



Classical balance

The use of pale yellow in this grand entrance hall (above) in a Grade II listed eighteenth-century country house is a soft, warming choice that enhances the light and openness in the space. Interior designer Mark Gillette explains this particular colour was created by mixing a selection of paints from Edward Bulmer Natural Paint's collection. He adds that the walls were hand-painted with a cloudy stipple effect for a richer dimension.

Though this is a very classic scheme, with gilt frames, an antique brass lantern and dark wood all working in harmony with the period and style of property, some more contemporary details could be introduced if desired. An upholstered bench could add some softness and introduce a modern fabric choice, whilst still maintaining sympathy to the period. A dark wood marquetry table with a contemporary finish and shape would create a chic statement and contrast against limestone floors. Finally, dark green (as seen used for the curtains) in a rich velvet or silk damask adds gravitas and provides a sumptuous counterpoint to the pale yellow. ▶

PAINT SWATCHES OPPOSITE TOP LEFT (FROM LEFT)

- Moonlit Green Night, £45 for 2.5l Active Emulsion, Sanderson
- Dayroom Yellow, £46.50 for 2.5l Estate Emulsion, Farrow & Ball
- Lemon No. 43, Salts, £51 for 2.5l Marble Matt Emulsion, Mylands

OPPOSITE, FROM TOP

- Antique English gilt composition mirror, from £1,650, Overmantels
- Double Pom Pom tassel, Gold/Claret, £8, John Lewis & Partners
- Piazzetta cushion in Radish with Pelham Chocolate piping, £69, Andrew Martin
- Wallpaper, Shrewsbury, yellow, £141 a roll; matching fabric, £90 a metre, both Thibaut
- Marble Corinthian Column lamp, £839; 14-inch knife-

- pleated shade in cream silk, £189, both Besselink & Jones
- Petersham dining chair, from £750 plus fabric, I&JL Brown

ARCHIVE, CLOCKWISE FROM MIRROR

- Interior design, Mark Gillette Interior Architecture & Design
- Hanging Charlotte lantern, £7,176, Charles Edwards
- Cut-out orange finial, £392.40 a pair; reeded pole, £136.80 a metre, McKinney & Co
- Velours Chambord fabric, £149 a metre, Nobilis
- Flooring, Aged Muscat, from £55 a square metre; Aged Bourne, from £74 a square metre, both Martin Moore Stone
- Ebury bench, £1,310 plus fabric, David Seyfried
- Aylesbury table, £7,062, Davidson