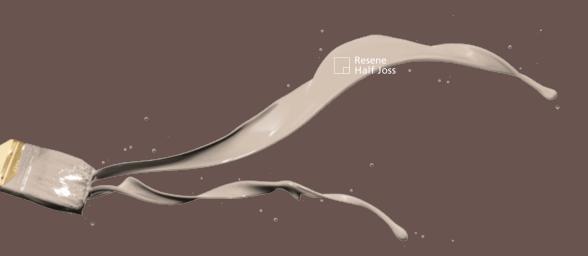
choosing and using ...



a Resene ColorShop

Not just a paint shop, Resene ColorShops have a surprisingly wide range of services and products.

here's shopping that you have to do. And then there's the real shopping – the escapades that you come away from feeling inspired, creative and well looked after. Generally most trips for building or home renovation products fall into the former category. But not for Resene ColorShop shoppers.

Resene has made a particular point of creating retail outlets that are inviting, helpful and inspiring. Instead of letting you leave the store overwhelmed by too much choice, baffled by the technical speak and with only half the things you realise you need, Resene's store teams have products, tips and design services to help you see your project through. They want you to finish up with a beautiful interior, exterior or garden in exactly the right products (these are not just paint shops) and exactly the right colours.

Nikki Morris has been a colour consultant at Resene's Newmarket ColorShop in Auckland for more than three years and can barely pause for breath as she whizzes round the store showing off all that customers can access to make sure their decorating project is perfect.

Start with a free in-store consult

Trained colour consultants take the stress out of narrowing down a colour scheme in a free consultation in the store. Bring in photographs of your home, a favourite print or accessory, clippings from magazines,

floor plans or sketches, samples of flooring or materials that you plan to use.

"The more you bring in, the better," says Nikki. "And if you can't find something you like, bring in things you don't like. Every home is individual, you don't want to just follow a trend." A consultancy covers either an interior or exterior scheme, and the consultant will present you with lots of colours and swatches to narrow down your likes and dislikes. The consultant will then produce a scheme – including all sorts of details you haven't thought of like eaves, window sills, frames or sashes. If you need further help, consultants can work with you instore or come to your home (check store for availability and charges).

Gather swatches and drawdowns

Do your first sweep through colour choices using the paint chips on The Resene fandeck charts. Make sure you use a grey isolator, free from Resene, when viewing colour charts. This helps you to see the true colour without being distracted by the colours next to it on a colour chart. Once you've narrowed down the possibilities, you need to see more of the colours to get an idea of how they will work. Resene ColorShops have in-store colour libraries with A4 sheets of painted colour – called drawdowns – in thousands of Resene colours. These help you to get an idea of how the colour will look on a bigger scale.

Resene
Artefact





Testpots the best contenders

Finally, once you have narrowed down your colour choices pick up testpots of your favourites to try out at your place. Nikki suggests painting the colours onto A3 sheets of cardboard leaving a small blank area on the edges and then moving them around the room (or exterior) to see how they look under different light or at different times of day. If you still don't think you have exactly the right shade you're looking for, Resene ColorShops can create a custom colour for you at no extra charge.

Remember when you are choosing colours that the gloss levels can change how you see a colour – the higher the gloss the cleaner and brighter the colour will seem, the flatter the finish the duller and

deeper the colour will seem. To make sure you are getting just what you want, view the sheen level boards in Resene ColorShops to see which suits you best.

Play with wallpaper

Resene ColorShops also stock wallpapers under their own brand and from leading wallpaper manufacturers. You might find a textured wallpaper, or an anaglypta (that you paint over) to add more interest to your room or to disguise poor wall finishes. Dramatic wallpapers are available for feature walls or be right up to date with the new peel-off wall decals. You can bring wallpaper books home to try, then request samples to finalise your choice.

Pick the right product for the job

Once you've chosen your colours, Resene ColorShop staff will help you select the right product to suit the age of your house, the substrate (new plasterboard, old low sheen, new timber and so on) and the use of the space (wet areas vs dry, high impact kids' rooms vs less used spaces). They can introduce you to the latest technology, such as the Resene CoolColour range that will help keep exterior paint finishes cooler. They'll show you some fun products too, like the shimmer or metallic finishes, magnetic or write-on paints, blackboard or crackle finishes.

Resene staff can also recommend the right amount of paint for your project so make sure you bring in your measurements when you come, or if you bring in your house plans they can provide you with an estimate of the paint you will need.

And you can find out about additives, such as Resene MoulDefender to inhibit moss and mould growth and

Resene Fly Deterrent to deter flies that you can get added to your paint, which will help keep it looking good for longer. >



Clean greens, muddy browns and claret reds echo the colours of winter. Top wallpaper is Resene Walltrends 47173 in Brown with Resene Walltrends 75110 in Neutral below. Swivel in colour Lagoon from the Resene Curtain Collection. Resene City Limits (large plate), Resene Globe (small plate), Resene X Factor (bowl), Resene Galliano (cup) and Green Bean cutlery from Epicure Trading in Resene Bootleg.

Resene City Limits

Resene X Factor

Resene Globe

Resene □ Bootleg

Resene Galliano



Above: Newmarket's in-store colour consultant Nikki Morris.

Go the easy route with fabrics

Resene ColorShops have made it easy for you to pull together curtains (or smaller items like cushions) with Resene's well-edited selection of patterned and textured curtain fabrics, even suggesting paint colours to complement each. You have to do your own measuring (see right), but Resene ColorShop consultants can show you how and double check your order form. If you have special projects (roman blinds, for example) they will refer you to local curtain specialist makers who stock the Resene Curtain Collection.

Pick up the right tools for the perfect finish

Pick up the Painting checklist card to be sure you have the right gear (brushes, rollers etc) for the job. If you are unsure what to do, ask at your store for application staff. Staff regularly provide one-on-one demonstrations showing how to use specific application tools to get the best finish. And if you decide you'd like professional help, use the Resene Find-A-Painter service and Resene staff will source painters on your behalf.

Get rid of the waste

And, when the job is over, bring back your unwanted leftover paint or empty paint cans and buckets to go into the Resene PaintWise recycling programme. Cans and steel are recycled, and Resene paints are mixed and returned to the community for anti-graffiti projects and other initiatives, keeping it out of landfills and out of our drainage systems. H

words Catherine Smith pictures Tony Brownjohn and Mark Heaslip styling Lisa Morton

Resene Decadence Limited services available in some stores. Check with your local store for details.