Porch Color & LRV Cheat Sheet

Select the perfect shades and mix a durable, slip-resistant finish.

Choose the right outdoor colors without the guesswork using the two-tone walkway test. Create a welcoming, scuff-hiding porch that stays beautiful season after season.



Key Measurements

Center 60%
Main walkway width proportion

12 to 18 inches
Low-traffic charcoal border width

2 ounces
Polymer grip additive per gallon

15 minutes
Stir interval for even texture

3/8-inch
Woven cover roller size

Urethane-acrylic base

Standard exterior latex peels under foot traffic. A urethane-acrylic base combines scuff-resistant durability with flexible elasticity to survive harsh weather and expanding wood.

Color & LRV Targets

Find your row: **Porch zone**

Porch zone	Your pick	Why
Main Walkway	LRV 35 to 45	Mid-tone masks dust beautifully
Perimeter Border	LRV under 15	Conceals furniture scuffs completely
Covered Ceiling	LRV 60 to 70	Haint blue ceiling deters wasps

Test Before You Paint

- ○ Apply your chosen colors to a scrap piece of wood first.
- ○ Check direct sunlight to ensure the walkway isn't uncomfortably bright.
- ○ Evaluate evening shadows to verify the border stays visibly darker.

Application & Curing Phases

1. **Sprinkle additive gradually** Pouring all at once creates clumps; stir continuously while adding to prevent patchy texture.
2. **Check touch dryness** The painted floor will feel dry to the touch in exactly 4 hours.
3. **Allow light traffic** Wait a full 24 hours before allowing anyone to walk on the fresh surface.
4. **Cure before furnishing** Wait 7 to 10 days before dragging heavy planters or rocking chairs across the boards.

Porch Project Notes

Enjoy your beautiful, welcoming new porch—and all the sweeping you won't be doing!