

Decorating With Dark Brown- French Styling

 frenchstyleauthority.com/archives/decorating-with-dark-brown-french-styling

Chocolate, caramel, cinnamon and mocha are all the colors of a toasty atmosphere of elegance and refinement. The color brown can be masculine enough for men yet also can be made feminine by adding in the right accessories.



Warm colors can instantly make a room feel cozy and intimate. Muted and deep tones can have the coziest effect. Consider painting your walls a brown-tinted red, while accenting in accessories with a light pink. Pink shades complement skin tones, and work beautifully with dark chocolate colors.

Burnt orange also combines the weight of a dark color with the warmer half of the color spectrum. Peach tones also can bring a vibrant tone to a room based around brown. Work with bright red, bright pink, or bright orange as accents, such as throw pillows, floral arrangements, upholstery choices, books, or trim colors. These brighter shades will offset the dark saturated interior and bring life into a dark room.

Designer Quotes

Van Day Truex, Interiors, Character, and Color “Color is a major element in scale. A small room can have a larger look by the use of closely related values, hues, and intensity. A large room can be made to look smaller by marked contrasts of color and value, hue, and intensity. Value is one of the most important elements. Whether light or dark, little value contrast makes for unity, and sharper contrast makes for stronger punctuation.”

Designer Shannon Kaye “Brown is less harsh than black, so I’ll use a creamy vanilla white for the walls with a deep-brown bronze color for the crown molding,” “Contrasting light and dark and mixing textures is how you want to use brown,”

Designer Elaine Ryan “Brown is the color of wood, which is a stable color that we inevitably have in our homes,” “What we need to do is counterbalance all that brown with another shade on the wall.” Mix things up by painting your walls a rich chocolate brown to create a sophisticated backdrop for neutral accessories. Brown can be paired with burgundy for a swank dining or living room, or used with pale aqua to create a lighter and airy feel. Use brown to highlight stronger colors like lime green or orange, or to tone down a room.

Designer Kyle Schuneman- “As calming as a sandy beach, light brown is “the next step up from white or ivory,” “It offers minimal risk but much more impact.” A perfect background for blues and greens (think beach again) or dramatic jewel tones, it also brings refinement to a neutral room when it’s paired with crisp white woodwork”

Designer Ned Marshall-

To create intimacy in the dining room, designer Ned Marshall painted walls in a color called Bittersweet Chocolate by Benjamin Moore, and styled his rooms using French styled Furniture “The brown is also nice with the blue and white and the gilt, and it’s lovely in candlelight,” says Marshall. The New Orleans home was featured in [House Beautiful](#) magazine. He went on to say, “The dark brown also creates drama and an illusion of more space in what would otherwise have been a dull, cramped area.”

“It’s like having a living room that’s done in silk and satin. It’s much more chic if you add some straw or something rough. With color, it’s the same principle. You tame strong color by adding a lot of neutrals to the room — woods, browns, beiges, creams, golds, silvers. And you do not make every room in the house wildly colored, which would

feel like a riot. I try to achieve a certain rhythm of color so that nothing is jarring — but nothing is beige to death, either. I want to walk from a room that's neutral into one with punch. Or from a dark hallway to a light living room”

Roger Banks-Pye, Colefax and Fowler Interior Inspirations- “Always make a dark room darker. You can paint a dark room white, but it will still be dark...give it atmosphere with deep intense colour that works well in artificial light”

Billy Baldwin “If you spend most of your decorating money on a Chippendale table or a Chinese lacquer screen, don't fill in the gaps with mediocrity. Forget the gaps for a while; just have simple slipcover in one pretty color. Then, as you can, acquire other good pieces that are compatible in one pretty color. Let the room grow slowly to maturity”



French Styled Upholstered Furniture By Designer Ned Marshall



Tyler Galleries

Pair of French Louis XV Leather Upholstered Fauteuils



French Styled Upholstered Furniture By Designer Ned Marshall



French Styled Upholstered Furniture By Designer Ned Marshall



French Napoleon III Desk with Leather Top Foxglove Antiques



Pair of French walnut carved leather tufted armchairs [Melissa Levinson Antiques](#)



