



A PASSION FOR PAINT

BY MANDY MARTIN // PHOTOGRAPHY BY DAVE POWERS

THE PLACE: The hooked rug mounted over the interior front entrance of **Cobourg Paint & Wallpaper** says it all. Handmade by a client and friend, it celebrates loyalty and individual décor tastes. With over three decades of paint and wallpaper experience, owners Kathy Powell and Anne Coates have offered a renowned depth of knowledge and service with an innate eye for colour since 2002. “We’re passionate about paint,” Coates says. Fronting on the main street of downtown Cobourg, with a second entrance off a municipal parking lot to the rear, the spacious place hums as people arrive to select from thousands of paint colours

and wallpaper options. Mid-store are comfortable leather chairs, reading material and a large-screen television tuned to home décor channels (or major sports events for waiting spouses).

THE STYLE: Do-it-yourselfers and professional commercial clients alike appreciate the technical tips and colour consultations. Brushes, tools and related supplies are available. Binders contain records and samples of paints purchased in the past, historical references that facilitate future decisions. There are fourth-generation loyal customers. “People know us as the Benjamin Moore Girls. They know we know what we are talking about,” Coates says.

WHAT’S HOT: “All earthy colours are in,” Coates says. “People want clean lines, sharper colours.” Also trending are one-wall impacts with a large wallpaper print or colour accent. Eco-friendly paints are water-based. Powell and Coates access online training modules and study widely to keep ahead of trends.



SEASONAL: On average, clients update paint and/or wallpaper décor every five years. From April through November, there’s big demand for both exterior and interior paints. From November through March, it’s primarily for interior paint and wallpaper projects. Kathy Powell is retiring this fall. The business will continue with Anne Coates.

FAVOURITES: Muddled yellows have been consistently popular over the years, as well as beige and taupe. With the in-store spectrophotometer, on-the-spot analysis of a colour sample means you can mix a matching paint.

WHERE: 34 King St. W., Cobourg 905.372.3841 **OH**

