

Light Reflective Values: The Importance of Contrast

LRVs

Light Reflective Values are a measure of how much useful light is reflected by individual coloured objects in an interior space. Rather than a measure of colour; it's a measure of light and dark. The scale runs from 0 to 100 with black being 0 and white, 100. Different colours could have similar LRVs. Darker colours will tend to absorb more light rather than reflect.

Contrast is a fundamental element of interior design as it adds visual interest to a space to make it connective and impactful. Colour is one way of providing this contrast. Whilst good design should create a sense of relaxation, too much of the same colour can confuse and create a dull space. In care homes, the need for good levels of contrast is even more important, especially for those living with sight impairment or dementia. Working with LRVs helps designers to create spaces with clear contrast. Particularly focused on hard surfaces such as floors, doorways, walls & ceilings, LRVs can also be applied to plain fabrics used for soft-furnishings, within a commercial space. Knowledge of the LRV measure aids designers in creating beautiful, relaxing spaces, where fabrics can assist navigation and movement around the space to meet the needs of the resident/ user. Texture also plays an important role in defining objects and edges within a space.

Skopos use specialist equipment to provide LRV readings for all of their plain fabrics. These readings cannot be accurately applied to heavily patterned fabrics, though readings could be taken on a dominant colour within a patterned design. For LRVs of our current collections, please visit our collection pages. The chart shows LRV values for Beau fabrics.



BEAU COLLECTION

COLOURWAY	LRV
B2 DOE	20
B4 MUSTARD	26
B5 SMOKE	8.5
B6 MINERAL	26
B7 LINDEN	35
B11 TIDE	6.5
B12 ZINC	31.5
B14 PETAL	28
B15 SHELL	52
B16 RAVEN	2
B20 BLAZE	11.5
B22 TURMERIC	31
B23 APRICOT	34.5
B24 ARTICHOKE	16.5
B25 EDEN	7
B26 CAPRI	8
B27 MIAMI	5.5
B28 PICCADILLY	4
B29 MULBERRY	3
B30 JAM	4
B31 ROSEHIP	8.5
B32 BRICK	12.5
B33 PECAN	18

