

MAY 2008

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COLOR FOR BRUNETTES

What's the most flattering color for a brunette? Well, let's see: Do you want to look sexy, mysterious, soft, youthful, rich, regal?

Interviews by
CHRISTINE PITTEL

"I'm Italian, and it's very Italian to use orange. Think of those luxury brands with orange logos—Hermès and Pratesi. I see it lacquered on a ceiling, with cream walls. Or you could get that faded Tuscan feeling by using it as a wash in the living room. A lacquered orange library with black bookshelves would be totally sensational. Super modern, super chic."

MILLY De CABROL
RALPH LAUREN PAINT
BAJA ORANGE 1B62

"What makes a dark-haired woman look good is a glow of color. This soft, sensual peach has the romance of candlelight and the warmth of cashmere. If a woman paints her bedroom this color, a man might think it's too feminine until he's in it. But then he would feel enveloped and embraced, warm, cozy, taken care of—all those things people like to feel."

SUSAN ZISES GREEN
BENJAMIN MOORE
PERKY PEACH 2012-50



"In Mediterranean cultures, you see a lot of brunettes and a lot of orange. This is vibrant and happy, yet toned down with a little brown, so it feels natural. Yolo Colorhouse paints are environmentally friendly with no VOCs and a warm, earthy palette. I'm thinking of using this in my bathroom, or a sitting room with lots of books. Bring in turquoise, yellow, red—the brighter, the better—so they play off each other."

SARA BENGUR
YOLO COLORHOUSE
PETAL .01



"All of us brunettes, whether Asian, African-American, or that brown-eyed girl Van Morrison sang about, have one thing to be grateful for. When was the last time you heard of a dumb brunette? There's not a color we can't use, and we'll always be better with more of it. Take this geisha-mouth, cayenne pepper red—something a hummingbird swoons towards. It just howls to be painted on a floor somewhere. Your own red carpet."

MALLORY MARSHALL
SHERWIN-WILLIAMS
STOP SW 6869

"I can't think of a better room for a brunette than Harry's Bar in Florence, with begonia pink walls and dark wainscoting. The tablecloths and napkins are the same pink with a hint of blue in it, which makes it a tad cooler. Rich colors are really flattering to brunettes, while blondes just fade away. But stay away from sweet, or anything that looks like it would be appropriate for Easter."

JARRETT HEDBORG
BENJAMIN MOORE
TRUE PINK 2003-40

"I'm completely in love with these paints, originally made for Le Corbusier and mixed with pure artist's pigments, so you get these super-saturated jewel tones. This is the color of garnets, rubies, Japanese maple leaves, that red dress you wear on a first date that really sizzles. I see it in a dining room with red wine, a five-course meal, candlelight, and twinkling glasses."

AMY LAU
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ROUGE FRAMBOISE LC 32.101