

# liveable COLOUR



Whether you're looking to bring a leafy green to your home for warm, year-round vibes, or you prefer a different accent hue, these tips for adding liveable colour can help you have fun with your palette – inspired by this cheerful Toronto Interior Design Group project.



STORY  
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## GET COMFORTABLE WITH COLOUR

For this project, we wanted to create a look that respected the heritage details of the home, but didn't feel too safe. This meant adding some colour and taking a few strategic design risks, one of which was a cool sectional sofa. The modular style meant being able to use a contrasting upholstery for a few sections, and a neutral fabric for the rest. It also leaves the option open for switching up the look later by rearranging the pieces or changing just a few covers.

**Pro Tip:** Green is near-neutral enough to withstand changing trends and mix with new accent colours in the future. This colour family in particular is a smart choice for accents you can live with for years to come.

## USE A NEW NEUTRAL

Enriching your colour scheme doesn't always have to mean tossing in a new bold hue: adding a new neutral to your scheme will make the palette feel more diverse in a subtle way. Here, a cool mid-tone grey for the fireplace brick plays against the warm wood floors. This stone shade also helps soften the appearance of the black fireplace surround, plus, it's repeated in a cosy blanket, tying the entire palette further together.



**BENJAMIN MOORE:**  
Chelsea Gray (HC-168)

## THROW YOUR PALETTE TOGETHER

Does the unique sofa seem like too much commitment? This is where accent pillows and throws come in. Not only are these changeable pieces a smart way to add colour without a big investment, but they can also tame a bold palette and connect non-matching areas. By piling the sofa with multi-tonal green and neutral pillows, the colours of the sofa sections become repeated and tied together. A striped blanket is then used to bring this accent hue to a neighbouring seating area for a sense of harmony.

**Get the look:** Use pillows and throws in related but subtly differing shades, and in a rich array of fabrics and textures, to integrate your accent hues throughout the space in a sophisticated way.



**1. BARCLAY BUTERA:** Greer Linen Insert with Grommets  
**2. CELERIE KEMBLE:** Sail Celadon with Ball Trim

**BRUNELLI:** 3. Dorothy in Aqua  
4. Fred in Cream 5. Pompon  
6. Gwyneth in Blue Duck  
7. **SURYA:** Troy Throw in Mint, Cream and Teal

## FRESHEN UP YOUR WINDOW TRIM

Using a fresh minty accent hue for your window trim truly brings the outdoors in. First, it adds a pop of greenery in an unexpected way, but in a small enough dose that it's not overwhelming, or hard to repaint if you want a new look down the road. Second, it beautifully frames the view outside. We finished the look with elegant in-window shades rather than draperies, to suit the architectural appeal and leave the elegant trim exposed.



**SAFAVIEH:**  
Carlotta Arm Chair in Griego

**TON CANADA:**  
Merano Armchair in Beech with Black Stain

**MOE'S:** Adele Coffee Table

## MIX WOODS LIKE A NATURAL

Think all of the woods in one room have to match? Mixing wood tones is like mixing other neutrals – the subtle differences can actually enhance each other and your palette. However, there are rules that will help avoid clashes. In general, it's safe to stick to just cool (ashy/grey) woods, or warm (yellow/red/brown) tones, so they don't conflict. It also helps to use somewhat similar grains. In this room, all of the woods have small subtle grains rather than bold exotic ones.

**Get the look:** Mix a pale rattan accent chair, rich-stained or lacquered bentwood side chairs and a natural-edge coffee table for a perfectly eclectic trio that extends from light to dark. **OH**



**Get the look:** We used Benjamin Moore's Salisbury Green (HC-139) for the windows (drawn from the mint upholstery on the sofa), but for the nearby entry door trim we matched it to the walls to keep the vestibule simple and breezy.