

MOJAVE PALETTE

A Desert Color System in Forty Hues

Compiled for Designers, Illustrators & Visual Artists



"The desert does not argue. It simply glows."

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1 — THE PALETTE: 40-COLOR MASTER TABLE

Five families · Eight colors each · Ordered light to dark within each family.

Swatch	#	Name	Hex	R	G	B	Family
	1	Saltpan White	#F2E8D9	242	232	217	Sun & Sand
	2	Bleached Bone	#E8D5B7	232	213	183	Sun & Sand
	3	Desert Haze	#DED0B8	222	208	184	Sun & Sand
	4	Canyon Dust	#D4B896	212	184	150	Sun & Sand
	5	Arroyo Tan	#C4A882	196	168	130	Sun & Sand
	6	Mesa Gold	#C8A96E	200	169	110	Sun & Sand
	7	Sandstone	#BFA882	191	168	130	Sun & Sand
	8	Caliche	#A8906A	168	144	106	Sun & Sand
	9	Ember Fade	#E8A07A	232	160	122	Sunset & Fire
	10	Afterglow	#E0885A	224	136	90	Sunset & Fire
	11	Dusk Rose	#CC7060	204	112	96	Sunset & Fire
	12	Mojave Amber	#C47A3C	196	122	60	Sunset & Fire
	13	Ochre Earth	#B87038	184	112	56	Sunset & Fire
	14	Joshua Blaze	#D4602A	212	96	42	Sunset & Fire
	15	Cinnabar	#B84A2E	184	74	46	Sunset & Fire
	16	Lava Trail	#A03A22	160	58	34	Sunset & Fire
	17	Pale Green Dust	#C2C89E	194	200	158	Sage & Shadow
	18	Saltbush	#AABB8E	170	187	142	Sage & Shadow
	19	Desert Sage	#96A870	150	168	112	Sage & Shadow
	20	Juniper Mist	#8A9E7A	138	158	122	Sage & Shadow
	21	Dry Grass	#B8B07A	184	176	122	Sage & Shadow
	22	Olive Wash	#9E9C6A	158	156	106	Sage & Shadow
	23	Creosote	#7A8C5C	122	140	92	Sage & Shadow
	24	Shadow Fern	#6A7C54	106	124	84	Sage & Shadow
	25	Warm Slate	#9E8E7E	158	142	126	Rock & Clay
	26	Umber Sand	#A08060	160	128	96	Rock & Clay
	27	Petroglyph	#8A6248	138	98	72	Rock & Clay
	28	Adobe Clay	#B87060	184	112	96	Rock & Clay
	29	Red Mesa	#9E5A3C	158	90	60	Rock & Clay
	30	Ironwood	#6E5840	110	88	64	Rock & Clay
	31	Mahogany Rock	#7A4030	122	64	48	Rock & Clay
	32	Basalt	#6A6058	106	96	88	Rock & Clay
	33	Lavender Haze	#B4A8C8	180	168	200	Sky & Dusk
	34	Dusty Violet	#8A7A9E	138	122	158	Sky & Dusk
	35	Mauve Shadow	#9E8A9E	158	138	158	Sky & Dusk
	36	Mojave Sky	#7A98C0	122	152	192	Sky & Dusk
	37	High Desert Blue	#5A7AA8	90	122	168	Sky & Dusk
	38	Twilight Indigo	#3A4A78	58	74	120	Sky & Dusk
	39	Deep Dusk	#2A3052	42	48	82	Sky & Dusk
	40	Night Creosote	#2E3428	46	52	40	Sky & Dusk

2 — COLOR TABLES BY FAMILY

Family — SUN & SAND

Swatch	#	Name	Hex	H	S	L	Usage Note
	1	Saltpan White	#F2E8D9	35°	57%	90%	Page backgrounds; cream paper
	2	Bleached Bone	#E8D5B7	34°	59%	83%	Warm off-white fills
	3	Desert Haze	#DED0B8	39°	34%	79%	Fog overlays; muted fields
	4	Canyon Dust	#D4B896	34°	44%	71%	Mid-tone sand; card backgrounds
	5	Arroyo Tan	#C4A882	33°	38%	63%	Natural texture; kraft tones
	6	Mesa Gold	#C8A96E	37°	47%	61%	Accent warmth; straw highlight
	7	Sandstone	#BFA882	36°	26%	59%	Secondary neutral; matted frame
	8	Caliche	#A8906A	34°	28%	54%	Aged paper; dry riverbed

