

Glossary

Additive

Created with light. Start with Black, add RGB.

Analogous Colors

At least three colors, side-by-side.

Color Harmony

How the colors interact & work together in your artwork.

Color Scheme

An arrangement of colors that is generally considered pleasing to look at. The popular color schemes used by artists are *complementary*, *analogous*, *triadic*, *split-complementary*, and *rectangular*.

Complementary Colors

Opposite sides of the Color Wheel

Cool Colors

Do not contain any Reds.

Double Complementary Colors

Two Hues next to each other on the Color Wheel, and are paired with two adjacent Hues on the opposite side.

High-Key

The range of lighter values (light colors).

Hue

Refers to the dominant color wavelength, and ignores value & saturation.

Low-Key

The range of darker values (dark colors).

Luminance (Value)

A measure of how light or dark something is.

Monochromatic

A single Hue, plus it's shades tones, & tint.

Neutral

Colors that are not found on the Color Wheel, such as Grey, Beige, & Brown.

Opacity, Opaque

The measure of impenetrability of solid color by transparency or translucence.

Primary Colors

Red, Blue, & Yellow.

Saturation (Chroma, Intensity, Purity, Richness, Vividness)

The measure of the intensity a color has.

Secondary Colors

Green, Orange, Violet

Shade

A color plus black.

Split Complementary Colors

A Primary Color is paired with the two Analogous colors to its complement.

Subtractive

Created with ink. Start with White, add CMYK.

Temperature

Refers to how warm or cool a color is.

Tertiary Colors

The six other colors of the wheel that are neither Primary or Secondary.

Red-Orange, Red-Violet, Yellow-Orange, Yellow-Green, Blue-Violet, Blue-Green.

Tint

A color plus white.

Tone

A color mixed with grey to reduce purity.

Translucence

Allowing some colors of light pass through an object.

Transparency

Allowing light to pass through an object.

Triad (Triangle)

Equally spaced around the Color Wheel

Warm Colors

Do not contain any Blues.

