Color Vocabulary

The Color Wheel

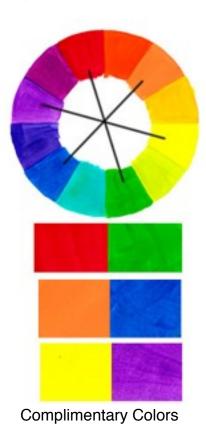
The color wheel is a device for illustrating relationships among colors. Though there are infinite variations of hue, we commonly refer to twelve of them around the color wheel: red, red-orange, orange, yellow-orange, yellow, yellow-green, green, blue-green, blue, blue-violet, violet (purple), red-violet, and back to red.

Primary colors – red, yellow, and blue – are the building blocks of other hues. They are equidistant on the color wheel.

Secondary colors are those made by mixing two primaries. Orange (red +yellow), Green (yellow+blue) and purple or violet (blue+red) are secondary colors.



Tertiary colors are those in between the secondaries and primaries: red-orange, yellow-orange, yellow-green, blue-green, blue-violet, and red-violet.



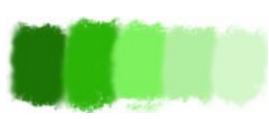
Complimentary colors are pairs that are opposite on the color wheel and have the highest contrast in terms of hue: red/green, purple/yellow, orange/blue, red-orange/blue-green, and so forth, are all pairs of complimentary colors.



Analogous colors are those next to each other. Red, orange, yellow, for example; violet, blueviolet, and blue; green, blue-green, and blue, for example.

Hue refers to what

color a color is. Blue, green, red, pinkish-orange, yellow-green, etc. These are examples of hue.



Value refers to the lightness or darkness of a color.

Saturation or **Intensity** refers to the brightness or dullness of a color.



Tints are made by adding white to a color, so they are of lighter value than the color at full strength.

Shades are made by adding black to a color, so they are of darker value.

Tones are made by adding grey to a color.

Tints, **shades**, and **tones** are of lesser **saturation** than a color at full strength.

Recommended Palette of Artists' Paints

Red

- Cadmium Red Medium or Napthol Crimson or Napthol Red Light
- Quiadridone red, or some other Magenta (not Quin. Magenta)

Orange

- Cadmium Orange or Pyrrole Orange
- Qinacridone Gold is sort of in the orange range. I can't make art without it, but maybe you can. Golden is the company that makes the best version of this, and now they call it "Quinacradone Nickel Azo Gold".

Yellow

Cadmium Yellow Medium, or Hansa Yellow Light or Medium

Green

- Light Green or Permanent Green (or whatever looks like a true green)
- Hooker Green, Sap Green, or Jenkins Green
- Pthalo Green, which is an intense bluish green
- Green Gold, a unique olive/yellow green

Blue-Green

• Pthalo Turquoise, or Cobalt Teal, or any turquoise that appeals

Blue

- Ultramarine (cool blue)
- Pthalo Blue (warm blue)

Purple

• Permanent Violet Dark, though you can usually get a successful purple by mixing your magenta with either of your blues.

Black

Carbon Black

White

Titanium White

Budget Palette - the bare minimum

Primary red (like Cadmium, etc.)
Magenta (much better for mixing)
Orange
Yellow
Green (light or permanent)
Turquoise
Warm Blue (pthalo)
Black
White