

# Color Recommendations in Educational Environments

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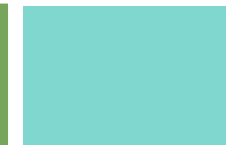




**PITTSBURGH  
PAINTS CO.**





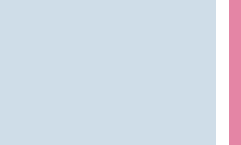







# PRESCHOOL & KINDERGARTEN PALETTE



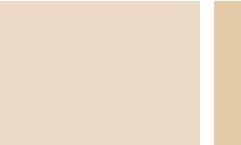


## GRAPHICS AND ACCENTS



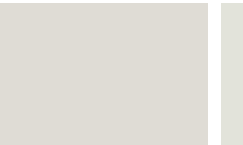
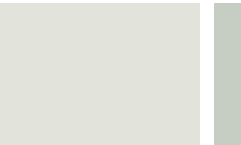


									
Tutti Frutti	Wet Coral	Warm Welcome	Sawdust	Citrus Punch	Lime Splash	Grassy Meadow	Isle Royale	Magical Merlin	Sea Lavender

## FEATURE WALLS

									
Candy Mix	Dreamsicle	Sunbeam	High Hopes	Simply Elegant	Rose Glory	Coral Serenade	Firelight	Hearty Hosta	Everglade Mist

## NEUTRALS

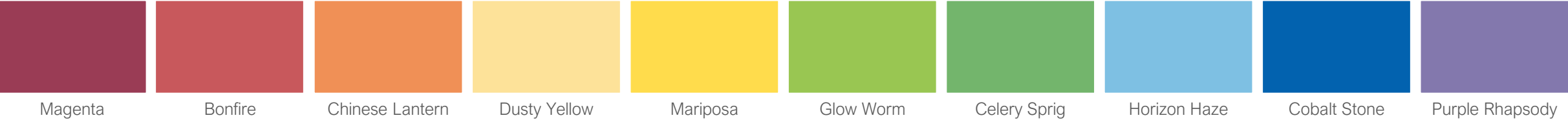
									
Coronation	Undercover	Elusion	City Street	Eiffel Tower	Percalé	Oatmeal Cookie	Chalkware	Fire Dust	Caramel Kiss

									
Candlelit Beige	Water Chestnut	Antique White	Desert Dune	Autumn Gray	In the Cloud	Wayward Winds	Elemental	Phoenix Fossil	Armory

