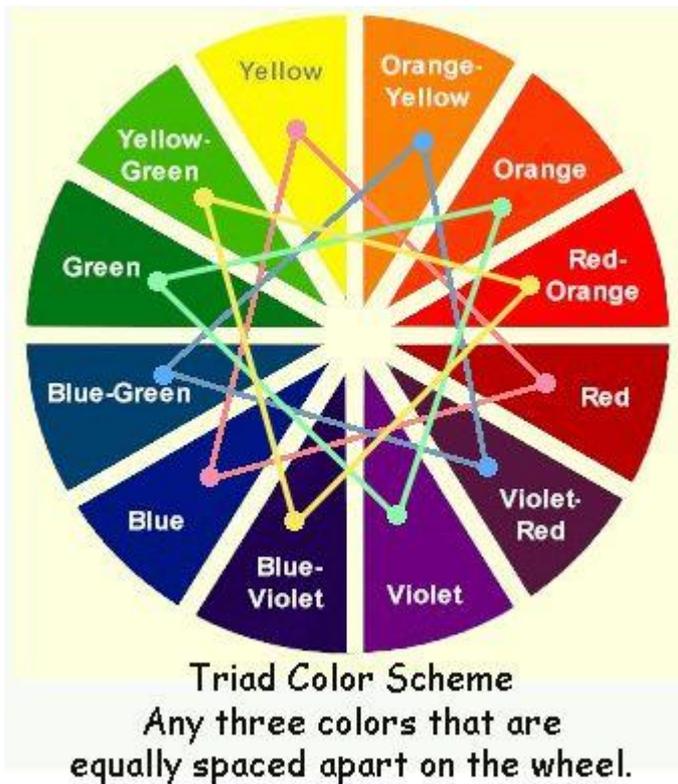


2QAA April Colour Challenge – Priscilla Lawrence

Triadic Colour scheme

A triadic colour scheme is – surprise surprise - three hues* (colours) evenly spaced on the colour wheel. The two most common triadic palettes are the primary colours: red, blue, and yellow and the secondary hues: orange, purple, and green plus the less common tertiary colour schemes.



<https://www.h2designo.com/importance-color-wheel-home-decor/>

Unlike last month's Analogous colour scheme (using relaxing and somewhat 'safe' colour relationships), a Triadic scheme is bold and exciting BUT can be hard to balance especially using the primary colours/pure hues*.

Suggestions:

1. Use one pure hue and the other two hues less saturated (less pure – use tinted/toned/shaded hues colours with white/grey/black added or less intense - think of dyeing fabric where you used less dye powder – hue is the same just less strong/intense) or have all 3 hues less saturated.
2. Change the proportions of each hue rather than use equal amounts of each colour eg 70/30/10 where you have 70% of your first colour, 30% of your second colour and 10% of your 3rd - or accent - colour. These proportions are particularly effective if the majority colours are less intense and the 10% is a pure bright hue (like orange or yellow).
3. Use lots of variations within each hue (ie multiple fabrics of different value and saturation)
Let's say you are doing the most common blue/red/yellow triad:



<https://www.oberlo.com/blog/color-combinations-cheat-sheet>

Look at all the variants in the wedge of each colour

Blue - use light, dark, and medium blue, dirty/faded blue, grey blues, pastel blues, navy blues;

Red – pinks to maroons are all reds;

Yellow – pastel yellow, bright yellow through to mustard.

Don't forget you can use prints that 'read' as one colour or tone on tone fabrics - you don't have to use solids.

One thing you may have noticed with these colour challenges is that all these colour schemes are 'concepts' and 'tools' rather than 'rules' that can't be broken. Rarely does nature – or good artwork - exactly follow the rules of any one colour scheme, there is often hints of other colours and sometimes it can be hard to decide exactly which colour scheme is predominant.

However, if you are working on a piece and it isn't working, think about what colour scheme you have been using and ask yourself some questions –

- Am I too concerned about colour and forgetting the importance of value?
- Am I using too many hues? Am I using too few?
- Do I have enough variation within the hues?
- Do I need to 'tone down' some of my colours to give the eye somewhere to rest?
- Do I need a small punch of pure colour to give some zing?

*Remember colour consists of three main parts:

1. hue – the name of colour – red blue etc (primary colours, secondary colours and tertiary colours)
2. value - the lightness or darkness of a colour (think light medium and dark fabrics)
3. saturation – the intensity and purity of a colour - white/black/grey can be added to a colour to reduce the colour's saturation (colour plus white = tint, plus black = shade, plus grey = tone) or a colour can be diluted down so there is less 'pigment'