

## COLOR INSPIRATION

By Rebecca Loneran. ModWalls® designer and custom blend creator.



Our ModWalls® glass tile blends at Mosaic Tile Market are known for their unique color combinations. These blends of mosaic tile are stylish and resilient surfaces for walls, floors and countertops and they're at home in both interior and exterior tile installations. The most popular applications are for pools, spas, showers, backsplashes, floors, fireplace surrounds and fountains.

When creating a tile blend design for a specific residential or commercial environment it's important to consider the overall feel of the room as well as what is already there. Whenever possible, I like to incorporate the flooring and fixture colors into the tile blend. I'll typically choose a pallet of 3-4 colors and recommend using them throughout the space in furnishings, paints, accessories and architectural surfaces.

Much like the clothes we wear, our living spaces should make us feel comfortable and enhance our sense of well being. I do not subscribe to the idea that we should maintain bland interior color schemes so that our chance of resale is increased. Rather, I believe that we should create the environments that **WE** want to live in and in turn that we should really **LIVE** in our rooms. I feel that, should we eventually sell our homes; our creative interior spaces will attract like minded buyers who will be more enthusiastic about the purchase.

For those new to color, it need not be a stress inducing experience. As evidenced in the illustration above, color combination ideas can come from just about anywhere. Some of the most pleasing color mixes are neutrals, punched up with a bit of bright pure color. Any warm shade of green really livens up cool whites and grays. Red is a terrific pop of color for crème, beige and brown. And one of my favorite new modern mixes is bright orange as an accent to the blue shades of the sea and sky.

In my own home, for example, I've painted the living room, dining room, entryway and kitchen walls in a combination of wasabi green and barn red with warm white trim. The red and green colors appear often in accessories throughout the space, along with pale wood floors and natural linen window coverings. The kitchen has white countertops and appliances with a stainless steel sink.

Our best selling ModWalls® Bungalow glass tile blend was created for this color scheme and my own kitchen. The creamy beige background and soft white tiles incorporate the floor, counter and appliance colors and the red and green shades of tile bring in the wall and cabinet colors. "Red and Green?" you ask: "Doesn't it look like the Christmas Holidays all year long?" No, that's just it; the cream, beige and white shades allow the red and green accents to sing like spring!



ModWalls® Bungalow™ Blend ¾" glass mosaic tile.

Another dimension of color in mosaic tile surfaces is grout. Grout is the often overlooked element that can make or break a tile installation. Depending upon the color of grout you choose, your mosaic tile can look like graphic art or a calm river of glass. If you match the grout shade to the dominant tile color in your blend, you'll achieve a smooth and seamless look which highlights the surface texture of your tile. If you choose a lighter, brighter or contrasting grout color, each small tile will be visibly framed like a picture. You can even introduce a unique contrasting color to bring another dimension to your tile installation. I recommend experimenting with grout on a sample section of tile to see which look sparks your imagination.

Here are examples of 2 different grout options for our ModWalls® PopArt™ Blend:  
Note how the black and white grouts completely change the look of identical sheets of tile.



ModWalls® PopArt™ ¾ glass mosaic tile.

So go ahead, play with color and make your environments creative and fulfilling spaces that feed your soul. We've even introduced our own ModWalls® Tile Blender, an online tool to assist you in creating your own signature glass tile blends. For more design and color ideas with tile, or to use the ModWalls® Tile Blender to create your own custom blends, go to [www.MosaicTileMarket.com](http://www.MosaicTileMarket.com) or [www.ModWalls.com](http://www.ModWalls.com).

Copyright 2006 Sunset Mountains, Inc. Mosaic Tile Market and ModWalls®

