Introduction to Watercolours 2025

COLOUR

Why do you want to be able to mix your own colours?

COLOUR

Colour chart

COLOUR - Label

Watercolour paint

Pigment + binder (gum arabic)

Pigment : PB28

Transparency

Lightfastness

Staining property

Hue

Single Pigment

COLOUR - HSV

Colours
"Three Dimensions"
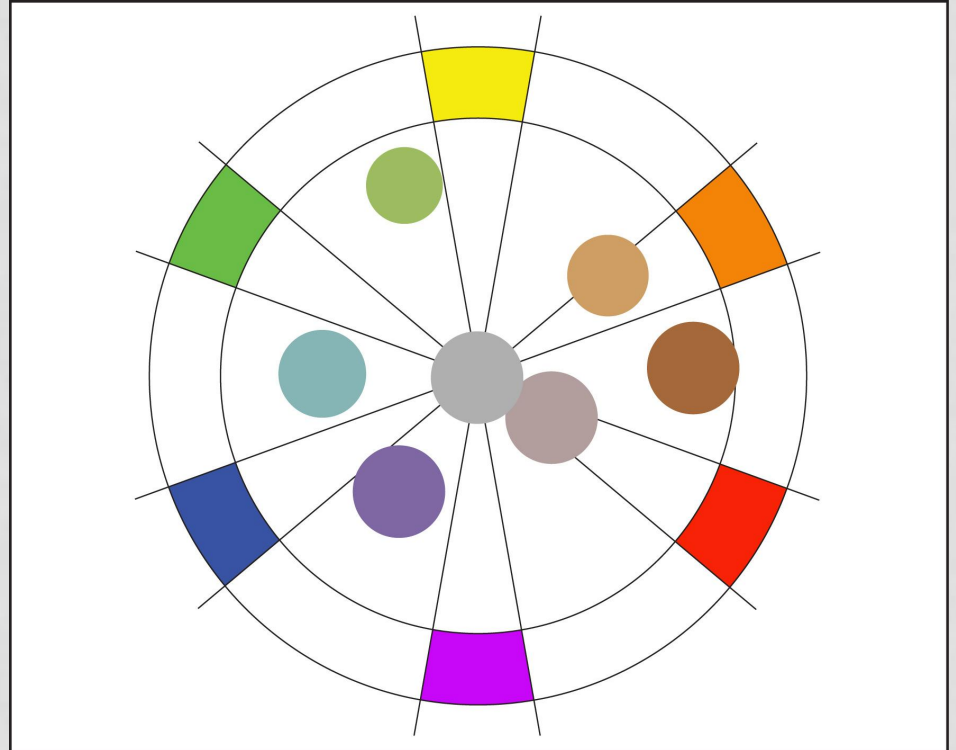
COLOUR - HSV

Colours
"Three Dimension"
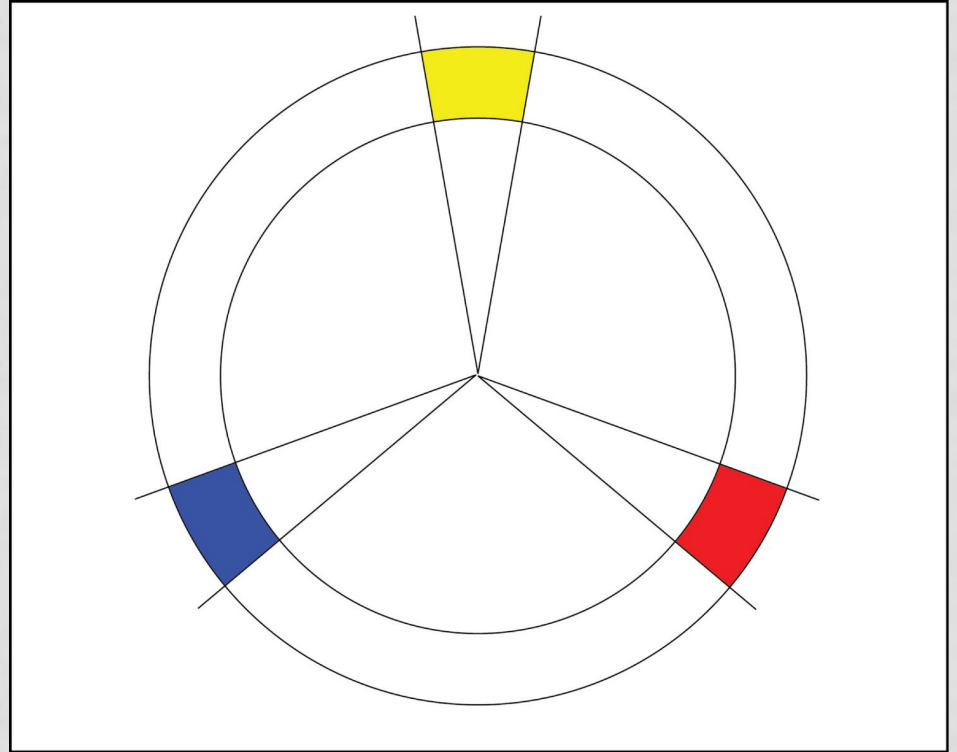- Hue
- Saturation
- Value

