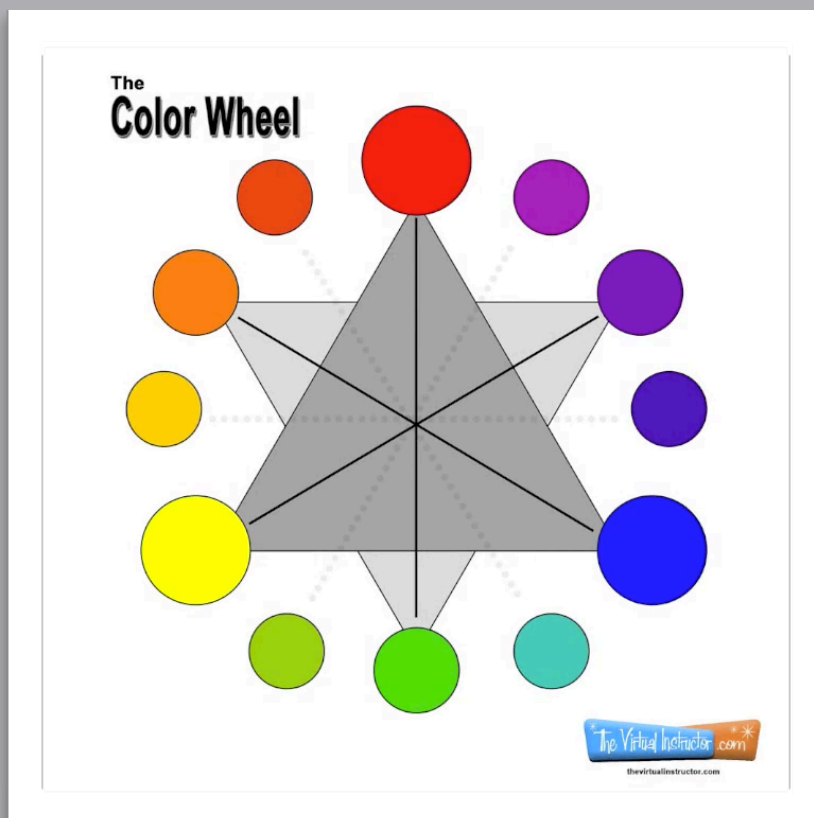


THE SECRETS TO DRAWING

VIDEO COURSE

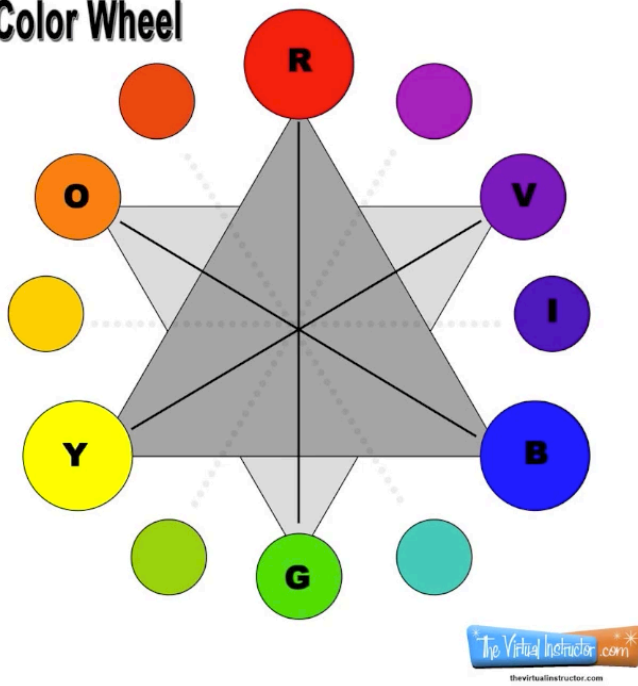
Video 17: Color

Color is one of the seven elements of art. Color, in terms of art, refers to reflected light. When we see a color, all of the colors in the color spectrum are absorbed except for the color that we see. White is the reflection of all of the colors in the spectrum, while black is the absorption of all colors. Color theory, while a very complex part of art making, can be simplified into three basic parts: the color wheel, color values, and color schemes.



