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A collection of colorful flowers in various vases against a green background. The flowers include pink peonies, purple hydrangeas, yellow daffodils, and a large orange rose. The vases are in shades of yellow, green, and pink. The scene is set on a wooden surface.

Color made easy

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Soothe with Soul

Texture, contrast, and bits of history bring warmth to a neutral palette.

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Gray walls recede to let furnishings, like this antique sideboard, get the attention in Florence Choux's entry and living area.



BRIGHT
White trim
brings
crispness to
gray walls.

full view:
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entire image



Serenity. In a word, that's everything Florence Choux wants in her home. "A neutral space soothes my mind," the Bay Area interior designer says. Soothing, however, never goes sleepy in this neutral space. Florence contrasts a smooth and shapely armchair with a rough-hewn coffee table, a pair of ornate stone lamps with workmanlike stools, soft white muslin curtains with black forged-iron hardware. Antique pieces, obviously lived with and lived on, bring even more warmth and patina. Small infusions of color add the final layer, soft and muted in art, pillows, flowers, and foliage.

Florence mixed metals and patterns for a fresh look. Touches of black bring a modern edge to rooms with vintage pieces.

Collingwood OC-28
Benjamin Moore



IT'S GOLDEN

Like a hint of sun rays, muted yellow gently wakes up restful beige.

cover

this issue

fresh

home

garden

style

food

better

recipe index



BLUE NOTE

Organic blue meshes easily with earthy neutral hues.



“A mix of wood, stone, metal, and soft fabric is always a balanced, peaceful combination.”

Florence Choux

Florence mixes grays, going from light on the den walls and in the kitchen’s ceramic tile to dark on the den sofa and the kitchen cabinetry and countertops. A modern chandelier in the dining area and a bucket fixture in the kitchen throw in a little surprise.

cover

this issue

fresh

home

garden

style

food

better

recipe index



Palette pointers

Ash gray (1) on walls in the living areas creates a cool backdrop that shifts with the changing light. Warm iron gray (2) in metals, fabrics, and concrete countertops adds depth. Borrowed from the sea and sky, aqua (3) saturates one of the home's prime gathering spots, the cozy dining area. Then, like rivulets from a tide pool, it reappears in meaningful places in paintings and on pottery. Another accent color, oatmeal (4), is equally muted, while saffron (5) brings in a wisp of sunshine.



Cool gray walls in gathering spaces warm to deep gray in the bedroom.