

# FEELING BLUE

# 5+ REASONS TO LOVE NAVY

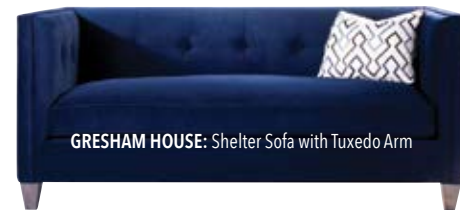
BY YANIC SIMARD



Wondering why navy blue is such a perennial favourite? There are more reasons to love it now than ever (trust me, it will fit in perfectly with your dream 2018 colour schemes), but for now here are my top five, along with many great ways to use this true-blue hue in your own home.

**1 Navy is Versatile.** Navy is a rich hue and a steadfast neutral at the same time, which makes it a savvy colour choice for those who are weary of simple grey – it will cooperate with other hues, but brings a little personality of its own. Also, while navy will never be the “new black,” it is a great stand-in for pitch shades, which can sometimes feel a little harsh against the cheerful colours that are popular today, like soft pinks and leaf greens.

*Try This:* Use navy blue for investment pieces that you want to endure through years of colour trends, like a great sofa – it can mix with changing accent hues, so you can evolve your look over time. It’s also a great colour to use tone-on-tone, so if you aren’t colour-confident, feel free to partner navy with diverse blue shades for a foolproof scheme.



GRESHAM HOUSE: Shelter Sofa with Tuxedo Arm

**2 Navy is Liveable.** I find clients are often a little shy about using a dark colour on the walls. Some crave the dramatic look, but are scared it won’t feel liveable. However, dark navy shades feel as natural as the dusk skyline, so they won’t grow tiresome – just make sure to include some visual breaks with light accents like white door trim, breezy curtains, pale upholstery and art.

*Try this:* Whether you have a colourful palette that needs a calming hue to tie elements together, or want to add drama to a neutral palette, try a rich navy paint like Benjamin Moore’s Delft from their new Century Collection, in an au courant matte finish. For a subtler, greyed-out shade, try Celestine Blue, which is a bit off-navy but brings a similar regal air.



Cobalt

Celestine Blue

Delft

**3 Navy is Architectural.** Looking for a way to accent architectural elements? Navy makes a perfect pop colour for doors, kitchen cabinets, niches or high ceilings – it calls a bit of attention to such features but lets your other accents be the true star.

*Try this:* Paint a cool half-wall treatment (all over or just an accent wall) up to about 54 inches, and leave the upper half white or off-white. Use this line or a bit higher as a centre point for some framed photos, to break up the look a little more. Now you’ve got an architectural look that retains an open and breezy eyeline, so the space feels enriched but not overwhelmed.



WEST ELM:  
Rauschenberg  
Scoop-Back Chair



FIRECLAY TILE: Abyss Glazed Thin Brick



SURYA: Cotton Velvet  
Pillow in Navy

**FOR A SOPHISTICATED SCHEME, ADD NAVY ELEMENTS IN INTERESTING TEXTURES.**

JAIPUR LIVING: Gramercy By Kate Spade  
New York in Dark Navy Leopard Ikat

**BLUR THE COLOUR LINES WITH AN “OFF-NAVY,” LIKE THIS MYSTERIOUS PURPLE-BLUE SHADE.**

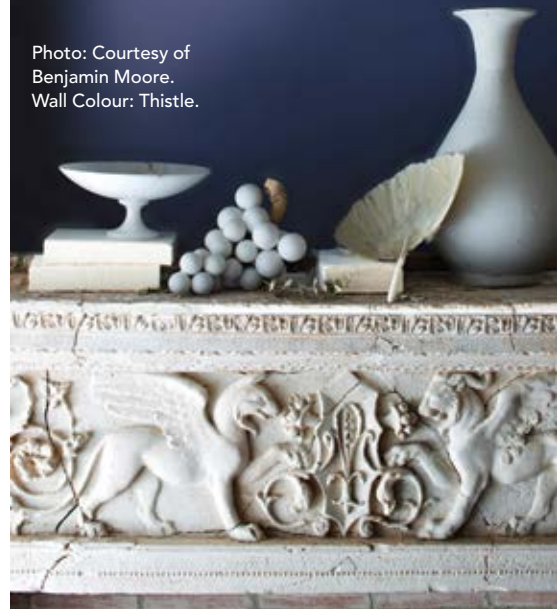


Photo: Courtesy of Benjamin Moore.  
Wall Colour: Thistle.

**5 Navy is Mysterious.** It’s almost 2018, why limit yourself to a strict, pure navy hue? Nebulous, space-inspired hues are huge right now – rich purple Shadow is even Benjamin Moore’s current Colour of the Year – so consider using a warm off-navy indigo shade for even more inky interest.

*Try this:* Use a crossover blue-purple shade like Benjamin Moore’s Thistle or Larkspur Seed to create a mysterious air in an intimate space (like a dining room or den), and let your guests debate whether it reminds them of blackberries or lilacs. OH



Larkspur Seed

Thistle