Decorating Trends for 2009: Economy, Nature and Fashion Influences

During an economic slowdown, consumers traditionally become more conservative, shifting to neutral colors with bright accents.

What's in store for home decorating in 2009? No matter what your taste, you'll find a hue in the 2009 forecast of popular paint colors to suit your style. Since the average consumer spends two to three months planning a painting project, now is the ideal time to review your options, see what's predicted to be popular and choose that perfect color.

Color Influencers Looking to 2009, color experts are seeing three top drivers of color trends -- the economy, nature and fashion.

"It's not surprising that the primary driver of our 2009 color forecast is the economy," says Donna Schroeder, Dutch Boy color marketing and design manager. "During an economic slowdown, consumers traditionally become more conservative when decorating, oftentimes shifting to neutral colors when painting. However, even with the slower economy, we still expect to

▶ Please turn to page 10

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