

COLOR TERMS

Primary Color - Colors that can't be broken down or reduced into component colors. (Example - Red, Yellow and Blue cannot be created by the mixing of other colors)

Secondary Color - a color made by the mixture of two primary colors. (Example - Red and Blue make Violet, Yellow and Blue make Green)

Tertiary Color - a color made from the mixture of a primary and a secondary color. Example - Red (a primary) mixed with violet (a secondary)

Analogous Colors - colors that are adjacent to each other on the color wheel (Examples - Yellow, Yellow-Green and Green, all of this combination contains some level of the same colors, yellow and blue.)

Complementary Colors - Two colors directly opposite each other on the color Wheel. (Example - Red is the complement of green, Blue is the complementary of Orange.)

Value - the relative degree of light or dark in a color.

Intensity - The dullness vs. purity of a color. A vivid color is high intensity; a dull color is of low intensity.

Local Color - The color as seen in the objective world without taking into the consideration the variations of within the color. (such as green grass, blue sky, red apple)

Monochromatic Color – a value range consisting of only one color. An image that is made up of a complete range of light and dark in blue would be an example of a monochromatic image.

Neutral Color - a color altered by the addition of its complement so that the original color appears less saturated or grayed.

Split- Complement - a color and the two colors on either side of its complement (Example - green and violet are the split complements of orange)

Simultaneous Contrast - when two different colors come into direct contact, the contrast intensifies the difference between them. (Example - placing red directly next to green or orange directly next to blue)

Color Temperature - The perceived warmth or coolness of a hue. Blues, Greens and Violets are generally considered cooler colors while Yellows, Oranges and Reds are considered warm.