I know what I like

Lovely Mug Ugly Mug

I haven't really got a favourite mug. I'm not particularly fussy. But if I was going to have to choose between one of these mugs I would choose number one,, because the shape (if you're going to have a hot drink, which is usually what you have a mug for), it will keep the drink hot, and would keep it hotter than two, three and four.

My least favourite is number 4. It has got a very uncomfortable handle. It would be very uncomfy to hold.

Other things that have similar qualities

I have some soup bowls, That likewise keep the soup hot.

They sort of come in a bit.

I made them - I am a potter, you know.

That's a very nice mug

It's small but it's the sort of shape I like. That's a very nice mug. I do like it and I would like it if it was bigger too.

I used to make bigger ones like that

I like the shape, and the glaze, and the very nice handle - comfy. I make comfortable handles. I used to make 60 of those for the theatre cafe. They didnt break them - they are quite tough, stone ware. I didnt particularly enjoy that becasue they all had to be the same size. Those were black and white. For left handed people I did black at the top and white at the bottom and for ordinary right handled people it was white at the top and black at the bottom. Just a a silly gimmick really .

I mean that's for coffee really. Because if you're going to drink tea, I like tea in china. That's all right for coffee or hot chocolate.

Tea in a china cup

If you're going to drink tea, I like tea in china. A china cup and saucer. You don't usually have a china mug do you ? Something finer, porcelain or something. that's ideal.

(The one I have) is a bought one actually, but it's china. I think it comes from Waitrose I'm not sure. It's not a cup and saucer (that's ideal) but it is quite fine, it's white china. It's stripey. I've got a couple. One has a strong stripe and one has got blobs, little circles on it.

That's not mine and it's horrible

I gave it to the charity shop. I wouldn't have it in the house. Look at that handle, it's horrible. Its very thick and it was heavy. Somebody gave it to me. The handle is uncomfortable. I dont like the handle has been put on. It doesnt flow from the body of the cup. Aesthetically it doesn't please me. The mug is too thick and its not nice having a thick rim. Its not a nice shape. Its a commercially bought one. I reckon its made on a machine. You churn them out.

I wouldn't drink out of it. If I was in somebody's house and they gave me that, of course. I think that's manners. But I wouldn't choose it. It says here " what I have chosen? ". It doesnt say " if you were in a friend's house..?" I can't imagine one of my friends handing me something like that. But they might.

No it's not the most important thing in my life, by any means. But I suppose If it was the only one and I wanted a drink. I would drink out of it. But I wouldn't choose it to have in my home, no. If I was visiting somebody and I got it in one of those those, I would have to drink out of it. I wouldn't say anything.

If you were in a home

If you are in a home. You can't be choosy can you? Or if you are in hospital - you've got to get on with it. If you are in hospital its usually a time thing - unless you are in for life.

In a home, it would be so much less worry. There's always something wrong, in the house. There's always something to be done when you own something. It would be so much easier. If the boiler goes wrong, you don't have to get it mended. Somebody else does it. But I mean obviously if you're in that sort of state in our home you presumably are not terribly well, so don't care as much, do you? It depends. At a pinch, of course I would drink out of that ugly mug, rather than not drink at all.

How do you choose for another person?

You might that perhaps somebody has that mug that I don't like, is their favourite.

I don't see how you can choose for another person.

That is the point of your question, isn't it?

I can only tell you what I like.

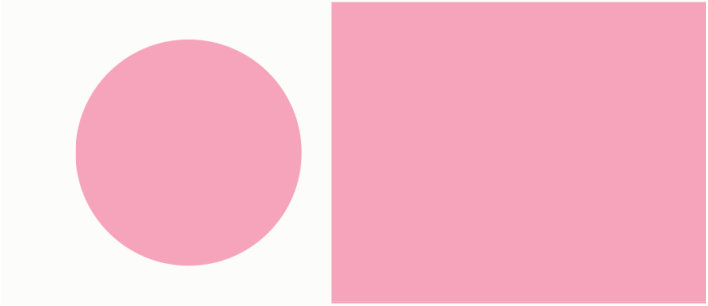
Colour

It depends what it's for

There are some lovely colours here, but it depends what it's for?

