

OLIVE

Bringing a welcome touch of earth and grounded nature inspired colour to this spring's essential palettes, olive was one of the key shades in Mix Trends' Spirit story for Spring Summer 2011. And it's not just about the colour either; olives and olive motifs seem to be popping up all over the place. Take, for example, 100% Olive from Le Mas du Roseau en Provence or the Body Shop, bringing out a green olive body scrub.

In interiors olive works well on its own, especially in cool matte treatments as can be seen with Kristalia's Elephant chair, designed with Neuland Studio, or a geometric style recycled leather basket by Pinetti Maison.

There is also a welcome sense of tradition with this colour that makes it sit well for classic designs like the Chesterfield sofa from House Couturier or for slightly more retro feel pieces like Donna Wilson for SCP's Eadie armchair. ■■■■

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PALE BLUE

We referenced this colour last year in Mix and it's certainly been a slow burn, moving from easy to handle accessories through to larger pieces of upholstered and treated furniture. Acne's collection of furniture was an early adopter with expanses of the softest powder blue as was Mark, which launched its blue Slide sofa designed by Anna Hart at last year's 100% Design.

This colour was also prominent at January's Maison & Objet where Inga Sempé's Ruché line was added to with a pale blue bed featuring the distinctive ruched treatment on the board and base. Cinna also opted for the colour as a perfect contrast to rich dark woods. This combination of blue and brown was also seen on bed linen at the show too. And pale blue turned up in Jocelyn Warner's new collection of textiles and in china with work from Yumiko Iihoshi Porcelain. All in all, this blue looks like being a strong presence for 2011. ■■■■

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