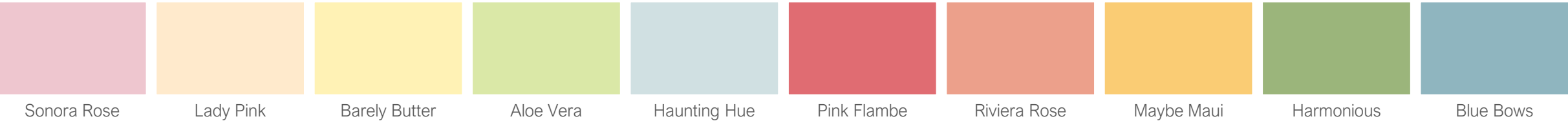


# ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PALETTE

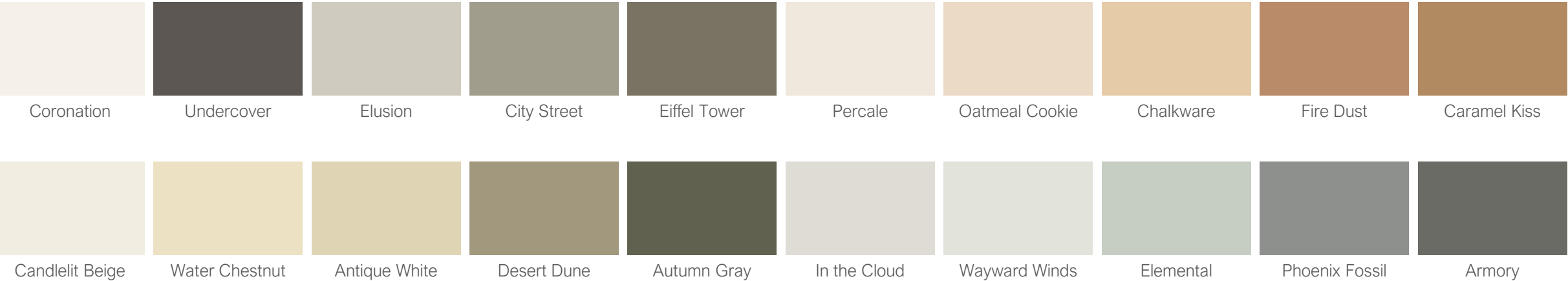
## GRAPHICS AND ACCENTS



## FEATURE WALLS



## NEUTRALS





# MIDDLE SCHOOL PALETTE

## GRAPHICS AND ACCENTS



Burnt Red



Field Poppy



Dynamo



Flirtatious



Slap Happy



Bermuda Grass



Riviera Paradise



Port Au Prince



Roman Violet

## FEATURE WALLS



Summer Sunset



Soll de Yucatan



Hearty Hosta

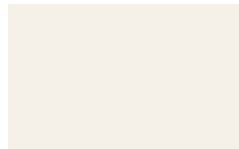


Biscay Bay



Hush-A-Bye

## NEUTRALS



Coronation



Undercover



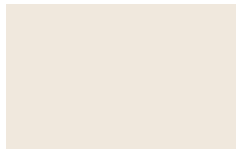
Elusion



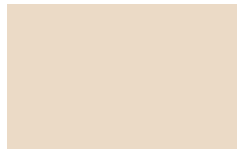
City Street



Eiffel Tower



Percalé



Oatmeal Cookie



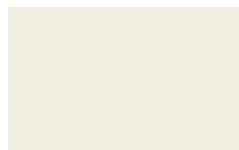
Chalkware



Fire Dust



Caramel Kiss



Candlelit Beige



Water Chestnut



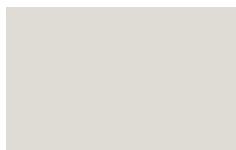
Antique White



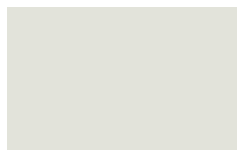
Desert Dune



Autumn Gray



In the Cloud



Wayward Winds



Elemental



Phoenix Fossil



Armory



# HIGH SCHOOL PALETTE

## GRAPHICS AND ACCENTS



Burning Bush



Rose Melody



Carrot Cake



Va Va Voom



Dilly Dally



Antique Green



Medieval Forest



Caribbean Splash



Florentine Lapis



Eggplant

## FEATURE WALLS



Teaberry Blossom



Lucky Penny



Mecca Gold



Hopscotch

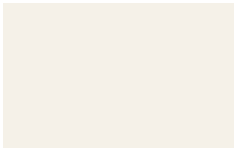


Teal We Meet  
Again



Cenote

## NEUTRALS



Coronation



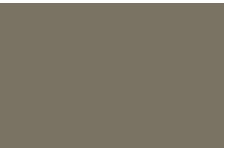
Undercover



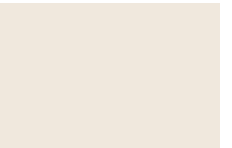
Elusion



City Street



Eiffel Tower



Percale



Oatmeal Cookie



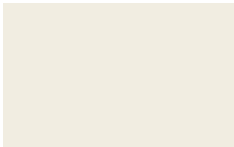
Chalkware



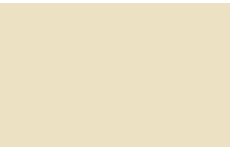
Fire Dust



Caramel Kiss



Candlelit Beige



Water Chestnut



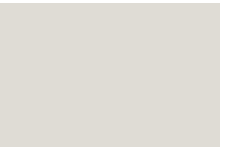
Antique White



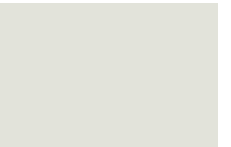
Desert Dune



Autumn Gray



In the Cloud



Wayward Winds



Elemental



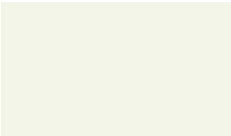
