

PERFECT by DESIGN

your tree, your way

YAM brings you fresh colour schemes to tempt you away from those traditional Christmas palettes of poinsettia red and fir green in favour of bursts of luscious jewel tones, trendy colours such as seafoam and peacock, and luxurious metallics. *By Kerry Slavens*

PURPLE & PEWTER



DREAM IT: Long considered the colour of kings, queens, and creativity, purple brings a royal touch to your décor. You and your guests will feel warmly wrapped in its jewel-toned richness.

DESIGN IT: There are so many wonderful purples and they all work well for the holidays. For a beautifully balanced look, combine a deep purple with a mid-range such as fuchsia, then add dramatic touches of pewter or silver for a fresh, very festive appeal.



ON THE COVER

CRIMSON & SPARKLE



DREAM IT: If you simply can't imagine your Christmas tree without that luscious red that brings to mind cranberries and Santa suits, you'll be relieved to know that this is one holiday colour that no amount of trendiness will ever take away.

DESIGN IT: Give your tree a modern touch, like this one in Meade Design's studio, by layering on the reds, from carmine to scarlet, and playing with textures: shimmery ornaments, velvety retro reindeer, and translucent glass. Then bring on the metal, big time, because this is the season to really shine with bronze, silver, and gold. Your tree will absolutely glow.

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SEAFOAM & FROST



DREAM IT: Green is the ultimate holiday hue, but nothing says you have to stick with fir green or cedar. Bring contemporary flair to your colour scheme by combining seafoam green and turquoise.

DESIGN IT: Seafoam green really pops when paired with turquoise and metallics (yes, you can mix your silvers and golds). For the best effects, choose metallic ornaments in several different textures, from shiny and smooth to shimmery and frosty, and in a variety of sizes.

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COLOUR & JOY



DREAM IT: If you love colour so much you just want to go multi, there's nothing to stop you. Think Dr. Seuss colours or bowls of salt water taffy. For a sophisticated look opt for jewel tones like amethyst, emerald, pink diamond, amber, sapphire, and ruby.

DESIGN IT: The trick to working with multicolours is restraint. Choose three or four colours that go well with each other and be cautious about going too wild with the shapes of your decorations. For example, if you have multiple colours and ornaments that include round, square, oblong, and star-shaped, you may end up with a tree that just looks messy. For some fun choosing colours, look to colour theory and play with your ideas on a colour wheel. Another tip: choosing a neutral such as pewter for one of your "colours" tends to make the other colours pop while adding a grounding element to your scheme.



PEACOCK & PEARL



DREAM IT: There's holiday warmth and then there's holiday cool. Think of outdoor ice-skating, frost dustings on the trees, and that poetic blue light that defines our days as solstice arrives.

DESIGN IT: For charismatic "cool" effects, choose a vibrant royal or peacock blue and combine it with a warmer teal for the perfect balance of temperatures. Any shade of blue is spectacular with pearlized ornaments or tree-wrapping ribbons with a hint of pearl shimmer.



Eagle Feather Gallery

Artist: Tony Hunt Jr.

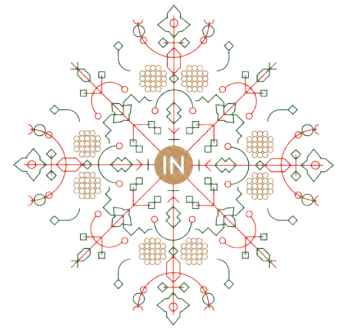


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LEADING SPAS OF CANADA





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SNEAK PEEK: When curiosity gives way to active nosiness — and waiting even one more second is agony. **NICE PEEK:** When you shake, poke, or sniff, but don't dare look inside. **NAUGHTY PEEK:** When you're past the point of all restraint and you actually break the gift-wrap barrier. **POST-PEEK:** When you feel so guilty as everyone watches you open your "surprise" present that you actually eat a whole plate of shortbread with coloured sugar on top.