

Kitchen

SPACE-SAVVY GALLEY STYLE

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October 2016

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curated COLOR WHEEL

Brown Beauty

Rooted in nature's palette, the warm and subdued shades of the earth provide comfort and retreat

BY ASHLEY HOTHAM

Rich soil, tree bark, lichens, and wood—they're all part of Mother Nature's own decorating scheme. Those marvelous shades of brown translate effortlessly to indoor decor and so are making their way into homes around the globe.

Paint and color expert Annie Sloan is seeing a revival in the use of this earthy shade. "Browns have always been a staple in many interior color palettes," she says. "However, lately I have seen a resurgence in their popularity, from taupe tones right through to deep espresso hues." Sloan says brown can be used to enhance numerous styles in widely different categories, such as provincial French Country and midcentury modern.

New York designer Leslie Banker likes the versatility of brown. "This is a great neutral that has some pizzazz but doesn't steal the show," she says. "I can think of so many ways to use this color—on the lacquered walls in a dining room or in a printed fabric in a wonderfully masculine bedroom on everything from the walls and window treatments to the bed skirt and headboard. It would be so cozy!"

- 1 "Canvas Stripe" wallcovering in umber by Elizabeth Hamilton
- 2 "Songbird" linen in silver/bronze by Lee Jofa
- 3 "33269" trim in color 9880 by Houliès
- 4 "Mahatma" oyster linen in driftwood by Raoul Textiles
- 5 "Folly" linen in berber brown by Schumacher
- 6 "Chuck-A-Luck" in color 05 by Fabricut
- 7 "Bello Floral" cotton-linen in color 03 by Fabricut
- 8 "Cervinia" wool in nut by C&C Milano



Lee Industries Slipcovered dining bench "C7750-56C" in riva teak. Maison Gerard "Lucy" brown emperador marble and patinated bronze mirror by Achille Salvagni.

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