French Leather Armchair with Carved Frame and Arched Back. [Randall Tysinger Antiques](#)

French Leather Desk/Library/Corner Chair [Antiquario](#)



French Styled Upholstered Furniture By Designer Ned Marshall



A Close up on the settee -Designer Ned Marshall



Petite Antique French Lady's Writing Desk w/Orig. Tooled Leather

[Antiques on Old Plank Road](#)



Carolyn Roehm – New York Living Room – Brown velveteen walls



Cote Paris by Jean-Marc Palisse



Joel Kelly Design



French Leather Waste Paper Basket With Brass Handle reGeneration Furniture Inc.



Antique 18th C. Oil on Canvas Portrait of a Lady From Antiquarian Traders Ebay



Fernanda Kellogg and Kirk Henckels's New York City Apartment

[Visit architecturaldigest.com](http://www.architecturaldigest.com)



Circa-1800 French riverscapes share the garden hall with antique marble busts depicting the four seasons; the painted benches were designed in the manner of 18th-century British architect William Kent.



French Styled Upholstered Furniture By Designer Ned Marshall

Featured In Home Beautiful Magazine



Aura in Davenport Tan HC-76*
benjaminmoore.com

Aura in Acorn 1125
benjaminmoore.com

Flax collection in Chocolate
restorationhardware.com

REAL SIMPLE

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Seen On [Real Simple Magazine](#)



Brighten up your whites by placing them against a backdrop of warm brown. Fay the Weimaraner strikes a pose next to a linen-upholstered antique armchair. The owners bought the white cuckoo clock at The Conran Shop.
CountryLiving.com



Flax collection in Cappuccino*
restorationhardware.com.

Gentle Fawn GLN02
glidden.com

Oatmeal WW 43
ralphlaurenhome.com

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Paint Colors Seen In [Real Simple Magazine](#)



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French Set of Eight Navy Leather Dining Chairs with Carved Wood Frames Painted Cream with Gilded Highlights, Original Leather with Wonderful Aged Distressing and Patina From Use Including Worn Spots with Some Tears and Cracks [Mecox Gardens](#)



French Leather Top Desk [English Country Antiques](#)



[Z Brothers Furniture](#) on ebay has a few really interesting bombe chests which are covered in cow's hide and snake skin. It looks like they have taken these curvy commodes and glued on these stylish fabrics for a unique look. I have been a follower of their furniture for some time, as they have excellent pricing and unique one of a kind pieces.



This Chicago home's kitchen dining nook, furnished with a reclaimed-oak table, a Belgian sofa from the early 1900s, reproduction caned chairs, and a vintage footstool upholstered with an antique carpet. CountryLiving.com See how they pair a chesterfield sofa with dark walls here – [Country Living](http://CountryLiving.com)



