



COLOUR MASTERCLASS

Shades of fig

Deep plum and fig hues of purple can bring richness, warmth and an exciting depth of colour to neutral schemes without being overpowering, or – if used with confidence – can provide a daring backdrop to enliven artwork and traditional furniture



RECOMMENDED PAINTS

TOP "Purple has always been a much-loved colour and has a timeless appeal," says Sarah Cole, director, Farrow & Ball. "Both Brinjal [left] and Pelt [centre] are stronger shades of purple and create a luxurious feel in a room. These colours are perfectly suited to dining rooms or smaller rooms where their intensity can create a dramatic and intimate atmosphere when lit by candlelight." £36 for 2.5l estate emulsion
Zoffany's Purple Tulip is chosen by Liz Cann, design director: "A refined, elegant choice for the home. Its dark tones would look especially cosy in colder months, with warming accents." £39 for 2.5l flat emulsion

MIDDLE Rebecca Craig, head of design, Sanderson, advises: "This vibrant shade of purple [Meadow Violet] would look wonderful in modern and period homes, particularly in drawing and dining rooms." £38 for 2.5l matt emulsion
Deep Ellis is a lovely purple from the Konig Colours range. Director, Vanessa Galloway comments: "It is a dark, vibrant purple that works really well in a cosy snug or TV room." She recommends to use on walls and bookcases and pair with Hellebore green inside shelving for a pretty contrast. £42 for 2.5l low sheen emulsion

BOTTOM "Damson Mousse fuses the softest grey hues with a deeper, more intense purple, reminiscent of dusky evenings and cosy nights in," says Cathryn Helsby, a colour expert at Earthborn. £32.70 for 2.5 litres of clay paint
Fired Earth's creative director, Rob Whittaker suggests: "Tyrian Rose makes a particularly striking backdrop for gold and bronze frames and vintage fabrics." £35.50 for 2.5l matt emulsion
From her eponymous collection of paints, Francesca Wezel picks Piedmontese Aubergine: "It is an eclectic colour, full of life and energy, it lights beautifully at night. It is not cold as there is a lot of red in it." £56.88 for 2.5l emulsion ▶