COLOUR - HUE

Primary Colours
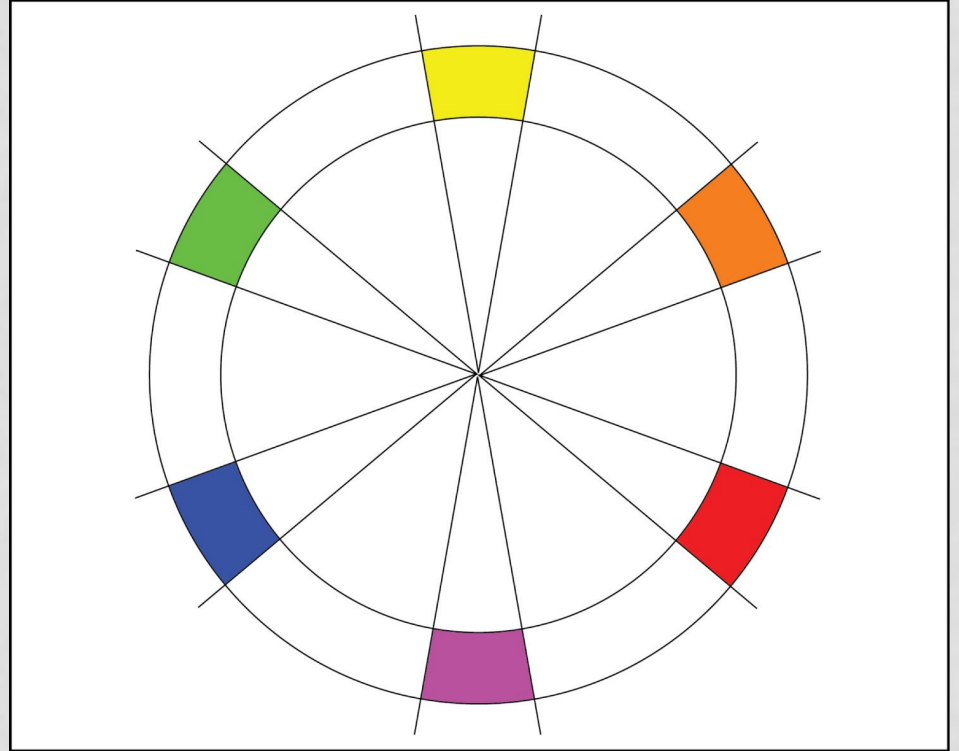- Yellow
- Red
- Blue

COLOUR - HUE

Added Secondary Colours
- Orange
- Purple
- Green

COLOUR - HUE
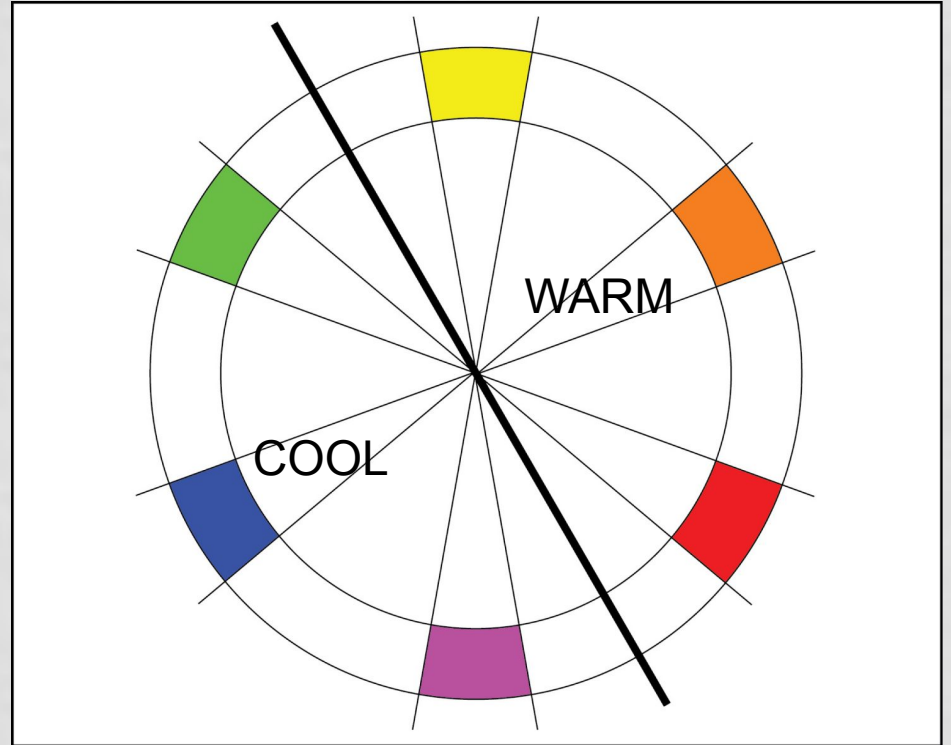
Absolute Temperature:

WARM:
- Yellow, Orange, Red

COOL:
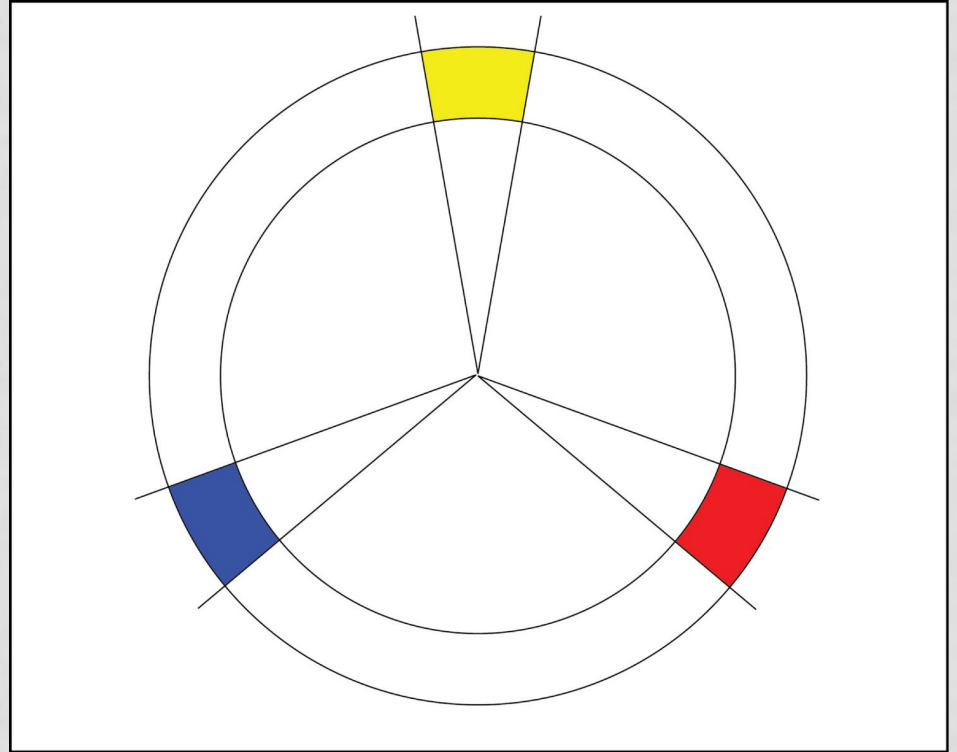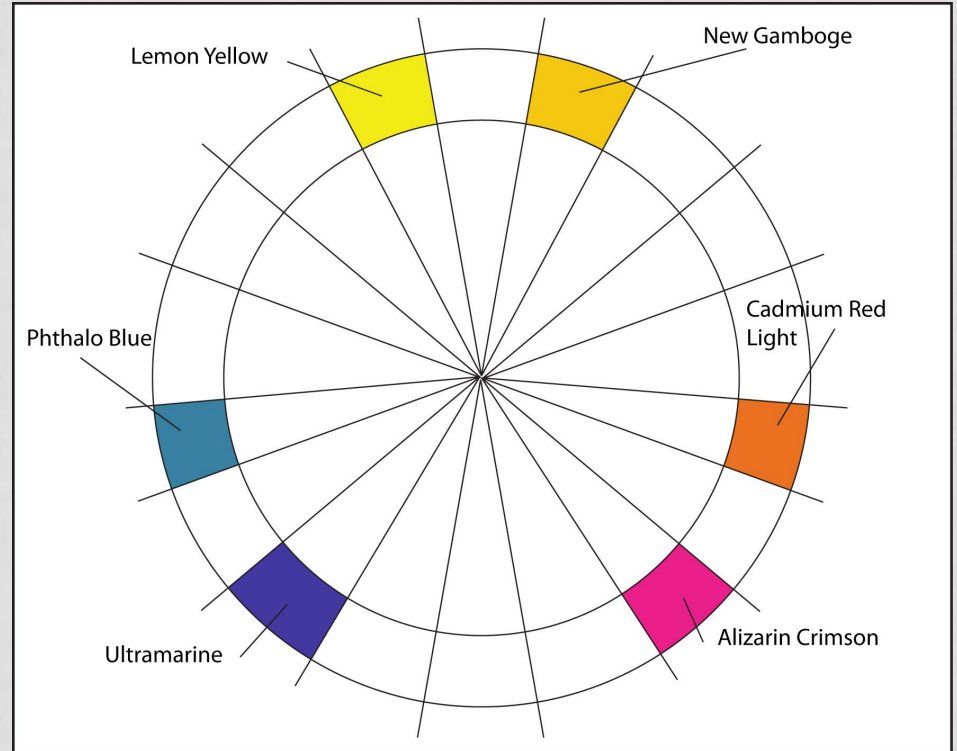- Purple, Blue, Green