Family — SUNSET & FIRE

Swatch	#	Name	Hex	H	S	L	Usage Note
	9	Ember Fade	#E8A07A	20°	72%	69%	Soft terracotta highlight
	10	Afterglow	#E0885A	21°	70%	61%	Warm accent; sunset fade
	11	Dusk Rose	#CC7060	10°	52%	59%	Dusty pink-red; lip tone
	12	Mojave Amber	#C47A3C	29°	61%	50%	Rich amber; leather tones
	13	Ochre Earth	#B87038	28°	60%	47%	Classic ochre; map yellows
	14	Joshua Blaze	#D4602A	20°	67%	49%	High-energy accent; fire
	15	Cinnabar	#B84A2E	14°	62%	45%	Bold editorial red
	16	Lava Trail	#A03A22	14°	65%	38%	Deep ember; dark warmth



Family — SAGE & SHADOW

Swatch	#	Name	Hex	H	S	L	Usage Note
	17	Palegreen Dust	#C2C89E	68°	31%	70%	Soft celadon; faded botanical
	18	Saltbush	#AABB8E	81°	30%	64%	Muted lime; herb palette
	19	Desert Sage	#96A870	79°	28%	55%	Classic sage; dried-herb green
	20	Juniper Mist	#8A9E7A	96°	18%	55%	Soft forest; shadowed leaf
	21	Dry Grass	#B8B07A	56°	32%	59%	Straw; bleached meadow
	22	Olive Wash	#9E9C6A	58°	24%	52%	Military olive; antique map
	23	Creosote	#7A8C5C	84°	24%	45%	Deep plant green; bottle glass
	24	Shadow Fern	#6A7C54	90°	22%	40%	Dark botanical; shadowed canopy

Family — ROCK & CLAY

Swatch	#	Name	Hex	H	S	L	Usage Note
	25	Warm Slate	#9E8E7E	28°	12%	56%	Greige neutral; aged cement
	26	Umber Sand	#A08060	30°	27%	50%	Raw umber; clay pot
	27	Petroglyph	#8A6248	26°	33%	41%	Dark sienna; cave pigment
	28	Adobe Clay	#B87060	10°	35%	55%	Terracotta mid-tone
	29	Red Mesa	#9E5A3C	17°	46%	43%	Brick red; burnt clay
	30	Ironwood	#6E5840	30°	28%	34%	Deep brown; worn saddle
	31	Mahogany Rock	#7A4030	13°	44%	33%	Dark earth; deep wood
	32	Basalt	#6A6058	28°	8%	38%	Near-black brown; volcanic

Family — SKY & DUSK

Swatch	#	Name	Hex	H	S	L	Usage Note
	33	Lavender Haze	#B4A8C8	270°	24%	72%	Soft purple; morning haze
	34	Dusty Violet	#8A7A9E	270°	18%	55%	Muted amethyst
	35	Mauve Shadow	#9E8A9E	300°	11%	58%	Dusty mauve; evening grey
	36	Mojave Sky	#7A98C0	210°	37%	61%	Clear blue; midday sky
	37	High Desert Blue	#5A7AA8	215°	34%	51%	Denim blue; faded chambray
	38	Twilight Indigo	#3A4A78	225°	37%	35%	Rich indigo; twilight header
	39	Deep Dusk	#2A3052	228°	38%	24%	Near-dark navy; night sky
	40	Night Creosote	#2E3428	96°	14%	24%	Almost-black desert dark

3 — PDF SWATCH SHEET REFERENCE

Build a printable swatch sheet in Adobe Illustrator, Affinity Publisher, or Canva using the specifications below.

- Page size: 279 × 216 mm (US Letter, landscape)
- Grid: 5 columns × 8 rows = 40 swatches
- Swatch size: 40 mm × 32 mm per cell with 3 mm gaps
- Font: Serif (Garamond), 7 pt hex labels, 8.5 pt color names
- Export: PDF/X-4, 300 dpi, 3 mm bleed for commercial print

Color Grid Preview

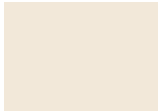





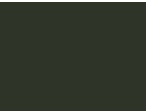
5 columns × 8 rows — each cell is filled with the actual swatch color.



4 — CANVA PALETTE CARD

Card specs: 1080×1080 px, Saltpan White background, 'MOJAVE' title in Georgia Bold (Night Creosote), subtitle in Basalt italic. Enter the hex values below into Canva's Brand Kit → Brand Colors.

