

WHITE

Painting brickwork is often recommended as an easy DIY solution for either restoring or transforming interior brick walls, without the need for plastering, but bricks are hard-wearing and red or brown in colour, so this immediately dictates the paints that can be used, and paint is not always advised for brickwork that is crumbling or deteriorating. Where a suitable interior brick wall is painted, however, the effect can be striking. Shades of white, the most common choice, maximize natural light and enhance the sense of spaciousness while creating a clean, contemporary effect.

10. & 11. In this 279m² (3,000ft²) loft in the former American Express warehouse building in TriBeCa, New York, SchappacherWhite Architecture D.P.C. used large panels of chemically treated steel to offset white brick walls and complement industrial columns. The materials' contrasting textures create drama in the residence, juxtaposing light with dark surfaces.

