



Burgundy red

Rich purple-based hues of red are decadent and deeply alluring for more dramatic settings

Like fine red wines these deep reds have gorgeous plummy notes and a complex depth. Full of warmth, they make an ideal choice for a dining room or library. Vanessa Konig, director of Konig Colours, says that plum reds such as Sitwell Red (*above right*) “have an underlying depth of deep magenta at its base. It works really well in gloss, being perfect for joinery. The gloss really brings out the deep hues of the colour and seems to be having a renaissance.” She also adds that this hue can be contrasted with a vibrant green to create a stylish, cosy bedroom, accented with coral in a modern study or used for cabinetry in a kitchen against mineral-white walls and slate floors.

Lending itself perfectly to classical schemes, wine red works well in grander settings to add gravitas. For an opulent look it pairs well with gold and is decadent when used for silk damask curtaining or fabric-lined walls.

Chic & crisp

Purple-based reds look wonderful in evening lighting, making them a perfect choice for dining rooms. Choosing a bold colour shows confidence and sets a cossetting mood for dinner guests. In addition, Crown Paint’s colour consultant Judy Smith adds that “colour psychologists believe red induces appetite; they believe this is directly related to the physical effect red has on our bodies... it is thought to stimulate the senses, promote activity and raise the blood pressure.”

Here (*above right*), the colour (Scarlet Ribbon by Crown Paints) has been used on the walls, enveloping the room with richness. Clean-lined contemporary furniture and crisply contrasting white and black hues keep the room modern and bold. To soften the look, a patterned fabric could be used for window treatments – Roman blinds rather than curtains might work best. Gold finishes and detailing on furniture would add a feeling of opulence.