Representative Swatch Strip

							
Saltpan White	Mesa Gold	Joshua Blaze	Desert Sage	Petroglyph	Lavender Haze	Twilight Indigo	Night Creosote

All 40 Hex Codes

	#F2E8D9 Saltpan White		#B8B07A Dry Grass
	#E8D5B7 Bleached Bone		#9E9C6A Olive Wash
	#DED0B8 Desert Haze		#7A8C5C Creosote
	#D4B896 Canyon Dust		#6A7C54 Shadow Fern
	#C4A882 Arroyo Tan		#9E8E7E Warm Slate
	#C8A96E Mesa Gold		#A08060 Umber Sand
	#BFA882 Sandstone		#8A6248 Petroglyph
	#A8906A Caliche		#B87060 Adobe Clay
	#E8A07A Ember Fade		#9E5A3C Red Mesa
	#E0885A Afterglow		#6E5840 Ironwood
	#CC7060 Dusk Rose		#7A4030 Mahogany Rock
	#C47A3C Mojave Amber		#6A6058 Basalt
	#B87038 Ochre Earth		#B4A8C8 Lavender Haze
	#D4602A Joshua Blaze		#8A7A9E Dusty Violet
	#B84A2E Cinnabar		#9E8A9E Mauve Shadow
	#A03A22 Lava Trail		#7A98C0 Mojave Sky
	#C2C89E Palegreen Dust		#5A7AA8 High Desert Blue
	#AABB8E Saltbush		#3A4A78 Twilight Indigo
	#96A870 Desert Sage		#2A3052 Deep Dusk
	#8A9E7A Juniper Mist		#2E3428 Night Creosote

Suggested Pairings

Desert Editorial: Saltpan White + Joshua Blaze + Night Creosote + Desert Sage

Warm Neutrals: Bleached Bone + Caliche + Umber Sand + Warm Slate

Sunset Duo: Ember Fade + Twilight Indigo (complementary contrast)

Botanical: Saltbush + Creosote + Shadow Fern + Dry Grass

Night Drive: Deep Dusk + Lavender Haze + Cinnabar + Saltpan White

5 — PROCREATE PALETTE EXPORT

To import into Procreate: open the Palettes panel → tap + → New from File. Palette name: Mojave Desert · 40 Swatches. Procreate uses AARRGGBB 8-digit hex (FF prefix = fully opaque).

Swatch	Name	Hex	Procreate AARRGGBB
	Saltpan White	#F2E8D9	FFF2E8D9
	Bleached Bone	#E8D5B7	FFE8D5B7
	Desert Haze	#DED0B8	FFDED0B8
	Canyon Dust	#D4B896	FFD4B896
	Arroyo Tan	#C4A882	FFC4A882
	Mesa Gold	#C8A96E	FFC8A96E
	Sandstone	#BFA882	FFBFA882
	Caliche	#A8906A	FFA8906A
	Ember Fade	#E8A07A	FFE8A07A
	Afterglow	#E0885A	FFE0885A
	Dusk Rose	#CC7060	FFCC7060
	Mojave Amber	#C47A3C	FFC47A3C
	Ochre Earth	#B87038	FFB87038
	Joshua Blaze	#D4602A	FFD4602A
	Cinnabar	#B84A2E	FFB84A2E
	Lava Trail	#A03A22	FFA03A22
	Palegreen Dust	#C2C89E	FFC2C89E
	Saltbush	#AABB8E	FFAABB8E
	Desert Sage	#96A870	FF96A870
	Juniper Mist	#8A9E7A	FF8A9E7A
	Dry Grass	#B8B07A	FFB8B07A
	Olive Wash	#9E9C6A	FF9E9C6A
	Creosote	#7A8C5C	FF7A8C5C
	Shadow Fern	#6A7C54	FF6A7C54
	Warm Slate	#9E8E7E	FF9E8E7E
	Umber Sand	#A08060	FFA08060
	Petroglyph	#8A6248	FF8A6248
	Adobe Clay	#B87060	FFB87060
	Red Mesa	#9E5A3C	FF9E5A3C
	Ironwood	#6E5840	FF6E5840
	Mahogany Rock	#7A4030	FF7A4030
	Basalt	#6A6058	FF6A6058
	Lavender Haze	#B4A8C8	FFB4A8C8
	Dusty Violet	#8A7A9E	FF8A7A9E
	Mauve Shadow	#9E8A9E	FF9E8A9E
	Mojave Sky	#7A98C0	FF7A98C0
	High Desert Blue	#5A7AA8	FF5A7AA8
	Twilight Indigo	#3A4A78	FF3A4A78
	Deep Dusk	#2A3052	FF2A3052
	Night Creosote	#2E3428	FF2E3428

6 — PHOTOSHOP ASE PALETTE REFERENCE

ASE (Adobe Swatch Exchange) is a binary format. Use these normalized RGB values (0.0–1.0) to build the file via Photoshop's Swatches panel or an ASE generator tool. Group name: Mojave Palette.

