2000-2005 colours and styles

the new millennium... excitement + anticipation
As this milestone approached people from around the world were planning celebrations to welcome in the new millennium, and a big focus was on New Zealand being the first country to see the light on the 1st January 2000. At the same time there were businesses worrying about bugs in their computers, and Y2K posters being distributed to warn people to prepare for restricted supplies of water and electricity, and the possibility that eftpos machines may not provide cash on demand.
As technology advanced things were getting smaller but features were getting bigger. Mobile communications has had one of the biggest impacts on our lives, and being available 24/7 has drastically changed the way we work and shop. Sleek silver phones, multi-media equipment, home appliances and stainless steel benchtops flooded into our buildings bringing a high tech and rather minimal style to home design.

2000 technologies smarter cars digital cameras
The latest in purpose-designed shopping baskets on wheels... a joint venture between Mercedes Benz and Swatch resulted in the Smart Car. Save on fuel, save on parking space. The panels can be inter-changed to update the colour - smart thinking...

2000 office natural colours mobile pods
This seating designed by Formway and the timber mobile workstation are examples of natural materials and neutral colours employed to combat the effects of harsh technology such as computer screens, flashing lights, ringing phones and even the whirring aircon and other office noise pollution.

Try Resene Tea and Resene Lemon Grass.
2000 office design
Office designed by Compass Dolphin. Photographer John Petit. Natural elements have been incorporated to soften the high tech structures. Smooth stones, spiky plants.

2001 - time for fun + more colour
This chair by Herman Miller and kitchen designed by Ingrid Geldof demonstrate a little more colour confidence emerging.

9/11 - world trade centre bombed
The increase in confidence was soon squashed after the terrorist attacks in USA. This resulted in a sombre mood worldwide and the emerging colour palettes were once again toned down to safer neutrals and cocooning naturals. Anxiety levels were at an all time high, people returned to the safety of their homelands and family networks, businesses and the share market were extremely nervous.

Try Resene Spanish White, Resene Vanilla and Resene Pearl Lusta.
shielding
The office on the left is by Craig Moller Architects, and the other is an international design. They demonstrate a “shielding” influence in design using strong materials that wrap around the space to protect the workers within it.

2002 the Bali bombing + Sars virus
Travel and tourism took a dive after the terrorist bombing in Bali and the potential outbreak of the deadly Sars virus. Simple fashion and minimal design filtered through to New Zealand as a result these events.

Later the threat of a Bird flu pandemic caused further concern.
safe havens

The old kiwi bach and camping under the stars were in high demand as a contrast to danger and disease in many parts of the world. Raw timber and corrugated iron, pebbles and shells, plants and produce, vitamins and minerals - sensual and sensible. This is a pavilion-styled house designed by Nelson architect James Jack - an example of getting back to the basics, closer to nature, living in healthier environments.

2003 designs + materials

Raw and natural materials became popular. Inside linear design lines and the sleek edge of stainless steel transformed many kitchens. House designed by Irving Jack Architects, photographed by Elsbeth Collier. Fisher & Paykel kitchen on the right demonstrates the linear lines of design and stainless steel appliances.
Life was heating up, the planet was getting hotter, the pace of life faster... white and off white was used as a decorating and fashion statement on its own. Try Resene Alabaster, Resene Sea Fog, Resene Feta, Resene Orinoco.

changing weather patterns ...drought + famine
11 million people were affected by the drought in East Africa, there was famine in Nigeria, floods in Bangladesh and a hurricane in Mexico - what was happening to our planet? Red Cross workers and other international organisations were stretched to provide aid to the victims. The world started to come together to help.

water damage

Asian Tsunami, Phuket, Leaky Homes
the world acknowledges some of the issues - world summit, world tech


healthy produce greens
With the world seeming to be a more dangerous place, nature inspired new colour directions, particularly the prevalence of healthy produce greens, such as Resene Wasabi, Resene Vermont and Resene Sushi. Feature walls were commonly used as a way to inject colour into a space complemented by a neutral tone, before expanding into more feature areas or rooms rather than a singular wall space.
zen concrete textiles
Paring things back, zen, concrete and the tactility of heavy textiles, often in monochromatic or neutral schemes simplified the colourways of homes and offices. These Global Tile and Warwick Macrosuede advertisements sum up the look. Try Resene Napa and Resene Castle Rock.

fashion - fusion + colour
By 2005 we saw more colour and fusion of cultures being transferred into local fashion. This followed through into building and interior design expanding the range of colour, pattern and texture options.
Towards the end of 2005 we saw more colour, especially red, coming through. The Christchurch library on the left was designed by Graeme Finlay and photographed by Stephen Goodenough. The Vodafone office in the middle was designed by Jasmax and photographed by Simon Devitt and the kitchen to the right was designed by Celia Visser. Try Resene Pohutukawa, Resene Dynamite, Resene Well Read, Resene Lima and Resene Vortex.

2005 kitchen + kite tables
Fresh innocent colours lifted the spirits in fashion before being transferred to home interiors and furniture. Kitchen designed by Shane George and mobile tables from Europlan.
2005 texture + colour
Aquamarine meets brown was a big colour story for 2005, showcased in this lounge, which looks very inviting and comfortable with textural variety and colours of chocolate and pale aquamarine with the linen coloured walls. Designed by Doug Easton and photographed by Kevin Emirali. Try Resene Sisal and Resene Ashanti.

entertainment + fun - little kids + big kids
DVDs, iPods, Playstations and more personal entertainment devices allowed people to choose what to watch/listen/play when and where it suited them. Marketers targeted fun activities at older age groups helping people feel younger for longer.

life needs to be a bit more flexible
Busier lifestyles and eating out more often has seen kitchens downsize, while bathrooms have grown in size as a place for humans to relax and unwind - get away from the fast paced life outside. Kitchens in many homes have become more of a preparation space rather than a cooking area. Open plan living and entertaining areas feature in most new homes to simplify at home entertaining. (Ikon waterstation and Axor bath).
Wired homes start to become the norm as homes are fitted with multiple phone lines, internet connections and wireless technology.

**key colours**
- Resene Alabaster, Resene Sea Fog, Resene Orinoco
- Resene Spanish White, Resene Vanilla, Resene Pearl Lusta
- Resene Tea, Resene Sisal, Resene Napa
- Resene Lemon Grass, Resene Vermont, Resene Wasabi
- Metallics

**key design directions**
- 2000   zen stones plants pale timber glass
- 2001   after 9/11 - cocooning, nurturing, protective
- 2002   simplistic natural materials, outdoor living
- 2003   cool, clean, fresh, safe, secure
- 2004   healthy, caring, environmental
- 2005   cultural exchange, colourful, fun

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