Part 1 - The Color Wheel

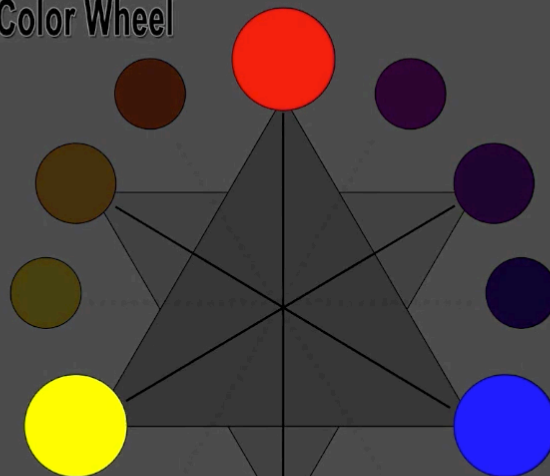
The
Color Wheel



The color wheel was developed by Sir Isaac Newton when he took the color spectrum and bent it into a circle. The color spectrum consists of the colors red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo, and violet (purple). The color wheel fits together like a puzzle. Color relationships are defined by their locations on the color wheel. In other words, blue will always be found between blue-green and blue-violet. Blue will always be directly across from orange. Although colors could be located in different locations, the relationships will always be consistent.

Specific sets of colors exist on the color wheel. Red, yellow, and blue are primary colors. These colors are called primary because they are used to mix all of the other colors in existence. Red, yellow, and blue are formed by pigment and cannot be made by mixing any colors together.