Swatch	Name	R (0–1)	G (0–1)	B (0–1)
	Saltpan White	0.9490	0.9098	0.8510
	Bleached Bone	0.9098	0.8353	0.7176
	Desert Haze	0.8706	0.8157	0.7216
	Canyon Dust	0.8314	0.7216	0.5882
	Arroyo Tan	0.7686	0.6588	0.5098
	Mesa Gold	0.7843	0.6627	0.4314
	Sandstone	0.7490	0.6588	0.5098
	Caliche	0.6588	0.5647	0.4157
	Ember Fade	0.9098	0.6275	0.4784
	Afterglow	0.8784	0.5333	0.3529
	Dusk Rose	0.8000	0.4392	0.3765
	Mojave Amber	0.7686	0.4784	0.2353
	Ochre Earth	0.7216	0.4392	0.2196
	Joshua Blaze	0.8314	0.3765	0.1647
	Cinnabar	0.7216	0.2902	0.1804
	Lava Trail	0.6275	0.2275	0.1333
	Palegreen Dust	0.7608	0.7843	0.6196
	Saltbush	0.6667	0.7333	0.5569
	Desert Sage	0.5882	0.6588	0.4392
	Juniper Mist	0.5412	0.6196	0.4784
	Dry Grass	0.7216	0.6902	0.4784
	Olive Wash	0.6196	0.6118	0.4157
	Creosote	0.4784	0.5490	0.3608
	Shadow Fern	0.4157	0.4863	0.3294
	Warm Slate	0.6196	0.5569	0.4941
	Umber Sand	0.6275	0.5020	0.3765
	Petroglyph	0.5412	0.3843	0.2824
	Adobe Clay	0.7216	0.4392	0.3765
	Red Mesa	0.6196	0.3529	0.2353
	Ironwood	0.4314	0.3451	0.2510
	Mahogany Rock	0.4784	0.2510	0.1882
	Basalt	0.4157	0.3765	0.3451
	Lavender Haze	0.7059	0.6588	0.7843
	Dusty Violet	0.5412	0.4784	0.6196
	Mauve Shadow	0.6196	0.5412	0.6196
	Mojave Sky	0.4784	0.5961	0.7529
	High Desert Blue	0.3529	0.4784	0.6588
	Twilight Indigo	0.2275	0.2902	0.4706
	Deep Dusk	0.1647	0.1882	0.3216
	Night Creosote	0.1804	0.2039	0.1569

Photoshop Manual Entry Steps

1. Open Photoshop → Window → Swatches
2. Click the ≡ menu icon → New Swatch Group → name it Mojave Palette
3. Set foreground color via Edit → Color (select RGB mode)
4. Enter R / G / B values × 255 from the master table in Section 1
5. Click the 'Create new swatch' icon; name each swatch per the list above
6. When all 40 are entered: Swatches menu → Export Selected Swatches → save as MojavePalette.ase

7 — GRADIENT SETS

Twelve named gradients built from the Mojave Palette. Each gradient is shown as a colored strip, followed by stop data and a CSS definition.

High Noon



Stop	Position	Color	Hex
1	0%	Saltpan White	#F2E8D9
2	55%	Mesa Gold	#C8A96E
3	100%	Caliche	#A8906A

CSS: background: linear-gradient(135deg, #F2E8D9 0%, #C8A96E 55%, #A8906A 100%);

Afterburner



Stop	Position	Color	Hex
1	0%	Ember Fade	#E8A07A
2	48%	Joshua Blaze	#D4602A
3	100%	Lava Trail	#A03A22

CSS: background: linear-gradient(135deg, #E8A07A 0%, #D4602A 48%, #A03A22 100%);

Desert Dusk



Stop	Position	Color	Hex
1	0%	Dusk Rose	#CC7060
2	45%	Dusty Violet	#8A7A9E
3	100%	Twilight Indigo	#3A4A78

CSS: background: linear-gradient(180deg, #CC7060 0%, #8A7A9E 45%, #3A4A78 100%);

