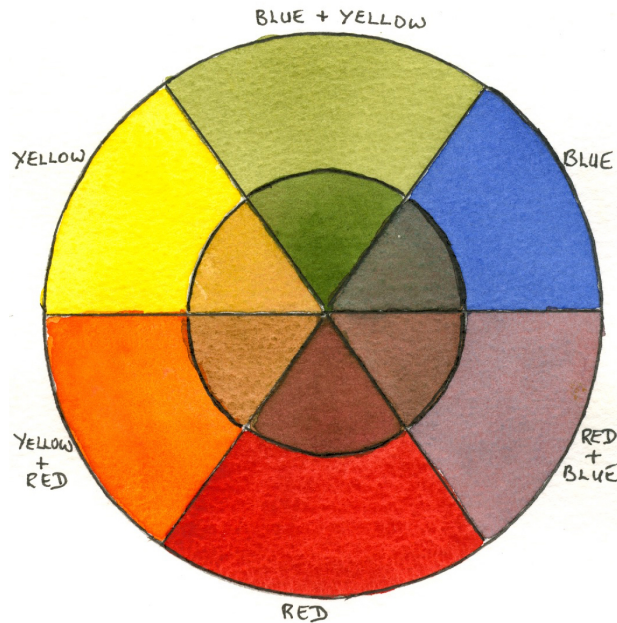


Mixing colours

When it comes to learning how to mix colours - it's good to start with the the three primary colours, blue, red and yellow:-



The outer ring of the colour wheel:-

blue + yellow = green

red + blue = purple

yellow + red = orange

The inner ring of the colour wheel:-

green + it's opposite colour (red)

blue + it's opposite colour (orange)

purple + it's opposite colour (yellow)

red + it's opposite colour (green)

orange + it's opposite colour (blue)

yellow + it's opposite colour (purple)

So all of these colours have been created from just the three primary colours, blue, red and yellow. When you mix the primary colour just two at a time you get clear bright colours, orange, green and purple. But when you add in the opposite colour - what you are actually doing is **mixing all three colours together - just in different proportions** - and this produces darker duller colours.

The actual colour you end up with is all down to the proportions you use of each of the three primary colours. There are many different shades you can mix from just these three primary colours.

This in not to say that you should only ever use blue, red and yellow - there are lots of reasons for buying ready-mixed colours. But to *really* understand colour mixing, it's good to start with the basics and play around with just these three primary colours to see how many different shades you can create.

Notice that the inner ring of the blue colour is **grey**. This is how you can make greys and blacks!

Note: In a painting, when you want to create a darker shade of a colour, rather than using more of that colour - you can add the opposite colour, to create shadows for example

Project - make your own colour wheel

Note: test out your colour mixes before you paint them into the colour wheel