

"I'm working on a 200-year-old farmhouse, and in the main entry, the trim had been painted a very deep purple and the walls a lavender. It's absolutely beautiful. I want to take those colors and put them on the stairs somehow, maybe lavender on the risers and deep purple on the steps." —Richard Mishaan, interior designer

"Light purple is the color of introspection. Think of soaking in the tub at the end of the day in a lavender-painted bathroom. Add lighted candles and the space will look like a sunset." —Leatrice Eiseman, author of More Alive with Color

PRO-Keds' Royal Court Lo canvas shoe from Damon Dash Enterprises (\$55; ProKeds.com).



Who Knew?

- Leonardo da Vinci believed working in a purple-tinted room increased meditation and concentration; Richard Wagner thought the same, and composed his operas amid shades of lavender.
- The early Greeks drank alcohol from goblets made of amethyst, which they believed prevented drunkenness.
- Cleopatra loved purple and had her servants soak 20,000 snails to obtain an ounce of purple dye.

Indochine's handmade cane coat-and-hat stand from Red Egg (80" h x 18" w, \$410; RedEgg.com).



Isaac Mizrahi's linen Colorfield for S. Harris (54" w, to the trade; SHarris.com).



Hand-blown glass vase by Patricia Rubinelli (9" h, \$400; 212/465-3332; RubinelliGlass.com).