Starfall



Stop	Position	Color	Hex
1	0%	Twilight Indigo	#3A4A78
2	60%	Deep Dusk	#2A3052
3	100%	Night Creosote	#2E3428

CSS: background: linear-gradient(180deg, #3A4A78 0%, #2A3052 60%, #2E3428 100%);

Salt Flat Haze



Stop	Position	Color	Hex
1	0%	Saltpan White	#F2E8D9
2	100%	Palegreen Dust	#C2C89E

CSS: background: linear-gradient(120deg, #F2E8D9 0%, #C2C89E 100%);

Creosote Rain



Stop	Position	Color	Hex
1	0%	Saltbush	#AABB8E
2	50%	Desert Sage	#96A870
3	100%	Shadow Fern	#6A7C54

CSS: background: linear-gradient(160deg, #AABB8E 0%, #96A870 50%, #6A7C54 100%);

Canyon Wall



Stop	Position	Color	Hex
1	0%	Adobe Clay	#B87060
2	50%	Petroglyph	#8A6248
3	100%	Ironwood	#6E5840

CSS: background: linear-gradient(135deg, #B87060 0%, #8A6248 50%, #6E5840 100%);

Mojave Sunrise



Stop	Position	Color	Hex
1	0%	Deep Dusk	#2A3052
2	40%	Mojave Amber	#C47A3C
3	75%	Mesa Gold	#C8A96E
4	100%	Saltpan White	#F2E8D9

CSS: background: linear-gradient(0deg, #2A3052 0%, #C47A3C 40%, #C8A96E 75%, #F2E8D9 100%);

Lavender Evening



Stop	Position	Color	Hex
1	0%	Lavender Haze	#B4A8C8
2	55%	Mauve Shadow	#9E8A9E
3	100%	Dusty Violet	#8A7A9E

CSS: background: linear-gradient(150deg, #B4A8C8 0%, #9E8A9E 55%, #8A7A9E 100%);

Open Sky



Stop	Position	Color	Hex
1	0%	Mojave Sky	#7A98C0
2	60%	High Desert Blue	#5A7AA8
3	100%	Twilight Indigo	#3A4A78

CSS: background: linear-gradient(180deg, #7A98C0 0%, #5A7AA8 60%, #3A4A78 100%);

Ember & Earth



Stop	Position	Color	Hex
1	0%	Joshua Blaze	#D4602A
2	100%	Mahogany Rock	#7A4030

CSS: background: linear-gradient(90deg, #D4602A 0%, #7A4030 100%);

Full Spectrum Desert



Stop	Position	Color	Hex
1	0%	Saltpan White	#F2E8D9
2	17%	Mesa Gold	#C8A96E
3	33%	Joshua Blaze	#D4602A
4	50%	Desert Sage	#96A870
5	67%	Petroglyph	#8A6248
6	83%	Twilight Indigo	#3A4A78
7	100%	Night Creosote	#2E3428

CSS: background: linear-gradient(90deg, #F2E8D9 0%, #C8A96E 17%, #D4602A 33%, #96A870 50%, #8A6248 67%, #3A4A78 83%, #2E3428 100%);

8 — 1970s FILM-PHOTOGRAPHY MOOD BOARD

The Aesthetic Context

The Mojave Desert was a recurring subject and spiritual backdrop for American photographers working in the late 1960s through the early 1980s. Shot on Kodachrome 64, Ektachrome 100, and the occasional roll of Fujichrome Provia pushed two stops, these images share a set of tonal characteristics that the Mojave Palette directly references.

Highlight warmth: Film latitude compressed bright desert skies into creamy off-whites with a slight yellow-orange bias — reflected in Saltpan White (#F2E8D9), Bleached Bone (#E8D5B7), and Mesa Gold (#C8A96E). These are not pure whites; they carry the warmth of reversal emulsion.

Shadow color cast: Shadows in Kodachrome registered with a blue-green undertone rather than neutral black — corresponding to the Sky & Dusk family, particularly Deep Dusk (#2A3052) and Night Creosote (#2E3428). The palette's darkest tones are never purely neutral.

Saturation ceiling: Reversal films of this era could not achieve the hyper-saturation of modern digital sensors. Colors are rich but never garish — the entire Mojave Palette is calibrated to this upper bound. Grain and texture: Medium-format grain at ISO 64 creates a warm, irregular micropattern that aligns with the dusted, muted quality of the Sun & Sand and Rock & Clay families.