Is it clothing or is it walls or a door, or ...

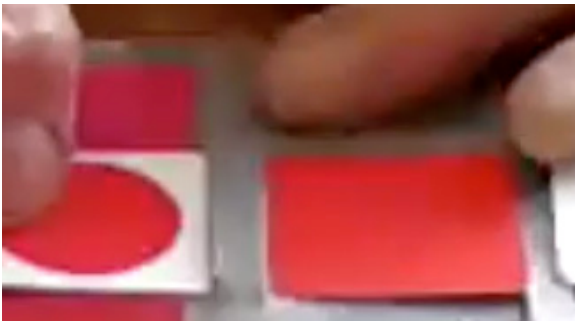
There are loads of colours I like, but the only one I really dislike is the pink.

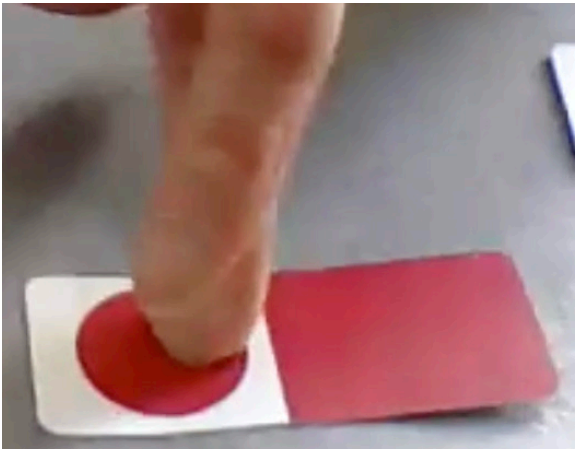


There’s only one colour that I really don’t like

Of course, there are all sorts of different reasons, but a real “No” is this pink. This one, it’s horrible.

I don’t like pink. I don’t know (why), its just a colour I have never liked..



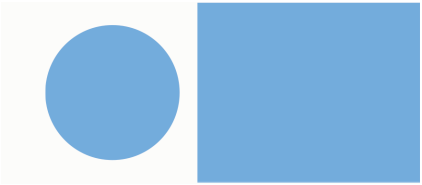


I dont like red either

I have never liked red. To me, it is danger or something to do with blood. I think I was in hospital once and there was a red rug on my bed. I was a child, and I had my tonsils out and my mother came to fetch me with a red rug that we had at home and I always associated it with not being well. I didn't like it. Because to me it was blood and I'm not very good with blood. I'm not at all good with blood. I cant bear it. I mean I don't even like my own.

I don't like that (red) because I had a school uniform once, and I was expelled from that school. It was called Heathfield. It was horrible.

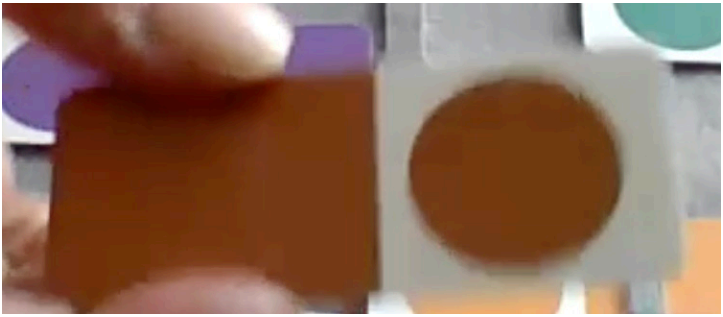
But I liked this in a another school, which was the City of London School for girls. I liked that school. But I would never wear it. I'd had enough of it after four years. I don't object to it, but I wouldn't choose it.