Phoenix Fossil



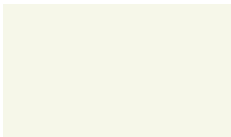
Armory



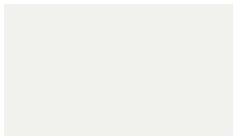
# UNIVERSITY PALETTE



Radisson



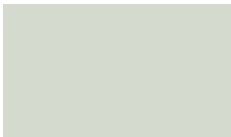
Pacific Pearl



Delicate White



Elemental



Spring Thaw



Blue Dolphin



Ocean Drive



Fog



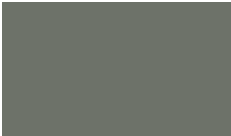
Go To Gray



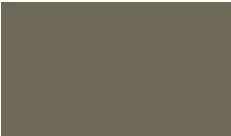
Storm's Coming



Silver Dollar



Down Pour



Roller Coaster



Glazed Granite



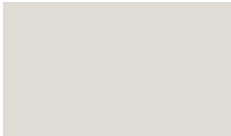
Improbable



Stone's Throw



Cinnamon Crunch



In the Cloud



Silent Night



Cavalry



Onyx



Aquamarine Dream



Salal Leaves



Grassy Meadow



Plumosa



Miami Jade



Azure Tide



Acapulco Cliffs



Blue Willow



Nautical Star



Mountain Stream



Blue Beard



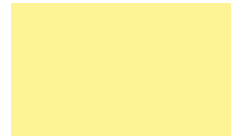
Prophetic Sea



Blue Promise



Shimmering Sea



Pineapple Delight



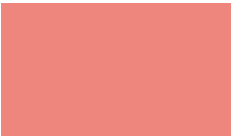
Tropical Siesta



Gold Duff



Polo Pony



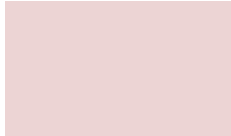
Salmon Pink



Burnt Red



Cerise



Shangri-La



When the school is designed properly, the child has a sense of security. These feelings develop as the child is surrounded by understanding and warmth.

The perfect school is one that conveys the message that the child is cared about as an individual.

- Children 9 – 10 preferred red, red-orange and green-blue

## ELEMENTARY DESIGN

Horizon Haze

Pale Ecru

Chinese Lantern



Tony Goetz Elementary





Middle Schools students prefer bright, medium colors in cool tones. Greens, teals and blues are favored with orange accents.

It is important to incorporate a full spectrum of colors in the design of these environments. Darker, more saturated colors may be used in spaces, as accents, for interest and variety.

School colors also begin to play an important role in the design of the Middle School. They create a positive social climate providing a sense of caring and guidance.

