

The 2024 color of the year has been announced



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

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For the News-Leader



Gaskill

It's that time of the year when fall approaches for the leaves to change their colors and for Sherwin-Williams to announce its 2024 color of the year. Last year, we looked to the sunset and marsh skies with Redend Point SW 9081. We saw this color find its way into fashion and furniture alike with beautiful accent home décor, which is one of the best ways to incorporate trends into your home. This coming year, we will look to the skies with Upward SW 6239, a shade of blue that evokes the sense of peace found when slowing down, taking a breath and allowing the mind to clear.

Upward SW 6239 represents the gentle forward momentum in all our lives. With this color, you can take a pause and infuse a new sense of ease and possibility into their spaces, one that doesn't overwhelm but rather establishes meditation and tranquility.

As part of unveiling the new color, Sherwin-Williams has partnered with James Beard Award-winning French pastry chef Dominique Ansel to create his first-ever vegan Cronut inspired by Upward, available for a limited time at his namesake bakery in New York City's Soho neighborhood.

The all-vegan version of Ansel's iconic "half croissant, half doughnut" creation is filled with coconut ganache and Butterfly Pea Flower tea ganache, made with the Southeast Asian flower that, when gently steeped as a tea, mirrors the shade and spirit of Upward SW 6239.

After the earthy tone of 2023 Color of the Year Redend Point SW 9081, Upward welcomes a weightless, buoyant peace, inspired by the

ethereal calm above.

As we play with color, it's essential to consider their interactions thoughtfully. Warmed-up blues might lead to hues that appear muddled and lackluster, which is why preserving the crisp edge and magnetic allure of cool blues is vital. It's in these subtle nuances that create spaces that are timeless and inspired."

Upward is part of Palette No.1 in Sherwin-Williams Colormix Forecast 2024, Anthology: Volume One. We recommend pairing the hue with blues and greens, deeps and darks, and delicate tints such as Snowbound SW 7004, Drift of Mist SW 9166, Gale Force SW 7605, Tricorn Black SW 6528, Honeydew SW 6428, Palm Leaf SW 7735 and Antiquarian Brown SW 0045.

Since 2011, the Sherwin-Williams global color and design team researches and identifies key trends that influence the way we interact with color. From those findings, the team turns emerging trends into the annual Colormix Forecast, which features trending palettes for the year to come. The team then chooses the Color of the Year from the forecast, and Upward is its 14th official Color of the Year:

- 2011: Indigo Batik SW 7602
- 2012: Argyle SW 6747
- 2013: Aloe SW 6464
- 2014: Exclusive Plum SW 6263
- 2015: Coral Reef SW 6606
- 2016: Alabaster SW 7008
- 2017: Poised Taupe SW 6039
- 2018: Oceanside SW 6496



- 2019: Cavern Clay SW 7701
- 2020: Naval SW 6244
- 2021: Urbane Bronze SW 7048
- 2022: Evergreen Fog SW 9130
- 2023: Redend Point SW 9081

Upward is the perfect color for a sophisticated coastal or minimal luxe home. You will be able to find this color throughout 2024 in artwork, pillows, vases, candles, wallpaper and more. If you are inspired by the color, you can take a bolder approach and incorporate this color in your kitchen or bathroom cabinets or the exterior of your home or interior on your walls.

Upward will turn your home into a calm

serene sanctuary. For more information on the Colormix Forecast and colors that can complement Upward, you can connect with Sherwin-Williams or with your local interior designer.

Jeanette Gaskill is the lead designer for Coastal Cottage of Amelia, where she has worked for the past six years. She loves being able to work hand-in-hand with her customers to design the spaces they dream of. Gaskill knows that interior design is very personal so she considers it an honor to be invited into her customer's homes. As part of the process, she takes time to get to know her customer's personality and tastes which is always reflected in the final result - she can make magic.



You can't depend on AI to do all your writing for you



FROM
THE
HOME
OFFICE

Phil
Hudgins

It hadn't been a good day, so I asked Artificial Intelligence (nickname AI) to write my column. His real name is Bard. His full name is Bard Dot Com.

I've read that AI can do all sorts of things: write your thank-you letters, compose an apology for being too honest about a dress, list the latest stats in major league baseball.

So I instructed ol' Bard: Write a funny column about outhouses in Southern Appalachia. And he did. It began this way:

"The outhouse is a Southern Appalachian institution. It's been around for longer than anyone can remember, and it's a business where folks have gone to do their business in peace and privacy for generations."

Accurate information, but not funny. The column meandered for 505 words. It recounted how outhouses are usually located

in the yard, where they offer "stunning views of the surrounding countryside;" that you never know what critter will emerge when you open the outhouse door; and that outhouses are a great place ... "to bond with your loved ones."

My grandparents, Barto and Hattie Hudgins, had a two-holer on their farm, but I don't remember any of my uncles or my daddy saying, "Hey, brother, let's go down to the little house and do some family bonding."

So I'm still waiting for the funny part in Bard's column. Ah, here's one:

"One time, my grandpa was using the outhouse when a bear came along. The bear started sniffing around the outhouse, and my grandpa was too scared to move. He just sat there and held his breath. Finally, the bear got bored and went away."

Now, a bear might find that funny, but probably not any human being.

After a couple more unfunny anecdotes, Bard ended the column this way:

"Outhouses may not be the most glamorous places, but they're definitely a part of Southern Appalachian culture. And they've got a lot of funny stories to tell."

And we're still waiting to read one.

Wish Bard could have interviewed my friend, Bimbo Brewer. Bimbo is gone now, but his story has survived for decades. Here it is:

Bimbo got a call at the newspaper about an explosion at a farm in Nicholson, Ga. He grabbed his camera and lit out. EMTs had come to the aid of Grandpa, who had suffered oval-size burns to his backside. Seems he fired up a stogie while sitting on one hole and

threw the flaming match into the other hole.

It was a hot summer day, and methane gas had built up tremendously inside the receptacle. Grandma was standing at the kitchen window and saw her husband come rolling head-first out of the outhouse with his overalls around his ankles.

The EMTs were laughing so hard, they nearly dropped the stretcher with Grandpa on it on the way to the ambulance.

OK, Bard, that may not be hilarious, especially to the guy who was the butt of the joke. But it's better than your stories.

Guess I'll have to write my own dang columns.

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