which will work better in different rooms.' Zesty lime, vibrant apple and botanical leafy shades are uplifting choices for everyday spaces like kitchens, while greens with warm undertones like olive are perfect for creating cosy living areas and for north-facing rooms. Alternatively, those at the cooler end of the spectrum, such as soothing mints and verditer shades, are often well suited to calming bedroom schemes.