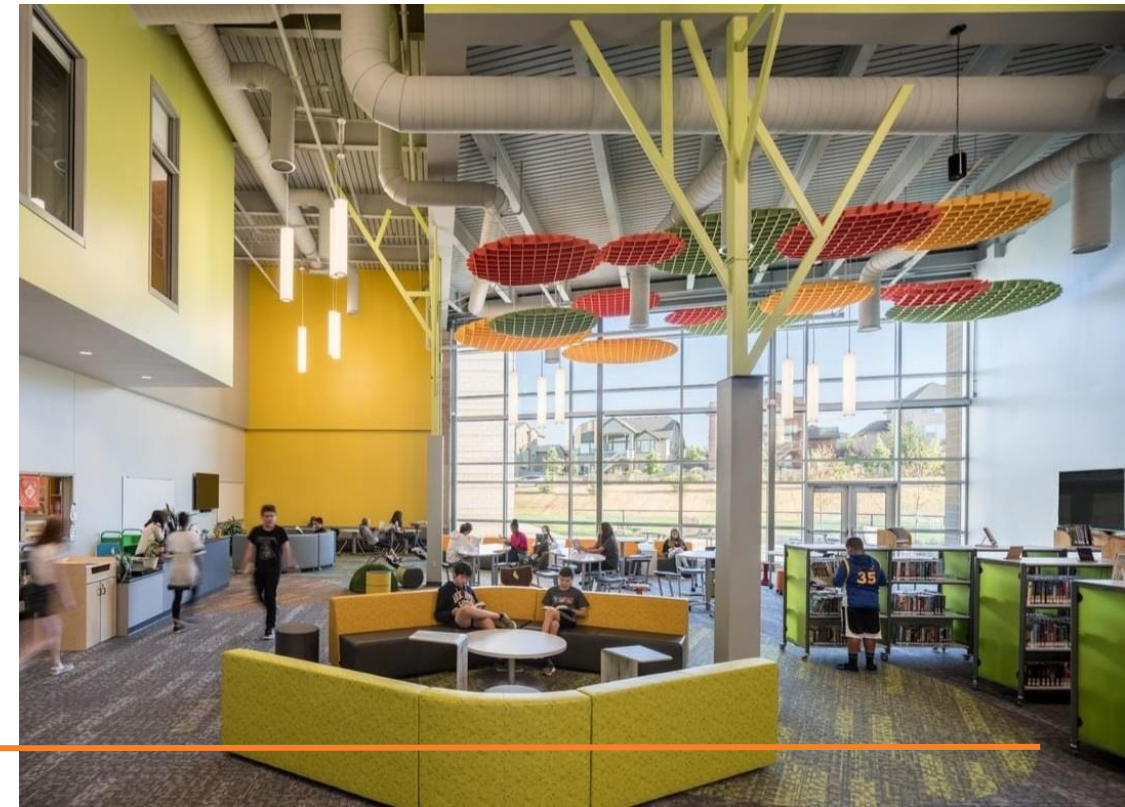
- Children 11 – 12 preferred green and yellow
- Children 13 – 14 preferred blue, ultramarine and orange

## MIDDLE SCHOOL DESIGN

Flirtatious

Hearty Hosta

Hush-A-Bye







High School teens are generating an appreciation of sophisticated color. They view primary colors as immature. Cool colors have a growing importance in their environment.

- Use fresh blues and sage greens
- Use trendy or saturated colors as accents

School colors have a great importance to school spirit.

Caribbean Splash

Dilly Dally

Elusion

Candlelit Beige



## HIGH SCHOOL DESIGN





## HISTORIC RESTORATION

- Colleges and universities are investing in their historic landmarks and working to preserve the legacy of their campuses.
- Non-profit organizations are aiding this historic preservation through grants like the HBCU Cultural Heritage Stewardship Initiative by the National Trust for Historic Preservation.
- Even small details contribute to the history of a building and can be returned to their original glory
- A great example is the Founders and Green Hall restoration project at Wellesley College by EYP. The iconic doors from 1921 were brought back to life through meticulous restoration and expert fabrication.



## UNIVERSITY ARCHITECTURE

## **SUNDRENCHED AREAS**

Where there is great sun during many days, warm colors of yellow and orange may be too hot and invigorating to use in abundance.

## **NORTHERN REGIONS**

Where much of the school year is cold and gray, consider minimal use of neutral tones and increase color usage, especially warm hues.

## **WESTERN TERRITORIES**

Brighter accents and color variety may be preferred in these areas that accept a more novel and contemporary approach to design.

## **EASTERN COASTLINES**

More traditional and muted colors may be preferred in time-honored color ranges where a more conservative approach is held in high regard.





## FULL SPECTRUM LIGHTING

- Profoundly effect of our health and moods and perception of color in room is improved
- Decreases hyperactive behavior of students in first grade
- Children in this lighting become more attentive, less aggressive, and less fidgety
- Performance and visual acuity increases as general fatigue decreases
- A variety of lighting or ability to change lighting levels from light to dark will help set the tone for specific spaces and suit natural circadian rhythms. Task areas require higher levels of light; conversely, lower levels offer a place for the eye to rest.

