Light Reflective Values: The Importance of Contrast

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 to100 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 Chamonix fabrics, excluding Slalom.



CHAMONIX COLLECTION

DESIGN	COLOURWAY	LRV
ORRELLE	C1 TIMBER	24.5
ORRELLE	C2 FLINT	17
ORRELLE	C3 FERRO	12.5
ORRELLE	C4 CLEMENT	19
ORRELLE	C5 CRUSH	8
ORRELLE	C6 SLOE	7.5
ORRELLE	C7 AQUA	12
ORRELLE	C8 LOGAN	12
ORRELLE	C9 BRUNO	7.5
ORRELLE	C10 FIG	6.5
MARMOTTE	C1 MAPLE	27
MARMOTTE	C2 LARK	26
MARMOTTE	C3 ELK	11
MARMOTTE	C4 CHARTREUSE	21
MARMOTTE	C5 DREAM	17
MARMOTTE	C6 MOSS	11.5
MARMOTTE	C7 PINE	7
MARMOTTE	C8 STEEL	7
MARMOTTE	C9 INFERNO	10
MARMOTTE	C10 CARMINE	5
MARMOTTE	C11 MOCHA	3
MARMOTTE	C12 MAJESTIC	6
MARMOTTE	C13 MALLARD	2
MARMOTTE	C14 BLACK CHERRY	1
MARMOTTE	C15 INK	1
MARMOTTE	C16 SLATE	2





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