

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 Tarim fabrics.

TARIM COLLECTION

| COLOURWAY | LRV |
|----------------|------|
| T1 BLACKBERRY | 4 |
| T2 SANGRIA | 5.5 |
| T3 CHILLI | 10.5 |
| T4 TOBACCO | 13 |
| T5 CRABAPPLE | 29 |
| T6 SAND | 43 |
| T7 ROSE | 31 |
| T8 WOAD | 6 |
| T9 GRAPHITE | 8 |
| T10 CAVERN | 8.5 |
| T11 MERCURY | 15 |
| T12 ARGENT | 25 |
| T13 FALCON | 28 |
| T14 DIAMOND | 31 |
| T15 PEPPERMINT | 31 |
| T16 AVOCADO | 21.5 |
| T17 PEAR | 26.5 |
| T18 WHEAT | 32 |
| T19 HAZELNUT | 22 |
| T20 BLONDE | 52 |
| T21 OXFORD | 4.5 |
| T22 JAY | 8.5 |
| T23 AZURE | 8.5 |
| T24 OASIS | 15.5 |
| T25 WHALE | 19 |

