All the Beige

NO LONGER PLAYING IT SAFE, THIS NEUTRAL IS SHOWING OFF ITS SASSY SIDE.
Organic Pure Comfort cotton bedding from pureDKNY (from $75/twin pillowcases; Bloomingdales.com).

Even neutrals have a hue. You need to be careful when layering beiges to make sure they have the same parent color, or they’ll clash.”
—Jill Pilarosica, principal color consultant, Colour Studio

“Use beige with watermelon pinks, pistachio greens or red-hot orange. It can be paired with anything, and it’s the style of all things preppy.”
—Carl D’Aquino, designer

Reproduction Tecno Art pottery (12" h x 8" dia, $180; 4 1/3" h x 8 1/3" dia, $60; Prairie-Arts.com).

PAINT CHIPS

Alexandria Beige
Benjamin Moore

Happy Trails
Pittsburgh Paints

Gobi Desert
Behr

Naoto Fukasawa’s Humidifier Version III resembles a water droplet (6" h x 12" dia, $250; Dynamism.com).

Lee’s Ottoman in Belize flax linen (17" h x 23" w x 23" d, $590; Lee Industries.com).

Interior designer Ellen Angel mixes and matches beiges in a Los Angeles bedroom.
Who Knew?

- The word "beige" doesn't refer just to the color—it is also defined as undyed wool cloth left in its natural state.
- The iconic beige trench coat was developed by Thomas Burberry in 1914 for the British military. The signature beige, black, white and red plaid lining was added in the 1920s.
- The Federal Reserve publishes the Beige Book eight times a year to report on economic conditions.

"Beige can be a cool foundation with hot acidic colors; with black and white, it's a 'Chanel in the summer' look."
—Laura Kirar, designer

"With a monochromatic palette, it's important to use high-quality materials and add interest by varying shades and textures."
—Andrew Flesher, designer

Cédric Ragot's powder-coated steel and wood Stabli table (16 1/2" h x 30 1/2" w x 30" d, $675, CouncilDesign.com).

Stone Dsgns' sandbag-shaped polyurethane-and-plywood Guerrilla Container (19 1/2" w x 22 1/2" l x 14" h, $400/unit; info@rs-life.com).