

Note: Men and women are affected by their surroundings. Their minds are likely to be especially susceptible to outward impressions in a hospital. Pleasant, restful, cheering influences can be created to a large extent by the physical appearance

of hospital interiors in general—by the color treatment of walls and ceilings in particular. This article, with others in the series, discusses color in relation to the various groups of individuals to be found in a hospital.

For relief from nursing cares and duties— COLOR

HOSPITAL patients come . . . and patients go. But the hospital nurse goes on forever—walking up and down corridors . . . giving medicine to this patient . . . cheering that patient . . . always moving . . . always on the alert mentally. What relief and stimulation can a hospital offer her after a day of tiring duties?

Provide her, naturally, with living quarters that are cheerful, quiet—as homelike as possible. Surround her there with the restful atmosphere created by the use of the right colors.

Hospitals which already use colors in wards, private rooms and special rooms have extended the application of color to the living quarters of the nursing staff. They have found that certain colors placed on walls and ceilings of nurses' rooms have a stimulating effect after the day's exhausting work is over—while others create an atmosphere that soothes and quiets jaded nerves.

Greens, grays, and buffs used

The most important question in connection with the use of color in nurses' rooms is "What color shall we use?" Hospital superintendents and specialists in color find that greens, grays and buffs work out ideally. A green on the side walls of the nurses' dining room, a lighter green treatment for some private rooms, a gray for some others are used where the natural illumination is unusually good. A buff serves in living room and bedrooms where the lack of natural illumination makes such a lighter, sunnier color necessary. Here are treatments which have been actually used by hospitals:

For the nurses' dining room

Ceiling . . . A light yellow, just off white. Obtained by mixing French ochre and Dutch Boy white-lead.



Sidewalls . . . A light green, made with medium chrome green, medium chrome yellow and Dutch Boy white-lead.

Dado or stencil color . . . A darker green, obtained by mixing medium chrome green lampblack, lemon chrome yellow and Dutch Boy white-lead.

Trim . . . A yellow slightly darker than the ceiling. Obtained by mixing medium chrome yellow, French ochre and Dutch Boy white-lead.

For nurses' private rooms

Type A treatment . . . same as for dining room with exception that no special dado color is used.

Type B treatment . . . Ceiling . . . A light yellow just off white. Obtained by mixing French ochre with Dutch Boy white-lead. **Sidewalls . . .** A buff, made by mixing French ochre and Venetian red with Dutch Boy white-lead.

Trim . . . A yellow slightly darker than the ceiling finish. Made by mixing medium chrome yellow French ochre and Dutch Boy white-lead.

Type C treatment . . . Ceiling . . . Same as in Type B. **Sidewalls . . .** A gray, obtained by mixing lampblack with Dutch Boy white-lead. **Trim . . .** Same as in Type B.

While it might be possible that conditions warrant the use of just one of these treat-

ments in your hospital, some hospitals use two or three different color treatments for their nurses' private rooms. After selecting the proper colors they alternate the treatments so that no two adjoining rooms will have the same color treatment. This makes for pleasing variety—gives the nurse who visits her neighbor down the hall an opportunity to see a different color scheme.

All of the treatments mentioned above were obtained with Dutch Boy white-lead and Dutch Boy flatting oil—a paint that is durable, washable and economical in every way—and can be used to obtain any desirable tint or shade. The colors were recommended by color specialists of National Lead Company's Department of Color Research and Decoration after consultation with the hospital authorities. These specialists are men who have made an intensive study of color and its use in hospital decoration. They are working with hospitals all over the country, preparing paint specifications, painting formulas and color samples.

Your nurses' quarters

Even though the color treatments mentioned above have been used successfully, it would be inadvisable to assume that your nurses' living quarters should be treated exactly the same way. So many factors enter into the selection of the right colors that each hospital should consider its own case separately. Our Department of Color Research and Decoration will without expense to you, help you decide what colors to use. If you have any questions regarding the use or selection of colors in your hospital, address our Department of Color Research and Decoration in care of our nearest branch.



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