

Better Homes and Gardens®



We Love a Bargain
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Driftwood Grays

There's a new gray in town, and it's not the cold, steely hue you're used to. These go-with-everything shades, inspired by weathered wood, radiate warmth.

BY JODY GARLOCK | PHOTO GREG SCHEIDEMANN
PRODUCED BY JESSICA THOMAS



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Gray matters

"Gray is a color you can have fun with—it has a lot of mileage," says Jenny Wolf, a New York City designer who's smitten with the warm shades she has brought into her home. See gray in a new light.

1 It's been called the new brown and the new black, but Jenny considers gray the new white. "It's a nice alternative to white," she says. "It's neutral. It's timeless."

2 Jenny prefers using gray as a room's "canvas"—on walls. High-sheen paints might look industrial; choose a flat finish for a softer look.



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3 “To figure out if you’re choosing a warm gray, put it against a taupe swatch and a blue swatch,” Jenny says. “A warm gray will look closer to the taupe swatch; a cool gray will veer toward the blue one.”

4 Pair warm grays with antique brass and antique bronze finishes, rather than the more expected silver tones. “The warmer metals are nice because warm grays have more yellow in them,” Jenny says. “A gilded frame offers contrast; a pewter one just blends in.”

5 When adding patterns of any color to a gray scheme, choose ones with a white or creamy white background, such as a chevron or a zebra print. “What that does for a gray palette is exciting,” Jenny says.

6 White trim or furniture crisps up a gray scheme. “I don’t think it gets much better than warm gray walls with bright white trim,” Jenny says.

7 Factor wood tones into a gray scheme. Jenny likes mahogany for richness and a traditional look. If you want something more relaxed, weathered or raw woods work well with warm grays.

8 “You can layer on virtually any color so gray becomes something new and exciting,” Jenny says. She’s drawn to coral and persimmon as accents. For a surprise, try a cool teal or peacock blue.



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Design board by designer Jenny Wolf, Jenny Wolf Interiors LLC; 917/750-4335; jennywolfinteriors.com. **Paint swatch** Pavilion Gray—Farrow & Ball; farrow-ball.com. **Floral fabric** Calico in Blue—Carolina Irving Textiles; carolinairvingtextiles.com. **Ivory fabric** Sunbrella Dupione Pearl—Lee Industries; leeindustries.com. **Leaf print fabric** Dora 3 by Andrew Martin, trim Groundworks #TL10096-335—Lee Jofa (to the trade); leejofa.com. **Teal velvet** Luxury Velvet—Fabricut, Inc.; fabricut.com. **Ikat print fabric** (shown in information button) Kerala Ikat Print in Indigo #173630—Schumacher (to the trade); fschumacher.com. **Dresser Bureau** #GUS 040—Chelsea Textiles; chelseatextiles.com. **Seagrass rug** Maritime Seagrass Rug—Natural Area Rugs; naturalarearugs.com.

Bedroom Wall color Mourning Dove #MSL210 Martha Stewart Paint—homedepot.com. **Headboard**—potterybarn.com. **Print**—sfgirlbybay.etsy.com. **Guitar**—Fender; fender.com. **Items not listed**—vintage, discontinued, or source unknown.

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