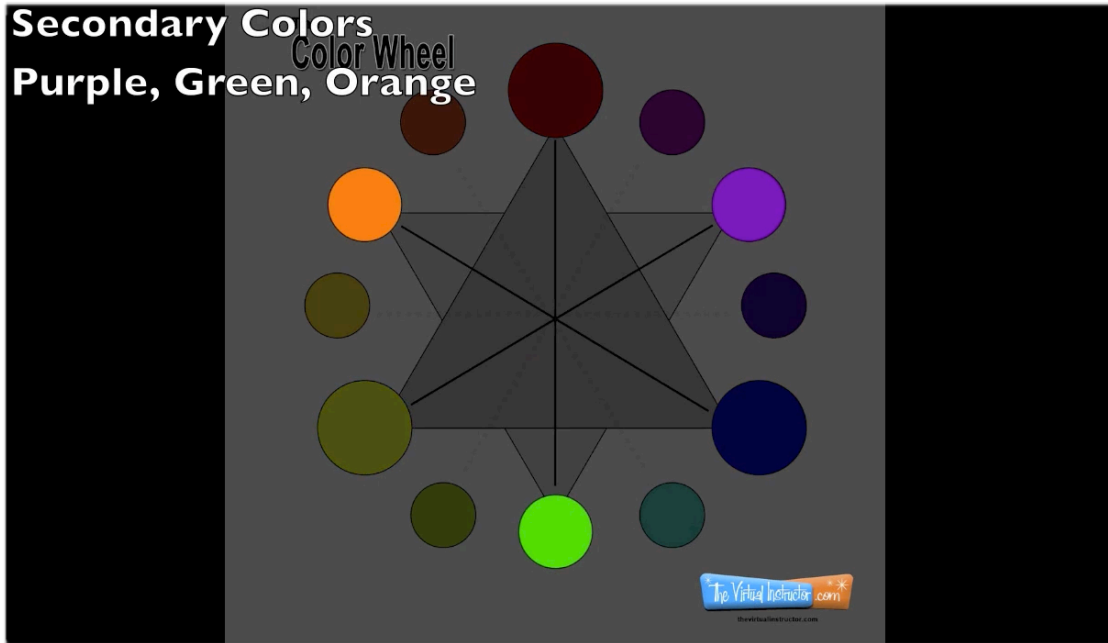
The
Color Wheel



Primary colors

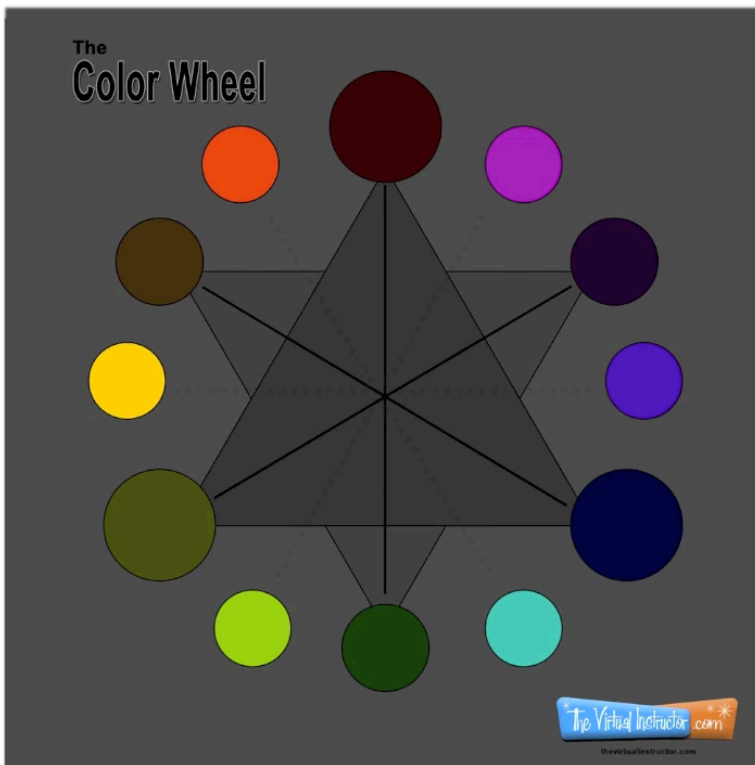
Red, Yellow, Blue

Secondary Colors Purple, Green, Orange



Secondary colors are colors that are created by mixing equal parts of two primary colors. These colors are orange, green, and violet (purple). Orange is created by mixing yellow and red. Green is created by mixing blue and yellow. Violet is created by mixing blue and red.

The Color Wheel



Tertiary or intermediate colors are created by mixing equal parts of a secondary color with a primary color. There are six tertiary colors. These colors are red-orange, yellow-orange, red-violet, blue-violet, blue-green, and yellow-green. Tertiary colors are named according to the colors that are used to mix them, listing the primary color first.

Part 2 - Color Values

The Color Wheel for Color Values



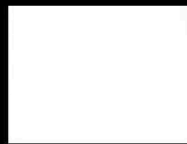
The Virtual Instructor.com

The second part of color theory deals with color value. When neutral colors are mixed with colors on the color wheel, the value and/or intensity of the color is affected. Each color has a value range that can be created.

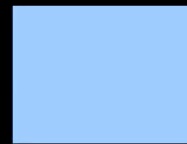
Hue is a term used for the pure color. When neutral colors are added, the value of the color changes, but the hue is unaffected. Values of colors are called tints and shades of the hue. **Tints** are created by adding white to a color, while **shades** are created by adding black to the hue.



+



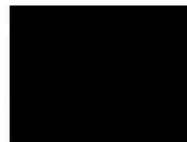
=



Tints are created by adding white



+

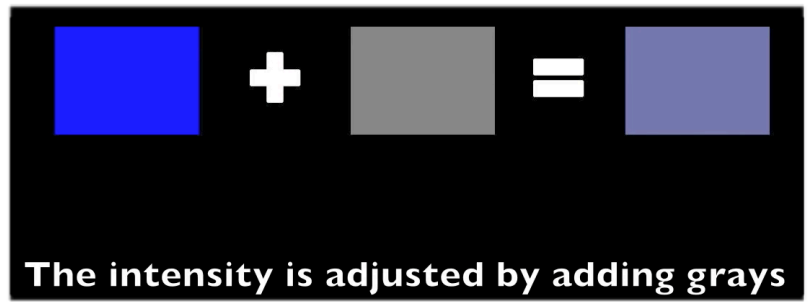


=



Shades are created by adding black

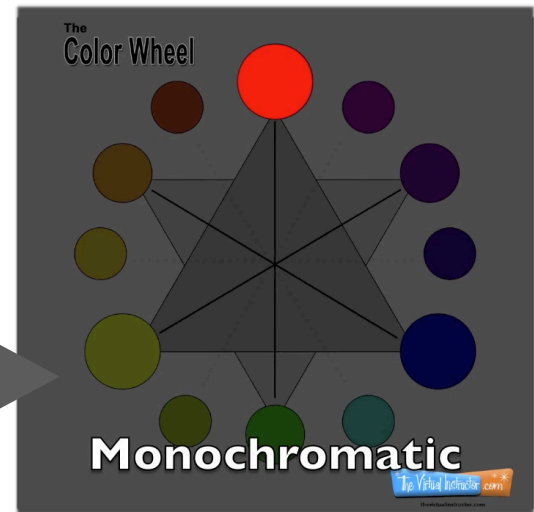
Intensity, although related to value is slightly different. Color intensity is adjusted by adding grays to the hue. Intensity refers to the strength of the color. Gray subdues the hue, lessening the intensity.