Palette Assignment by Film Element

Swatch	Film-Photography Element	Color Name	Hex
	Overexposed sky (Kodachrome)	Saltpan White	#F2E8D9
	Bleached highlight on sandstone	Bleached Bone	#E8D5B7
	Correct-exposure dry grass	Dry Grass	#B8B07A
	Kodachrome warm shadow fill	Canyon Dust	#D4B896
	Ektachrome midday sky	Mojave Sky	#7A98C0
	Afterglow horizon, 6 pm	Afterglow	#E0885A
	Sunset peak, magic hour	Joshua Blaze	#D4602A
	Cinnabar rock face, direct sun	Red Mesa	#9E5A3C
	Deep shadow, canyon interior	Ironwood	#6E5840
	Twilight sky, pushed Ektachrome	Twilight Indigo	#3A4A78
	Headlight trail on night highway	Ember Fade	#E8A07A
	Developed-in-darkness shadow	Night Creosote	#2E3428
	Desert plant, slight overexposure	Saltbush	#AABB8E
	Aged photo border / slide mount	Warm Slate	#9E8E7E
	Film grain shadow, warm cast	Petroglyph	#8A6248

Film-Era Color Treatments

Treatment A — Kodachrome Road Trip

Apply a warm tone curve: shift shadows toward Canyon Dust (#D4B896), keep mids neutral, pull highlights to Saltpan White (#F2E8D9). Vignette: Ironwood (#6E5840) at 30% opacity, radial. Grain: 12% luminance noise, warm-shifted. Primary families: Sun & Sand + Sunset & Fire.

Treatment B — Ektachrome Pushed Two Stops

Boost contrast +25; desaturate global saturation -15. Shift shadow hue toward Twilight Indigo (#3A4A78); keep midtones warm. Highlight color: Lavender Haze (#B4A8C8). Primary families: Sky & Dusk + Sunset & Fire.

Treatment C — Black-and-White Silver Gelatin

Desaturate to greyscale. Apply split tone: highlights → Mesa Gold (#C8A96E), shadows → Deep Dusk (#2A3052). Simulate selenium toning by adding 8% Mauve Shadow (#9E8A9E) to shadow channel. Families: Rock & Clay + Sky & Dusk.

Treatment D — Faded Slide, Stored in Heat

Reduce saturation -35, contrast -20, increase exposure +0.4. Shift all hues slightly warm (+6°). Add Mesa Gold (#C8A96E) color wash at 12% opacity. Palette: Desert Haze, Caliche, Warm Slate, Dusty Violet.

Typography Pairings

Role	Typeface	Style	Color
Display headline	Cormorant Garamond	Bold, tracked +20	Night Creosote #2E3428
Subheadline	Garamond Premier Pro	Italic	Basalt #6A6058
Body copy	Adobe Garamond Pro	Regular, 11/17 lead	Ironwood #6E5840
Caption	Gill Sans	Light, 8 pt	Warm Slate #9E8E7E
Pull quote	Cormorant	Light Italic, large	Joshua Blaze #D4602A
Folio/page number	Garamond	Small Caps	Caliche #A8906A

Reference Image Descriptions

7. Interstate 40 heading west, dawn, 1973 — empty two-lane highway, ochre median, Kodachrome warm sky
8. Joshua tree silhouette against dusk gradient — backlit, Ektachrome twilight blue, single tree
9. Roadside diner, Barstow, 1971 — turquoise vinyl, warm interior light, Saltpan White walls
10. Petroglyph panel, Coso Range — iron-stained rock face, Shadow Fern lichen patches
11. Salt flat horizon, Mojave, midday — pure Desert Haze, no horizon line visible, heat shimmer
12. Abandoned homestead, Twentynine Palms — Adobe Clay walls, Ironwood beams, Bleached Bone sky
13. Night highway, headlights only — Ember Fade trails on Night Creosote ground, Twilight Indigo overhead
14. Sage scrubland, early morning mist - Saltbush foreground, Desert Haze middle distance, Mojave Sky above

Color Story

The Mojave Palette is a record of place as much as a design system. Its forty colors trace the arc of a single desert day: the chalk-white of a salt flat at noon, the amber-gold of late afternoon light on sandstone, the hard cinnabar of sundown, the violet bruise of twilight spreading east while the west still burns, and finally the deep, particular dark of a desert night — not black but a near-green, the color of the creosote bush absorbing the last photon of light. Sourced from the visual language of American photographers who drove into the Mojave with reversal film and patience, this palette carries the warmth of analog grain, the compression of an f/8 midday exposure, and the strange cold tenderness that descends on the desert long after the sun is gone.