

BS 4800:2011



BSI Standards Publication

Schedule of paint colours for building purposes

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Summary of pages

This document comprises a front cover, an inside front cover, pages i to iv, pages 1 to 24, an inside back cover and a back cover.

Foreword

Publishing information

This British Standard is published by BSI on 30 April 2011. It was prepared by Technical Committee STI/14, *Colour measurement and schedules*. A list of organizations represented on this committee can be obtained on request to its secretary.

Supersession

The Technical Committee recognizes that suppliers of products within the scope of this standard might require time to comply. For this reason, the provisions of this standard become effective 12 months after the publication date.

This British Standard supersedes BS 4800:1989, which will be withdrawn on 31 May 2012.

Relationship with other publications

The colours in this British Standard have been selected from BS 5252, which was designed as the means of implementing the aims of colour co-ordination in the building industry, namely:

- a) to bring colours of building materials and finishes into a systematic relationship;
- b) to combine economy in the total number of colours used, with sufficient flexibility for meeting design and technical requirements.

Information about this document

The original edition, which replaced BS 2660, *Colours for building and decorative paints*, was published in 1972 and included 88 colours selected from the precursor of BS 5252, namely DD 17:1972, *Basic range for the co-ordination of colours for building purposes*. The 1981 edition revised and extended the range to 100 colours (including black and white) selected from BS 5252. The 1989 edition included the same 100 colours, but the "paint finish availability" was revised.

This edition retains the same selection of colours, adds 22 more and embodies the following major changes:

- a) The selection of colours has been revised to reflect market demands. More colours have been included, from the full range specified in BS 5252, that are expected to be popular. Some colours have been marked as obsolescent, but will not be removed until the next edition of this standard. This partly reflects a perceived trend in the decoration of public buildings (such as hospitals and schools) to use brighter colours in place of some of the traditional browns, greens and greys.
- b) Some definitions such as "full gloss finish", "eggshell finish", etc. have been removed along with the associated "availability" information and the "basic selection" of colours.
- c) Colorimetric data has been included in the format used in BS 381C.
- d) Spectral reflectance data for each individual colour have been included (see Tables 2 to 6).

NOTE 1 Attention is drawn to BS 8493. Reflectance values in this British Standard and BS 8493 are not identical nor are they directly comparable.

Users of these British Standard colours should be aware of the other derived standards in which ranges or selections of colours from BS 5252 have been standardized for various purposes. These are:

BS 4900, *Specification for vitreous enamel colours for building purposes*;

BS 4901, *Specification for plastics colours for building purposes*;

BS 4904, *Specification for external cladding colours for building purposes*.

BS 6770, *Guide for exterior colours for park homes (mobile homes), holiday caravans and transportable accommodation units*

NOTE 2 BS 4903 was a part of the series but was replaced by BS 5502-20.

Presentational conventions

The provisions in this standard are presented in roman (i.e. upright) type. Its requirements are expressed in sentences in which the principal auxiliary verb is "shall".

Commentary, explanation and general informative material is presented in smaller italic type, and does not constitute a normative element.

Requirements in this standard are drafted in accordance with *The BSI guide to standardization – Section 2: Rules for the structure, drafting and presentation of British Standards*, subclause **11.3.1**, which states, "Requirements should be expressed using wording such as: 'When tested as described in Annex A, the product shall ...'". This means that only those products that are capable of passing the specified test will be deemed to conform to this standard.

Contractual and legal considerations

This publication does not purport to include all the necessary provisions of a contract. Users are responsible for its correct application.

Compliance with a British Standard cannot confer immunity from legal obligations.

1 Scope

This British Standard specifies, in the form of a schedule, 122 colours for paints for building purposes. The colours (see Table 1) have been selected from the framework of 237 colours established in BS 5252, which aims to ensure co-ordination with the selections for other materials and applications (see Foreword).

NOTE 1 Because of technical or commercial limitations, the inclusion of a colour in this standard does not necessarily mean that it will be available in all types of paint or from all manufacturers.

NOTE 2 Clause 3, Clause 4 and Clause 5 give general information.

2 Normative references

The following referenced documents are indispensable for the application of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

BS 950-1, *Specification for artificial daylight for the assessment of colour – Part 1: Illumination for colour matching and colour appraisal*

BS 4800F, *Schedule of paint colours for building purposes – Colour-matching fan*

BS 5252:1976, *Framework for colour co-ordination for building purposes*

3 Categories of colours

The 122 colours (including black and white), eight of which are proposed for obsolescence, are specified in Table 1 by reference to Clause 4, Clause 5 and Clause 6.

4 Framework provided by BS 5252

NOTE 1 The information given in this Clause is based on BS 5252.

BS 5252 locates and relates 237 colours in terms of selected steps in the visual attributes of *hue*, *greyness*, *weight* and *lightness*, although the last attribute is not included in the identification reference (see Clause 6).

- a) *Hue* is the attribute of redness, yellowness, blueness, etc. The framework has 12 horizontal *hue* rows, plus a further row of neutral colours (i.e. without *hue*) numbered and named as follows:

02 red-purple

04 red

06 yellow-red

08 yellow-red

10 yellow

12 green-yellow

14 green

16 blue-green

18 blue

20 purple-blue