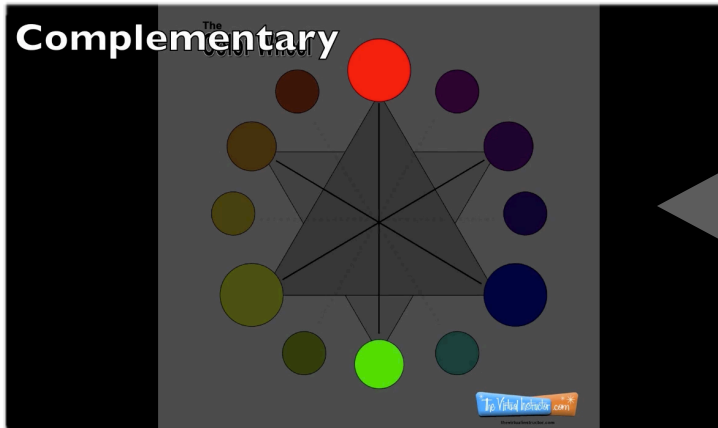
Part 3 - Color Schemes

Color schemes are systematic ways that are colors are put together in artworks according to their arrangement on the color wheel. Specific color arrangements are aesthetically compatible. Knowledge of arrangements of colors or schemes can help an artist make informed decisions about color in their own artworks.

The most basic color scheme is a **monochromatic** color scheme. Monochromatic schemes consist of just one color and the tints and shades (values) of that color. “Mono” means one and “chroma” refers to color. Monochromatic literally means “one color”.



Complementary

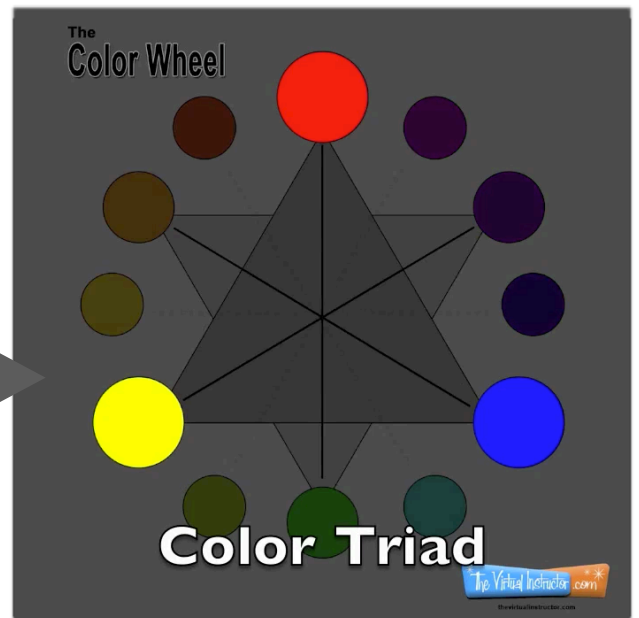


Colors that are directly across from each other on the color wheel are **complementary**. Complementary colors provide high contrast. This color scheme is used extensively in logo designs because of its impact. Examples of complementary schemes include orange and blue, red and green, and yellow and violet.

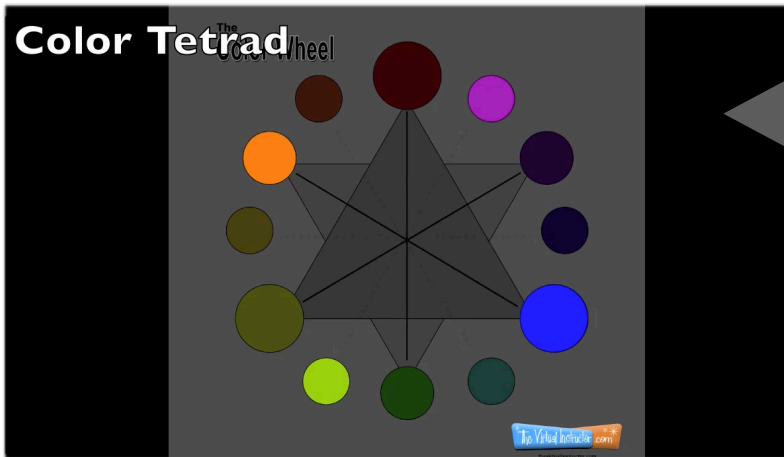


Analogous colors are colors that are located next to each other on the color wheel. Analogous color schemes consist of 3-5 colors that are next to each other. Analogous schemes provide harmonious color arrangements in drawings and paintings. An example of an analogous color scheme is red, red-violet, violet, blue-violet, and blue.