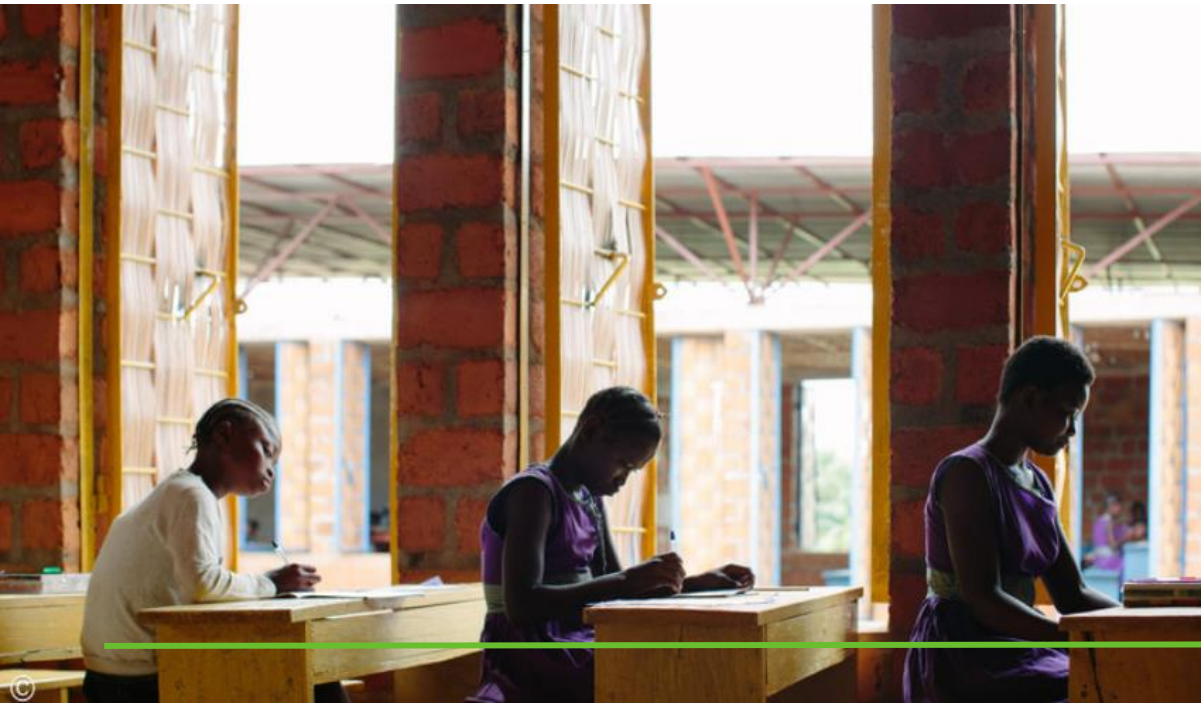
## FULL SPECTRUM LIGHTING







©




©

## NATURAL LIGHTING

- Melatonin cycles in children are disrupted when deprived of natural light, which reduces alertness during school
- Low light levels in classrooms affected students' ability to regulate the body's natural cycle of sleep and alertness
- Students progressed 20% faster on math tests and 26% faster on reading tests when daylight was designed into the classroom. Those with skylights had an improvement of 19-20%.
- Students and teachers prefer windows. We are now seeing laws enacted from the state level requiring operable windows in new classrooms

## NATURAL LIGHTING



Red has many aspects that make it a dramatic and interesting color. It is generally interpreted as warm or hot. Colors from this area of the palette include raspberry, strawberry, cherry, watermelon, rouge, geranium, cranberry, maroon, burgundy, wine, ruby and crimson.

# RED SPECTRUM



## EFFECTS

- Captures Attention
- Considered Passionate
- Creates Vitality
- Encourages Movement
- Generates Excitement
- Increases Pulse Rate
- Promotes Alertness
- Prompts Action
- Stimulates Appetite
- Suggests Strength

## OBSERVATIONS

In red environments, we experience increased eye blinking, elevated blood pressure, heartbeat and respiration rates, higher energy and excitement. Our sense of smell and the sensitivity to tasting foods also improves.

