Color Harmonies

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Think about.....color in design

Consider a short list of occupations where knowing how to use color harmonies is critical to personal success and as well as business success.

- Home and Office Interior Designers
- Web Page Designers
- Fabric Designers
- Carpet and Rug Designers
- Graphic Artists
- Car Designers
- Fashion and Costume Designers
- Movie and Motion Picture Set Designers
- Architects

- Floral Designers
- Marketing and Advertising Specialists
- Landscape Architects
- Artists and Painters
- Dinner and Kitchenware Designers
RULES FOR USING COLOR

1. Family is special.
2. Neighbors make good company.
3. Opposites attract.
Neutral and Accented Neutral Color Harmonies

Rule # 1:
Families are special
Browns, Tans, and Beiges
Red Monochromatic
Green Monochromatic
Blue Monochromatic
Yellow Monochromatic
Analogous color schemes use colors that are next to each other on the color wheel. They usually match well and create serene and comfortable designs. Analogous color schemes are often found in nature and are harmonious and pleasing to the eye.

Choose one color to dominate, a second to support. The third color is used (along with black, white or gray) as an accent.
Analogous Harmonies

Using colors adjacent to one another on the color wheel.
Neighbors make good company
Analogous Harmonies

Using 3-5 adjacent colors
Complementary Color Harmonies

Complementary Colors are opposite each other on the color wheel. Red and green, yellow and violet, orange and blue are the primary and secondary color complements.

The high contrast of complementary colors creates a vibrant look especially when used at full saturation. This color scheme must be managed well so it is not jarring.

Complementary colors are tricky to use in large doses, but work well when you want something to stand out.

Use one color as the dominant color, the other as the accent color.

Rule # 3: Opposites attract
Complementary Colors
Red and Green
Blue and Yellow
The split-complementary color scheme is a variation of the complementary color scheme. In addition to the base color, it uses the two colors adjacent to its complement. This color scheme has the same strong visual contrast as the complementary color scheme, but has less tension. The split-complimentary color scheme is often a good choice for beginners, because it is difficult to mess up.
Split Complementary with Accent Colors
Split Complementary in Art and Nature
This color scheme uses colors in a triad scheme spaced equally apart on the color wheel. The triads are: red, blue and yellow; red violet, blue green and yellow orange; violet, green and orange; blue violet, yellow green and red orange.
Three’s Company
Triadic in Art and Nature
Double Complementary or Tetradic Color Harmonies

The double complementary or tetradic color scheme uses four colors arranged into two complementary pairs.

This rich color scheme offers plenty of possibilities for variation.

The tetradic color scheme works best if you let one color be dominant.

You should also be conscious about the balance of warm and cool colors in your design.
Using Color Everywhere
Tetradic in Art...
...and Nature
Color Harmonies Assignment

1. On a black line picture of a chair use colored pencils to color each of the color harmonies/schemes.

2. In the boxes on each page, fill in the colors you chose to use for that harmony.

3. Complete the rubric for each color scheme before turning work into the basket.
Works Sited

www.tigercolor.com
www.potterybarn.com
www.ethanallen.com
www.ethanallen.com
www.ethanallen.com
www.google.images.com

Residential Housing and Interiors;
Kicklighter and Kicklighter; Goodheart-Wilcox, Inc. 1998
Monochromatic
(Use at least 3 tints or shades)

Analogous
Complementary

Split Complementary
Triadic

Tetradic or Double Complementary