

**Looking "Green"**

People want things they wear and things they use now to look "green," no matter what color they are. In 2008, looking stylish means looking natural. Materials will look hand-made, un-dyed and unbleached. Products will look more like what they're actually made of, with lots of texture and all the natural imperfections proudly showing through. Off-whites, sandy and linen-y colors, rock and soil colors, brownish-greens — the colors of nature are seriously fashionable now.

Calico Corners' Grant Park Room
(shown above)

This room features linen upholstery fabrics on the furniture, woven bamboo blinds, a linen drapery and accents from a charcoal linen print on the pillows and a silky jacquard ikat style fabric on the ottoman. All fabrics and soft furnishings are from Calico Corners. www.calicocorners.com

Color Marketing Group

forecasts color trends up to three years into the future for its members, many of whom must plan ahead for product, space and materials introductions.

For more information:
www.colormarketing.org

What are the top color trends for the remainder of 2008 according to the Color Marketing Group? This leading international association of color design professionals — whose trendspotting has long influenced color palettes in the graphic arts — foresees genuine concern for the environment remains the strongest influence on the colors we'll see and buy next year.

"Our members specify color for everything from paint and furniture to cars and carpets," said Jaime Stephens, executive director of CMG. "They track trends several years ahead, and they've rarely been wrong in more than 43 years."

News in Blues

The "trust me" color will continue to show up on candidates' ties this election year. But in all areas of decor, blues that remind us of sky and water — inspired by environmentalism — remain prominent, even in the kitchen. New is the emergence of a much blacker blue inspired by technology — a deep, vibrant navy so dark you'll swear it's black.

Getting Warmer

Advances in technology have made shimmery, specialized finishes really hot. But in 2008, metallics are getting warmer. After so many years of brushed chrome and nickel, look for warmer shades — coppery, bronze-y tones — to prevail.

**More Ethnic Accents**

Globalism continues to inspire our love for ethnic accent colors. They're coming to us from India, China and Latin America. To Moroccan reds and glowing oranges, add rosy pinks, sunny golden yellows and lots of turquoise. Already here in fashion and home design, these ethnic accents will show up as "punch" colors in hotels, restaurants and retail environments, too — often paired with rich browns as neutrals.

Formica Corporation (shown above)

f845 Spectrum Red in Formica ColorCore®2 shows as an accent in a streamlined and seamless mudroom credenza, coordinates beautifully with the backdrop, V8463-WX Color Wood, from the Formica Veneer line. www.formica.com