



## Dark art

Creating a visually arresting effect in this boutique, Resene Black paint also fulfils a practical function

**B**lack may be the ultimate chic colour when it comes to the world of fashion, but there are practical reasons to opt for the darker extreme of the spectrum when choosing a paint.

The designer responsible for the look of Auckland's Myhart boutique, Candywhistle's Ben Wilkie, chose Resene SpaceCote Low Sheen in Resene Black primarily because black was integral to the edgy concept expressed through the design; secrets of the heart.

"We chose to paint the space black

because we wanted to articulate form by using darkness and shadow. We developed different densities of shadow, which provided a sombre display platform for the garments," Wilkie says.

But Resene SpaceCote Low Sheen Black – a waterborne paint that provides a durable, enamel-like finish – also fulfils a less abstract function.

"SpaceCote's reduced side sheen gives it a flat appearance, which allowed us to disguise all the imperfections of the existing walls. It also meant the high-gloss finish

of our other feature objects – for instance the dining table sales counter – forms the foreground of the display, establishing a visual hierarchy," says Wilkie.

Resene makes choosing a colour for your painting project easy with its EzyPaint software. It allows you to virtually paint a room before picking a colour and doing it for real, and is free to download from Resene's website.

For details, phone 0800 RESENE (737 363). Website: [www.resene.co.nz](http://www.resene.co.nz)

**Above:** One of the concepts at play in Wilkie's design is that everything looks the same in the dark. Hence, objects that would usually look out of place in a high-end fashion boutique – the shopping trolleys, dining table sales counter and table lamp – are recontextualised and visually unified by painting them black. By using Resene SpaceCote Low Sheen in Resene Black with a matt finish on the walls, Wilkie makes the space uniformly dark, but allows the gloss-finished feature objects to stand out.