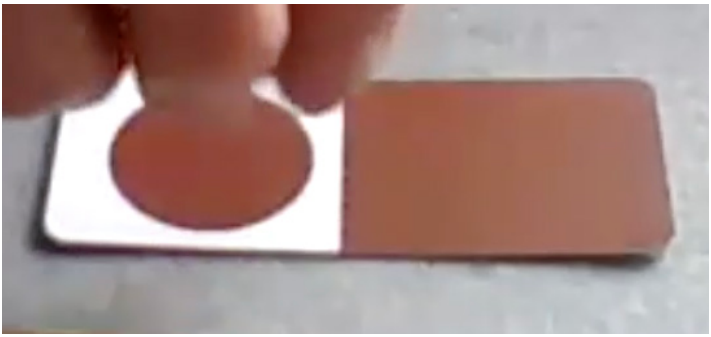


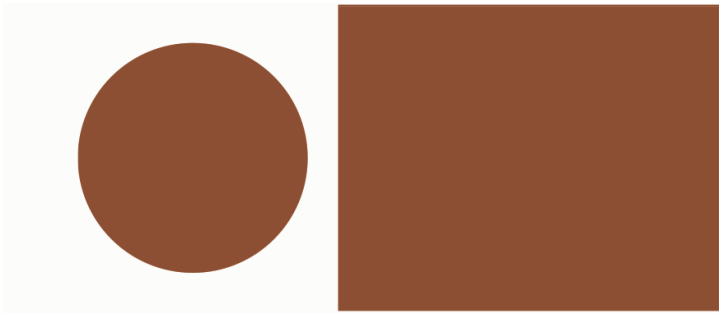
I would never use that one

That is a colour that I wouldn't have for clothes.

I would never wear that.







If it was what I was going to wear

I love this colour because it's clay

I like the other browns that's a nice colour too

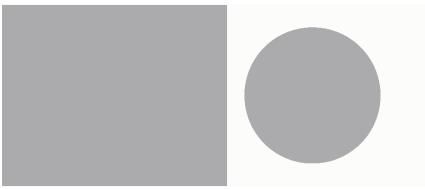
I wear those colours

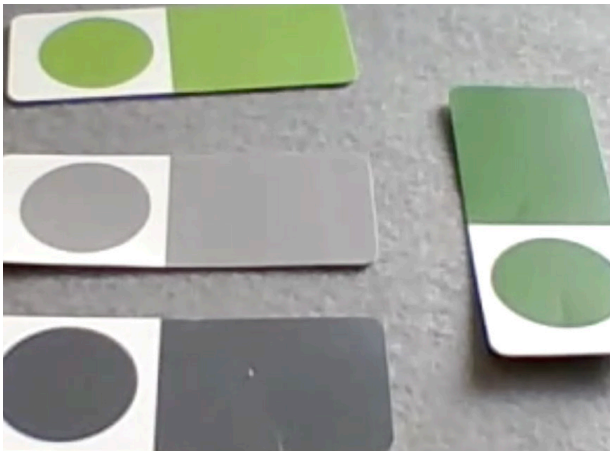
I’m not mad about mauve

For instance, II wouldn’t want a wall in my house that colour.

I remember our first house that we bought in Bristol. The wash basin and the bath was that colour. It had to go immediately. It was in the 60s. They did dreadful things like that.

As a colour, I like it. But not as a wall or a bath. Its a perfectly decent colour. It just depends where you put it.





I love greys

I have got masses of grey clothes . I love these. I like both of them.

It would look lovely with a green wouldnt it? It would go with any green. You know I mean you play with (these combinations). I think it goes with yellow. If you have a little touch (of yellow). You could do this forever: this combination of colours..

In my bathroom

I've got these three bathroom tiles. I am not wearing them, but I like them as tiles.

20

I have got a new front door colour

Oh it's wonderful but it's not quite here (in these colours) It's nearly that colour only it's more olive green. And it's got a chrome knocker, number and letterbox

For a bit of excitement in my life!. (there's isn't much) but it needed painting anyway.

My friend M painted it for my birthday present. He got fed up with me because first of all I wanted it yellow. So he painted it yellow but it looked dreadful. It was a very nice yellow. It was this colour, but it was too much for a door. A whole door of that colour was dreadful because it didn't go with the grey colour of the house. It looked really horrible. So I changed the colour totally so he had to do it all over again. But it's done now and it looks very nice. Very smart. We're smart up our end. E has a new door. He's got a dull pink. It's not a colour I would want, but he loves it and I've got used to it.– It's quite a nice pink

We bought little tins. I've got masses of them. I will use them for something. I could do the bannisters again with them.