From House of Beauty and Culture Blogspot

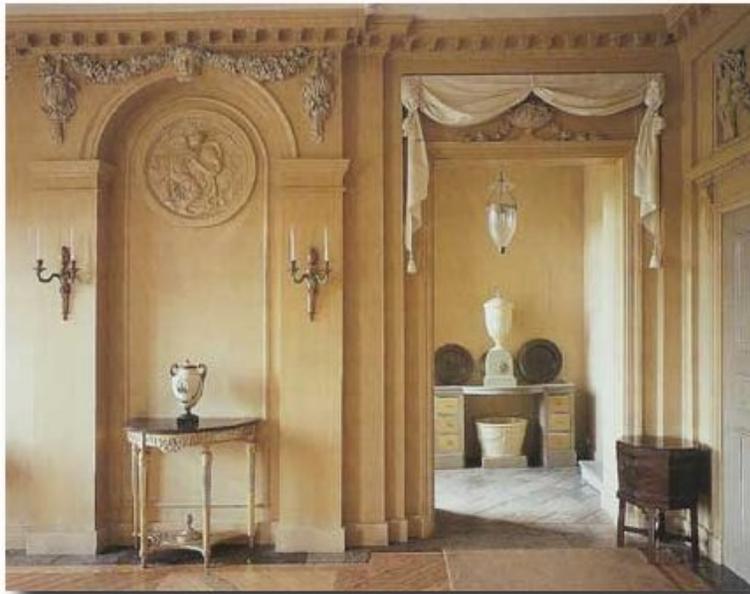
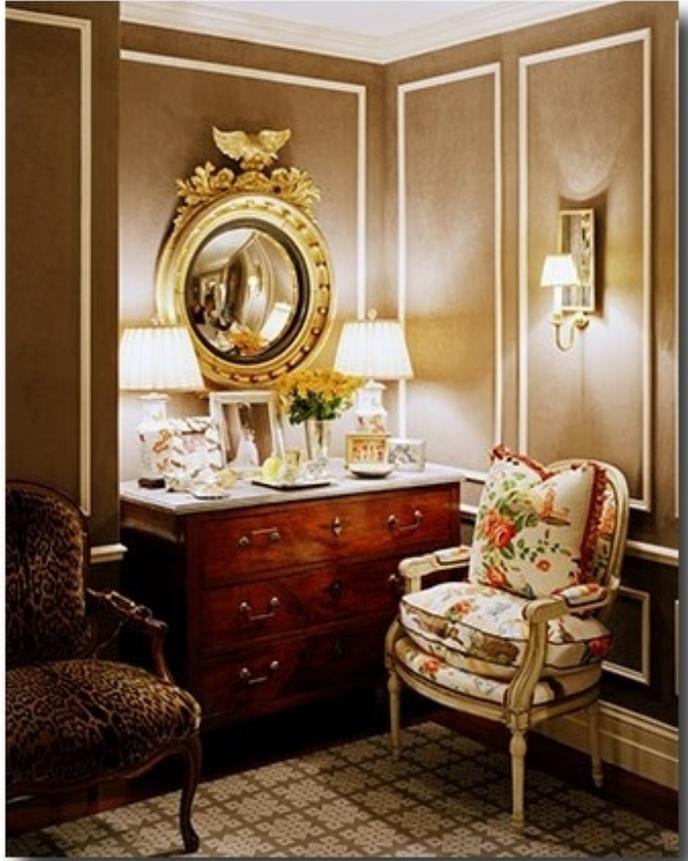


Gil Schafer's apartment. A caramel tobacco brown color palette



Scheeler's grandmother once owned this elaborately detailed French mirror, which hangs on pine paneling taken from a local horse stable.

Former apartment of Tinsley and Topper Mortimer



Gunnebo Manor House www.classicalexursions.com



Michael Taylor for Dodie Rosekrans



Fraunce's Tavern – white crown molding, light brown walls, white chair rail and paneling



1930s French Chair upholstered in fine leather with nail heads. [Dagmar](#)



The living room in Tom Parr's vacation home on the Côte d'Azur. The World of Interiors.



A Close up of Designer Ned Marshall's Orange Room



Velvet Upholstered French Sofa



Francois Halard's Home Walls painted by the Neoclassical artist Jacques Reattu in the 19th century



Unique French Provincial style oak dining table, possibly 3rd quarter of 20th century, the top with embossed green leather divided in separate sections, over a scalloped apron, raised on cabriole legs. [Greenwich Living Antiques & Design Center](#)



The entrance hall at Haseley Court, Oxfordshire- the home of Nancy Lancaster



Botanical Wall Art: Hannah Brown Interiors



Provence Decorating [Visit decordeprovence.blogspot.com](http://decordeprovence.blogspot.com)