Weights and time are also affected when surrounded by colors of this spectrum. Elements seem heavier and time seems to slow down when under the influence of red.





Orange has a playful attitude and a gregarious nature. When stronger, this color is exuberant and when subtle it is simply cozy. Warm colors from this area of the palette include melon, clay, salmon, coral, peach, apricot, rust, terra-cotta, shrimp, copper, mango, marigold and cinnamon.

# ORANGE SPECTRUM

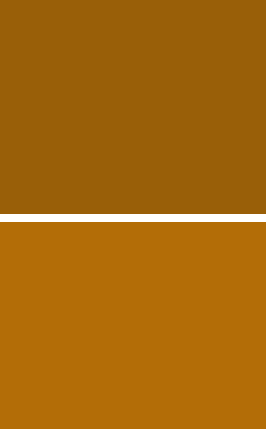
## EFFECTS

- Considered Fun
- Encourages Movement
- Expresses Emotion
- Gregarious Nature
- Implies Good Cheer
- Invites Friendliness
- Playful Attitude
- Pleasurable Spirit
- Suggests Power

## OBSERVATIONS

Orange is an active color. Perfect for a setting that promotes movement and excitement.

It is felt that orange corresponds to circulation and nervous systems and has a tremendous tonic effect. When individuals have a cold they somehow crave the color of orange juice and the nutrient of vitamin C to combat infection.



Yellow is a most liberating color. It corresponds to freedom and self-development. Yellow adds light and energy to our lives and is perceived to be a healthful and invigorating color. Warm colors from this area of the palette include ochre, buttercup, gold, almond, lemon, citrus, honey, brass, amber, daisy and sunshine.

# YELLOW SPECTRUM



## EFFECTS

- Conveys Lightness
- Encourages Spontaneity
- Expresses Caution
- Indicates Innovation
- Implies Free Spirit
- Inspires Creativity
- Offers Zest and Joyfulness
- Radiates Warmth
- Raises Alert Level

## OBSERVATIONS

“After white, yellow is the color that most strongly reflects the light hitting it. It always triggers a light, free, open feeling... a liberating, loosening effect. Therefore it corresponds to a definite sense of freedom and self-development.”  
- Dr. Max Luscher.

Yellows feel particularly healthful. The presence of iron and vitamins A and C are found in yellow fruits which underscore this warm and invigorating palette.



Greens are visually the most restful color. Some greens which are more yellow may be considered warmer, while greens which are cooler will be more on the blue side of the spectrum. Colors from this area of the palette include sage, moss, lime, mint, hunter, celadon, olive, evergreen, leaf, emerald, fern, avocado, grass, spruce, clover and holly.

# GREEN SPECTRUM


## EFFECTS

- Enhances Concentration
- Facilitates Judgment
- Nurtures Relaxation
- Offers Balance
- Promotes Security
- Provides Refreshing Atmosphere
- Renews Spirit
- Suggests Healing

## OBSERVATIONS

Green has both negative and positive associations. It is the color of decay and of rebirth.

Light greens provide a soothing and sheltered atmosphere while the medium greens are healing and abound in nature. The deepest of the greens bring us balance, harmony and renewal.



This color is ultimately calming and captivating. It carries the essence of nature from green, the spiritual qualities of blue. Combined it is a most thoughtful and endearing color. Cool colors from this area of the palette include robin's egg, teal, blue-green, aqua, turquoise, sea foam, jade and peacock.

# TEAL SPECTRUM



## EFFECTS

- Balanced Appeal
- Calming Influence
- Conveys Unique Quality
- Communicates Gracefulness
- Expresses Refinement
- Inspires Harmony
- Nurtures Sensitivity
- Refreshing Atmosphere
- Renews Spirit
- Soothing Demeanor
- Suggests Healing

## OBSERVATIONS

Ancient Persians trusted this lively blue to ward off the evil eye, protecting their animals as well as themselves with turquoise charms. The name teal is from 1917, taken from the small freshwater Common Teal.

