

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 Tama fabrics.

TAMA FAUX LEATHER COLLECTION

COLOURWAY	LRV
T1 COCONUT	47.5
T2 MANUKA	35.5
T3 FLAX	22
T4 EARTH	10.5
T5 PACIFIC	19
T6 YACHT	9
T7 SNORKEL	5
T8 BASALT	34
T9 EEL	14
T10 HEART	13
T11 SATSUMA	26
T12 LEAF	29.5
T13 CRESS	20
T14 PASSIONFRUIT	6
T15 RED APPLE	6
T16 SPIDER	4