Hans Blomquist



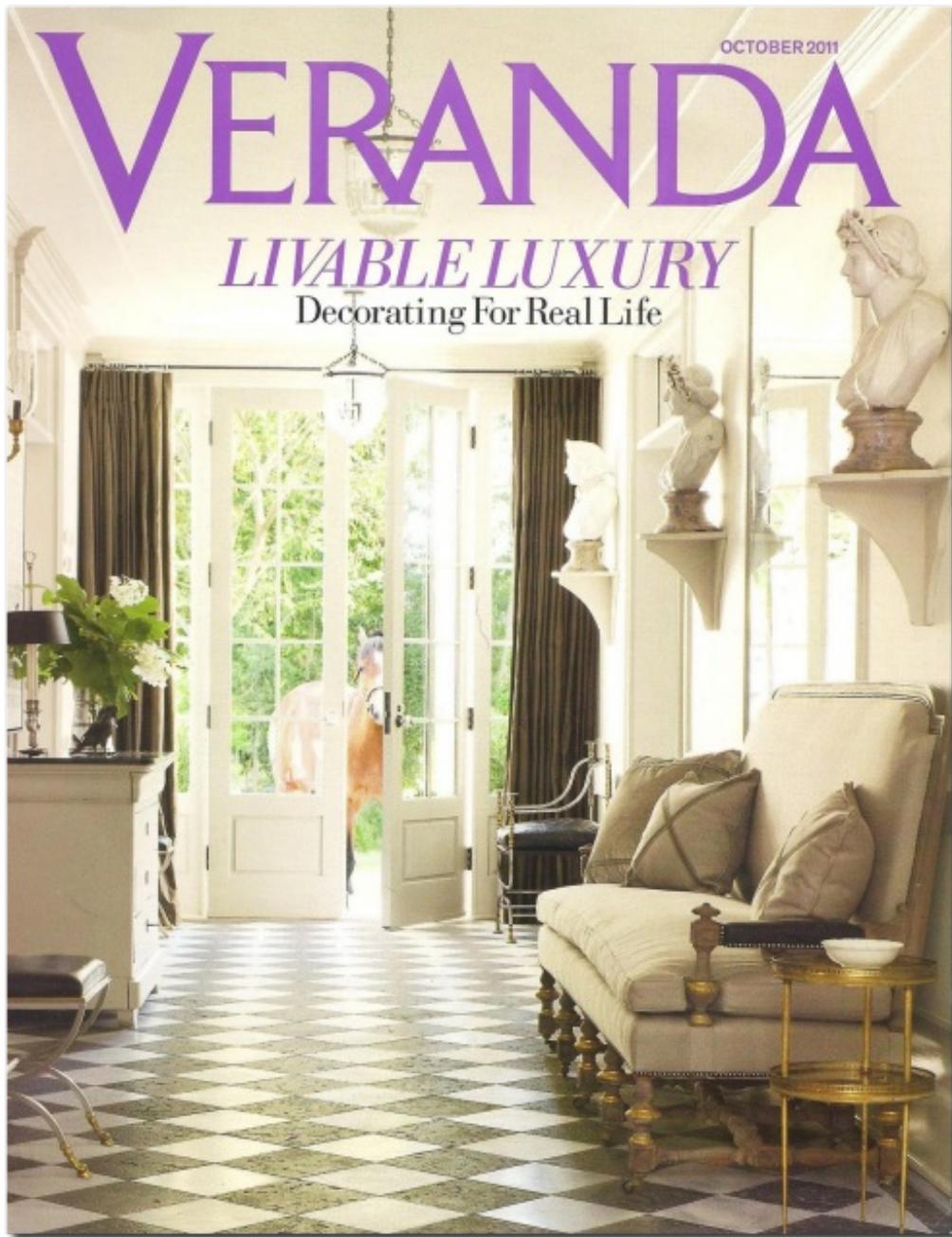
French leather top 19th century side table -Uptowner



Set of Six French Leather Dining Chairs -Foreground



Brown and White Nursery Visit designsponge.com



It wasn't too long ago that ever blog was talking about the House of Windsor. This LA home was designed by Windsor Smith and decorated by a few other talented designers which was then featured in Veranda magazine. If you love gray, you will love this home. This house is in the news again, as Gwyneth Paltrow and husband Chris Martin just purchased the home. The [official Veranda site on the House of Windsor](#).

Check out my favorite pictures of this home on the Swedish [and French Decorating Page on Facebook](#)



Marie Claire Maison



Marie Claire Maison



18th Century Oil on Canvas Depicting a Portrait of King Louis XV 1710-1774

From Hadassa Antiques



Alex Papachristidi





Jane Webster – Normandy chateau – Vogue November

December 2013 Photography by Sharyn Cairns.