A **color triad** consists of three colors that are equal in distance from each other on the color wheel. Color triads provide a high level of contrast using three colors. An example of a color triad is red, yellow, and blue.

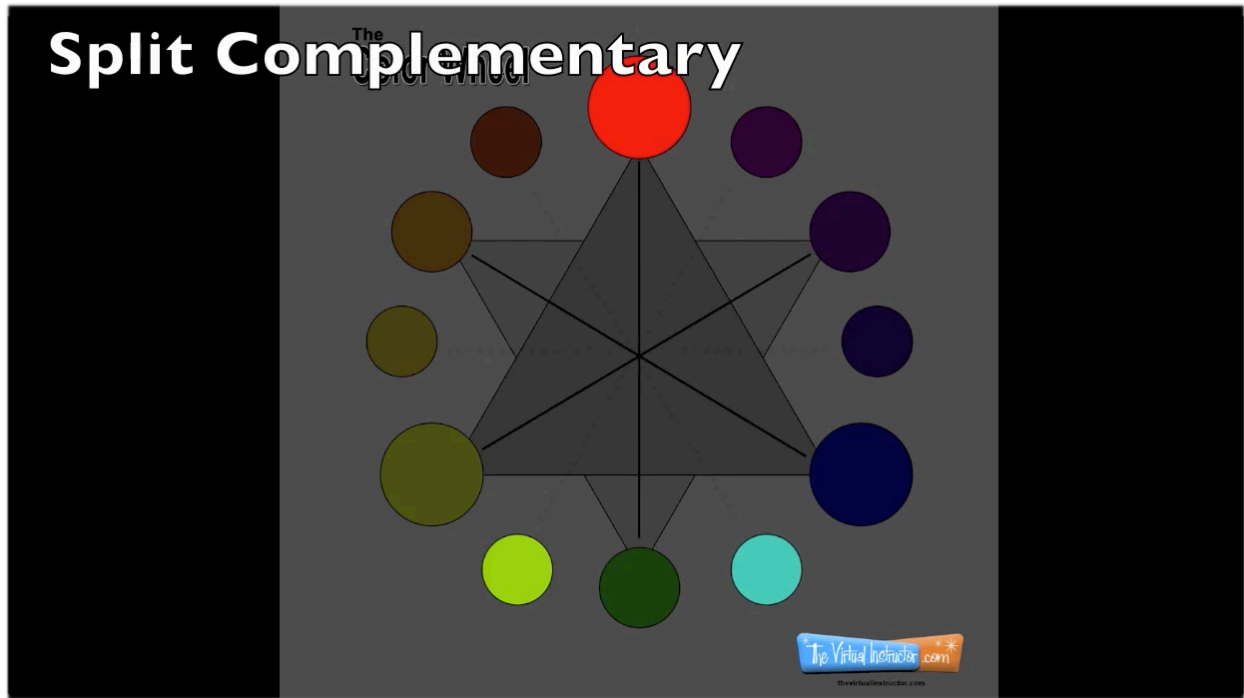


Color Tetrad



A **color tetrad** consists of four colors that are equal in distance from each other. A color tetrad is created by using two sets of complementary colors. An example of a color tetrad is orange, blue, red-violet, and yellow-green.

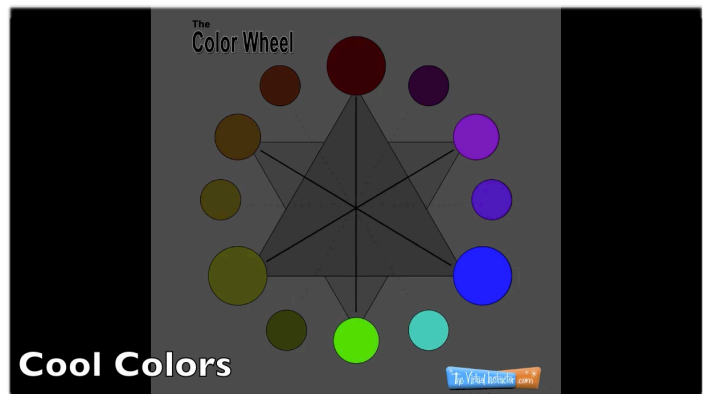
Split Complementary



Split complementary color schemes consist of a color and that color's closest analogous colors. Split complementary schemes provide high contrast while allowing more variety than a complementary color scheme. An example of a split complementary color scheme is red, blue-green, and yellow-green.