Personal Space

BACK WITH
A BANG!

My favourite space in the house

There's one in my house. It's a small room at the back of the house. I like it because it gets the sun (if there's any sun). It's always very light in the afternoon and it gets the sun and it's quiet.

I like to (this doesn't often happen) sit in the afternoon and read. I go to sleep, of course, but you know it's very comfy because it's got a spare bed .

The bed - I have it the way (I like it) you know. I make a sort of nest of cushions. Then I am all comfy with cushions - and a rug. A real old, old lady! Yes, it's like a nest.

I don't like the word cosy it's a silly word (but) I've made it very comfortable. As long as nobody's in the bed like J - I can get in there. But when she's here it's her bedroom. - I go in to use the computer or whatever you know. But it's it's her room when she's here, which isn't often.

CREATIVE NON-WRITING

What do you do in your favourite room?

I call it J's bedroom but it also has my laptop in it. It has all these endless bits of paper like bank statements and everything. I spend an awful lot of time in that room. More than anywhere else.

Rest. Read. Computer. Paperwork. Write emails. All these endless bills, you know, whatever. There are a lot. I look at my emails in the morning to see if I have to answer them. I zoom in there. I don't zoom Pilates in there because the room isn't big enough.

Yes, I do (draw in there) - But not a lot, because my drawing is out of doors really. - It's just the sort of room you do all sorts of things in, and if you wanted to do some painting or something I'd do it in there. But - I haven't got the room - it isn't big enough to really have a big table where you could spread out.

I have the shelves above the computer where you can go like that (reaches hand up) and get - paper out, or whatever. I have made it as comfortable as possible I think.

FAMILY
PENCILS
Pentel

Its got two chairs. I've got a radio in there - There's a fireplace which sticks out and two recesses. The bed is in one recess and the other recess is full of shelves with boxes that go right up to the ceiling - I can't reach the top - all these shoe boxes full of things, like photographs. - I've got - it's what I call 'stuff', you know:'I've got to sort it out stuff' Unfortunately, there's a lot of it. A lot of it is unnecessary. It's full.

The photographs - I want to keep those but they are family photographs. I've got lots of shoe boxes full of my pots photographs. Things like that. I don't want to look at them (photographs of my pots) , but I don't want to throw them away, otherwise it means that my professional life, - I haven't got any way to prove to myself that I've ever made anything! I'm keeping those. I'll leave that for J to throw away.

It isn't possible to lay it out any other way. I have tried. If you had a table under the window, you couldn't open the drawer in the desk where the computer is. It's not big enough. It has to be where it is. I've tried moving the furniture around and there's no other way of having it.

The view - is looking at the back of people's houses

There are some nice chimney pots. There's a roof quite a way away, - it must be a house that is on the (sea) front and they have a washing line, which is quite fun to see the washing.

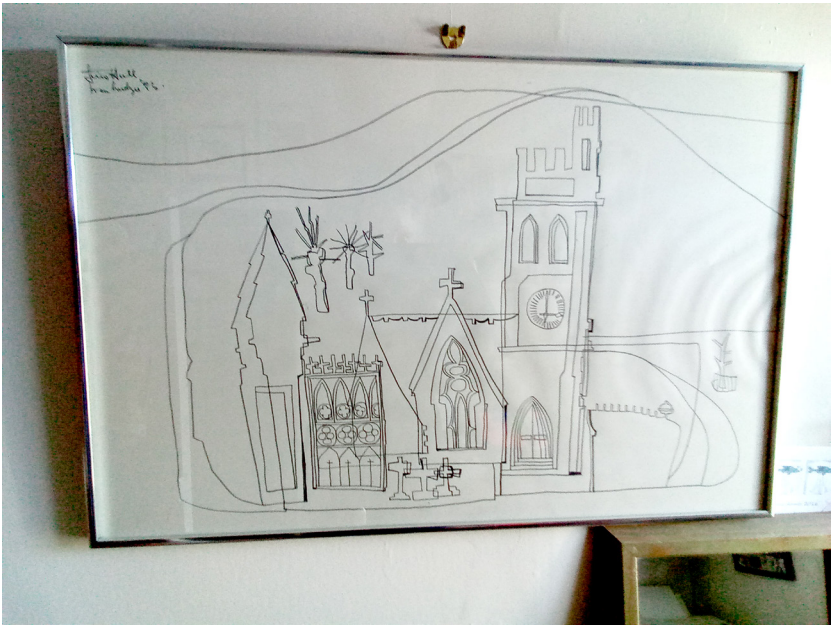
They must go up through the attic onto the roof. There's a flat roof. It looks hideously dangerous, but you know I've seen somebody hanging up lines of washing. So it must dry in about 20 minutes. I'm surprised, they don't lose it, she must peg it down very well. It's quite a way away, yes - I mean I can't tell you what it is, except if it was trousers I'd see 2 legs but you know it's just washing. I think it's sheets and things.

