



Strong coral red creates a cheerful, confident interior. Campbell's collection Cathay Parade is available from Osborne & Little.



NINA CAMPBELL

Director,
Nina Campbell
Interiors

One of our most respected interior designers, Campbell is known for her witty sense of style which appeals to both modern and traditional tastes.

“ Coral has been in my psyche for several years now and I've introduced it into my last two or three fabric collections. My new collection, Cathay Parade, features a deep-coral colourway. I find it a lovely colour to use as it's softer than red but not as harsh as orange.

This is a large room with lots of light. I've used a lacquer wallpaper in the deepest coral red from my collection. The design is inspired by an obi, which I bought in Japan, and features flashes of textured lacquer squares on a matt background. I think you need to remember that there will be pictures on it so you aren't just staring at a solid wall. I find it very sad when people don't go all the way with colour; you need to hold your nerve and have confidence. Red walls hold the colour of the curtains together, whereas white would be rather boring, and they make everything more cheerful.

Although this is a classic eighteenth-century building, I've mixed in some contemporary elements, such as the curtain fabric, which is an oversized damask and has a modern feel. As there were already lovely floorboards I didn't feel the need for a carpet, however the joy of having good floorboards is that you can add carpet for winter if needed. If I introduced a rug, I would probably go to Luke Irwin and buy a contemporary version of an oriental rug with blues, reds and greens in it, to weight the room. Then you can pick out those colours in the room if you wish. ”



SUE HARDIE

Head of design,
Osborne & Little

Osborne & Little is a leading name in fabric and wallpaper design. In 2013, the company began a long-term collaboration with fashion designer Matthew Williamson

“ Coral, apart from being highly fashionable, is a versatile colour; it gives a feeling of warmth and calm to a room as it is associated with sunshine, sea and relaxation. It acts as an accent in contemporary schemes of greys and beiges, or black and white monochromatic interiors.

An orange coral is used as the main colour in the Kairi fabric from the new Matthew Williamson Samana collection, shown here on the upholstered chairs. The jacquard pattern is woven with a coral-coloured chenille weft set against a taupe-coloured (warp) background, which really sets off the vibrancy of the coral tone.

Its versatility means it can look attractive in all sorts of hues, from punchier deep orange and red-based tones through to soft prettier shades. It's a fun colour and looks smart with charcoal grey and tones of mink or taupe, or really fresh with crisp whites. Here it adds vibrancy and is a brilliant accent colour to the acid-yellow Bird of Paradise wallpaper. Corals sit equally well with aqua, jade and apple-green tones if you are feeling confident and want to embrace a bright palette. They also work brilliantly with blues.

Although we suggest coral as an accent in this interior, you could be very bold and use as much as you want without it being overwhelming as there is a softness to the colour. This scheme is quite vibrant, but it is tempered by taupe walls to give it a sophisticated edge. Touches of black within the room provide a more urban feel. ▶ ”



Coral is a versatile partner to almost any colour. Combined with yellow, it provides a sunny, contemporary feel.