

Colour Me! by glenBO

Back in the 1550s, dressmakers began to give increasingly bizarre names to the colours used in their creations, hoping that this would increase their popularity.

As it was quoted at the time, 'hues were devised to please fantastical heads' and some of these included colours such as *Pease-porridge Tawny*, *Razzmic Berry*, *Devil-in-the-head*, *Lusty Gallant* and *Goose-turd Green*.

We find that over the centuries words have been invented, abused and borrowed to describe every colour and shade imaginable—from the precise colour of a newborn baby's skin, to the mucky green of goose droppings.

Then with the advent of RGB computer codes and Hex codes for designers, more colours and names appeared that simply defied logic and sensibility.

Historically, *Caput Mortuum* was a highly popular oxidized rust colour used in dyeing paper, while *Dullpuke* was a colour adaption from Shakespeare's *Henry IV*.

Drunk-tank Pink has historically been used in institutions as a calming influence to 'help discourage unruly behaviour.'

Sarcoline is 'true flesh colour' and is linked to Buffalo Bill's leather jacket in 'Silence of the Lambs.'

Wicked Wenge was the grey-brown paint used back in the 70s to tart-up old particle board furniture.

A *Popinjay* originally referred to a multicoloured parrot, but soon became a metaphor for a 'loquacious talkative show-off' or a 'smarmy pompous coxcomb.' Luckily it has now migrated to simply refer to a 'vividly or garishly bright colour.'

And *Ghostly Shade*? Yep, we agree, it's pretty hard to see!

			
PLUM FANDANGO	DRUNK-TANK PINK	RAZZMIC BERRY	FERVENT BRASS
			
RELENTLESS OLIVE	DULL BLONCKET	LAST STAND CUSTARD	OH SO HONEY
			
SMARAGDINE	TARTY LIME	BANANA GAYTIME	CYBER GRAPE
			
OBSTINATE ORANGE	FULVOUS TAWN	PINKY POO	MOLE'S BREATH
			
GRAYED JADE	BIG DIP O'RUBY	LUSTY GALLANT	PINKY NUDE SINNER
			
WICKED WENGE	DEAD SALMON	GRANDMA'S SWEATER	GHOSTLY SHADE OF PALE
			
HOT TODDY	JADED FUCHSITE	DRAGON'S BLOOD	LIKEABLE SAND
			
SPIRO DISCO BALL	SONIC SILVER	NEWBORN BABY	POTENTIALLY PURPLE
			
TENDER SHOOTS	FORGET ME NOT	ZAFFRE FURNACE	GOOSE-TURD GREEN
			
SPACE CADET	DULLPUKE	WET ASPHALT	UGLY LIVING ROOM
			
POPINJAY PINK	CAPUT MORTUUM	MANGENTA	TARANTINO RED
			
GLAUCOUS DESCRIPTIVE OF THE POWDERY BLUE-GREY COATING ON GRAPES AND PLUMS	BASTARD-AMBER COLOUR OF THE FILTER USED ON THEATER LIGHTS TO PRODUCE A WARM PEACH GLOW ON STAGE	GINGERLINE OR 'GIALLO' - 17 TH CENTURY CHOICE FOR THE 'PRECISE COLOUR OF A RIPE CUMQUAT'	VERDITER FROM VERTE-DE-TERRER, THIS COLOUR IS CONSIDERED THE 'GREEN OF THE EARTH'
			
TRUE GOLD C2 M31 Y100 K0	OLD GOLD C0 M13 Y71 K19	BUDDHA'S GOLD C22 M39 Y100 K2	GYMPIE GOLD C5 M22 Y95 K0