

KiwiColour® Technical Bulletin: Light Reflectance Value (LRV)

What is LRV and why is it important?

Light Reflectance Value (LRV) is a reflectance measure that illustrates the total quantity of visible sunlight that a surface reflects when a light source is shined upon it and conversely how much it absorbs. LRV, or the transparency rate as it is also known, is typically measured on a scale from 0 to 1, where 0 is assumed to be an absolute black and 1 being an assumed perfectly reflective white. For instance, in reference to Table 1 of KiwiColour® Light Reflection Values, Titania: 65.4% indicates that the surface reflects 65.4% of sunlight and has a Light Reflectance Value of 0.654.

Light Reflectance Value may become critical in environments where the reflectance of light might cause issues nearby, such as near airports and runways. Also with the ongoing concern over global warming, the LRV has become an important factor to consider as it also affects the temperature of the colour when the light is absorbed.

Table 1. KiwiColour Light Reflectance

KiwiColour®	Light Reflectance Value	KiwiColour®	Light Reflectance Value
New Denim Blue	9.40%	Grey Friars	10.00%
Rivergum	18.70%	Windsor Grey	7.20%
Smooth Cream	65.50%	Sandstone	21.30%
Desert Sand	46.30%	Pioneer Red	30.90%
Mist Green	23.60%	Scoria	14.00%
Permanent Green	10.80%	Lignite	9.50%
Ironsand	7.70%	Titania White	65.40%
Ebony	5.00%	Gull Grey	48.50%
Lichen	26.30%	Karaka	7.20%
Stone	34.70%		

*Note: The above rates of LRV are subject to pitch, lighting and aspect of the roof upon installation.

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