

Dining rooms

Create a welcoming effect for entertaining guests with mood-enhancing colours

The dining area is often an after-thought when it comes to decorating and can be dull, lacking in style and feel slightly unloved in. But with clever use of colour, you can turn it into a room where you'll enjoy entertaining friends as well as a relaxing area

for family meals – and if it's a room you don't use every day, then you can be more adventurous with colour.

The table will be the focal point – and whether you want a modern or traditional look, there's plenty of styles around in pale and dark wood, glass and metal.



Use toning shades of dusky pink

Walls

We used...

a muted raspberry shade,
Crème de Violette paint,
£9.70 per litre, Sanderson



Or try these...

Lavender vinyl matt emulsion, £13.99 for 2.5 litre;
Japanese paper in lilac M81487, £13.99 per roll;
Watercolour Stripe in lilac M66198, £9.99 per roll; all Next



Or try these...

Temple Twist Raspberry,
£18.30 per sq m; **Temple Twist Tea Rose**, £18.30 per sq m; both Stoddart Templeton

How to make it work

Plan ahead with these easy-to-follow points

- Avoid dark colours in rooms that are already on the small side as this will dramatically give the room a smaller appearance.
- Pick out features, such as the fireplace or ceiling rose, by painting them in either a soft tonal colour or white.
- Create a tonal look by painting the ceiling in a light shade, the walls slightly deeper and the skirting boards in the lightest shade.
- Choose furniture that will enhance the colour scheme and not be too overbearing. Avoid dark wood – beech or birch are ideal for this soft look.



Flooring

We used...

a delicious soft pink carpet,
Raspberry Crush
Devonshire Twist
£29.50 per sq m, William
Lomas Select First