

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 Dove fabrics.

DESIGN	COLOURWAY	LRV
CELESTE	C1 LILY	55
CELESTE	C2 VANILLA	42.5
CELESTE	C3 TOAST	24.5
CELESTE	C4 JUTE	29.5
CELESTE	C5 FOAL	15
CELESTE	C6 BUCK	15.5
CELESTE	C7 BOAR	10.5
CELESTE	C8 ASHEN	40.5
CELESTE	C9 RAILWAY	12.5
CELESTE	C10 BLACKSMITH	6.5
CELESTE	C11 MERCURY	21
CELESTE	C12 SHORE	26.5
CELESTE	C13 MARIGOLD	31
CELESTE	C14 BROOK	12
CELESTE	C15 DOCK	32.5
CELESTE	C16 ALGAE	13.5
CELESTE	C17 GRAZE	11.5
CELESTE	C18 REGAL	7
CELESTE	C19 CADET	7.5
CELESTE	C20 HICKORY	12.5