Color also has temperature. **Cool** colors are colors that we typically associate with things that are cold. Cool colors are violet, blue-violet, blue, blue-green, and green. Cool colors tend to recede.

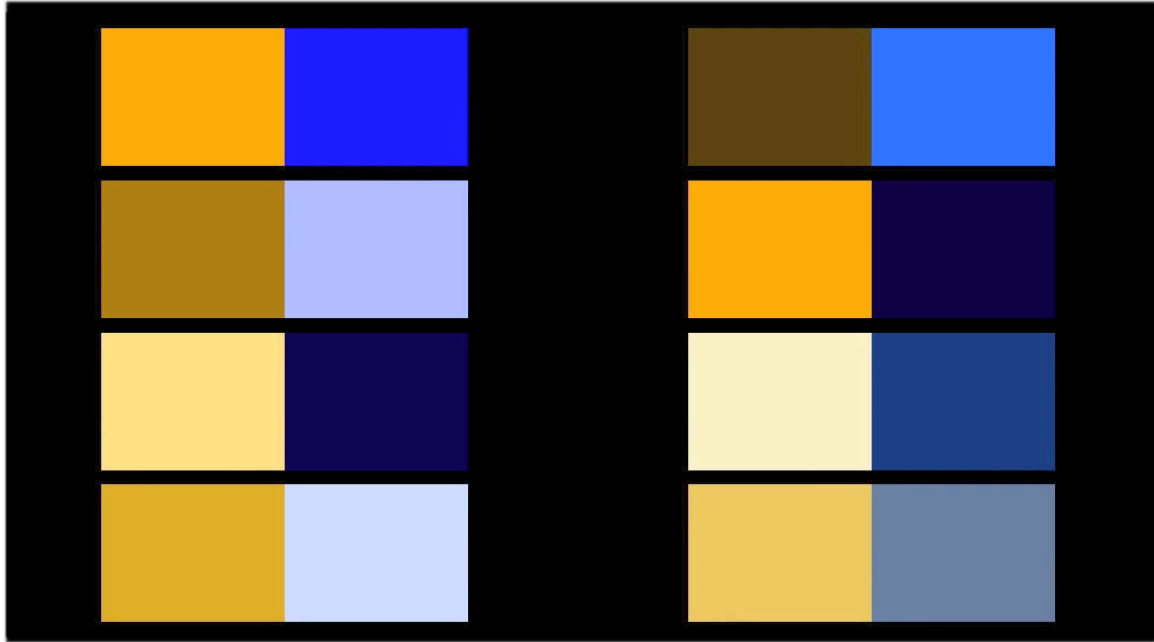
Warm colors are colors that we associate with things that are warm or hot. Warm colors are yellow-green, yellow, yellow-orange, orange, red-orange, red, and red-violet. Warm colors tend to advance.



Cool Colors

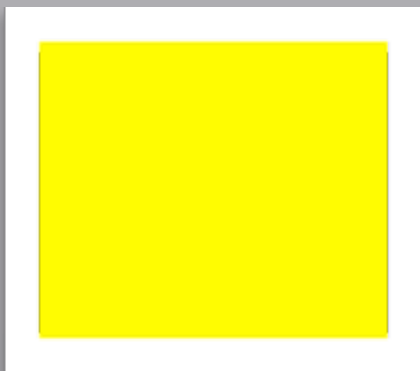


Warm Colors



Color value or intensity does not affect the color scheme of the drawing or painting. The hue of the color has influence over the scheme. All of the pairings of color in the above image represent complementary colors. The value and intensity change in each of the pairings, but the scheme stays consistent.

Color and Emotion



Color can affect the mood and emotion in a drawing. There are psychological connections between color and its effects on people. For example, blue is calming, soothing, and can reflect sadness. Yellow is a color of warmth. It fatigues the eye and can cause frustration. Red increases heart rate and causes hunger, but it can also convey love and comfort.