Luscher's theory says this color is an expression of firmness, constancy and resistance to change. The person who places teal high on his color preference considers possessions as symbols of security and self-esteem.



Blue is a serene color. We can count on this color to free our minds and offer harmonious and peaceful surroundings. Colors from this area of the palette include azure, delft, sky, denim, Wedgwood, blueberry, royal, periwinkle, cobalt, ultramarine and navy.

# BLUE SPECTRUM

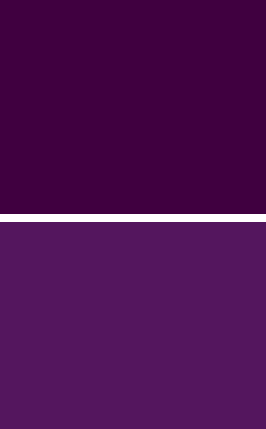
## EFFECTS

- Calming Spirit
- Combats Tension
- Cultivates Conservatism
- Offers Serenity
- Promotes Thoughtfulness
- Provides Introspection
- Soothing Nature
- Supports Relaxation
- Underscores Devotion

## OBSERVATIONS

Blue is infinite in our world. It is the color of our sky and at the horizon, with the ocean below, it sometimes becomes one unified body of color.

Interestingly, as altitude increases so do the number of violet and blue flowers.



Violet is an inspirational color. It brings us the passion of red and the spirituality of blue, combined in an irresistible color that brings magic to our environments. Colors from this area of the palette include iris, amethyst, lilac, orchid, purple, lavender, plum, grape, violet, eggplant and blackberry.

# VIOLET SPECTRUM



## EFFECTS

- Allows Meditation
- Contemplative Nature
- Conveys Royal Essence
- Expresses Mystery
- Introspective Persona
- Intuitive Understanding
- Opulent Nature
- Sensitive Character
- Unique Quality
- Whimsical Personality

## OBSERVATIONS

Violets are insightful and have been associated with cerebral activity and our nervous systems.

We consider them expensive and rare, the color of royalty.





Warm Neutrals are considered to be the hardest working color family, making us feel protected by their presence. Colors from this area of the palette include khaki, oatmeal, bisque, chocolate, tea, desert, toast, mahogany, cream, straw, vanilla, off-white, tan, taupe, beige, ivory, oyster, pearl, sand, bronze and brown.

# WARM NEUTRAL SPECTRUM

## EFFECTS


- Comfortable Attitude
- Conservative Nature
- Implies Stability
- Promotes Secure Feeling
- Suggests Subtle Warmth
- Versatile Nature

## OBSERVATIONS

The warm neutrals represent a simplicity that is derived from our connection to the earth. Imprinted on our minds are the tracings of life as cave dwellers where we nestled in for protection from intruders.

Light warm neutrals are the super hero in the world of design.  
Medium warm neutrals are timeless in their appeal.

Dark neutrals have a masculine and rustic appearance about them.



Cool neutrals provide room for introspection and impart the essence of stillness, with a reserved and sometimes serious attitude. Colors from this area of the palette include fog, ebony, stainless, pewter, smoke, ash, chrome, white, frost, grey, charcoal, slate, graphite, onyx, silver and stone.

# COOL NEUTRAL SPECTRUM



## EFFECTS

- Implies Sophistication
- Introspective Nature
- Soothing Atmosphere
- Subdues Emotional Response
- Suggests Subtle Coolness
- Versatile Nature

## OBSERVATIONS

Our feelings of gray as a constant and dependable color have been ingrained in us from the beginning of our life on earth.

The lightest of the cool neutrals bring a frosty chill to the atmosphere to convey a fragile and delicate spirit.

Medium cool neutrals provide a quiet and conservative presence in our environments.

The deepest of cool neutrals convey a mysterious essence. They appear powerful, sophisticated and elegant. Grays may enhance a space with their dark nature that sometimes reminds us of the magic of nighttime.



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