I love washing, rows of washing - . I always think they're all nice you know. I always used to like arranging it, you know, making the colours (look) nice together. - and making like an abstract painting of your washing. - You could have black knickers next to a white T shirt or something. I don't know, you could play about?

Have you got things in there, that you particularly like?

Yes, I've got some of J's etchings (above the door).

- and I've got a big picture (by) the once removed husband. - Which is a lovely picture. It's a building, it's very nice. He did draw well. I liked his drawings and paintings, but you know, it's a very nice drawing.



My big hanging

With the sun shining on it

It's from Ethiopia - but its got lots of moth in it I'm afraid.

How did I get it? I can't rember.

A-Z
BRIGHTON
AND HOVE
PLACES · PEOPLE · HISTORY
NEWMAN HAYES

Do you prefer to be in that room than in your lounge?

Not always - it depends. I mean I can make that room warmer in this cold weather than doing a great big room.

Obviously, if I have friends they're downstairs in the big room. They're not up in my little room because there's nowhere for them to sit.

Anyway the whole point is, in the little room, I want to be alone.

The majority of the work that I've got - that we use, you know they're mostly rejects you see?

But I've only got - shelves of a few things that I've made which are not (rejects) - Like the ones with froggies on. That aren't broken.

The kitchen is very nice

- But it's freezing cold because it's got three outside walls - and they're all one brick thick. Because these houses are not built well.

I like the kitchen but I'd like it if it wasn't quite so cold, but there's no radiators in there . It works, the kitchen works all right. - I can't reach the top cupboards but then I'm so small. But you know, that's all right . I've got a little stool. That's the unfortunate bit about being small.

One never has enough cupboards - But that one I pull out is brilliant, you know, with all the shelves in it, but that's full up. It's full of everything you could want really when you're cooking.

You see the trouble with Victorian houses, is there's no cupboards. They didn't have cupboards. Because they had furniture. They had wardrobes. They had things like that. - They never had cupboards So there's no cupboards in any of these houses. I think everybody knows that- Victorian houses never had cupboards.

The terrace in the summer - that's lovely

Because when the sun is in the right place it gets the sun that goes all the way around, so I get sun nearly all day because this house is almost north, south.. in the summer i'd be on my terrace so unless I was trying to do, writing or reading I sit outside. Or I go out and read -I do read a lot (But) It's too hot sometimes in the summer in mid afternoon - its too hot. - that's if we have what I call a normal summer.)

-At the moment, (I'm not taking a photograph because it absolutely looks dreadful) because I can't lift those heavy pots anymore and they're all full of dead plants! - They are annuals. I'll get somebody to help me with a day, emptying all this rubbish earth and get some more Then when it gets to May or something I'll get some plants.

In a garden you'd plant them and just leave them - and the next year they come up, but it doesn't work in a pot. They don't have enough room. Also even if you feed them, they don't do as well as in garden. I have seen the odd bee here, for instance, and the odd butterfly but not, you know, like in the allotment: you would have bees and butterflies and birds and all that, you know, propagating and doing whatever they do.

I've got some bulbs coming up

Two big pots of bulbs which I planted in October, but they're was just poking through. It's no good buying anything, now (January) -

There will be (daffodils coming up) and tulips.

I like the little Tete-a-Tete – the little tiny narcissi. They are only six inches tall. They are called Tete-a-Tete. They are lovely.

I've got a lot of those coming up - a potful .