COLOUR - HUE

Primary Colours

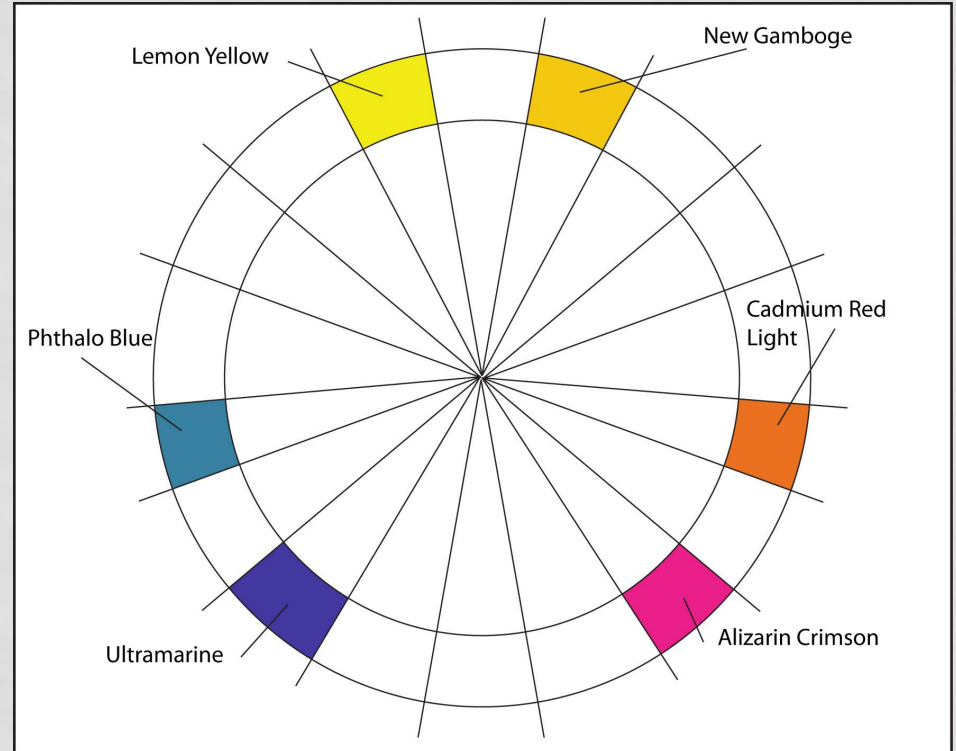- Are three colours enough?

COLOUR - MIXING

Split Primary Palette
Relative Temperature
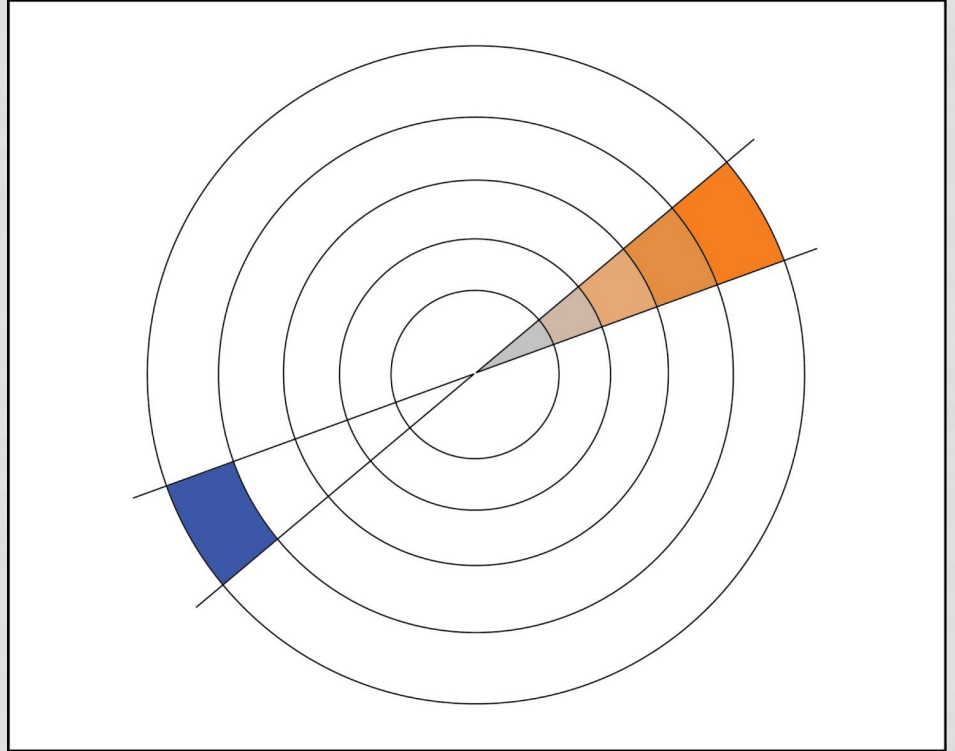Warm / Cold Red
Warm / Cold Yellow etc.

COLOUR - MIXING

Exercise: Get to know your own colours
- Create a colour wheel with fully saturated colours
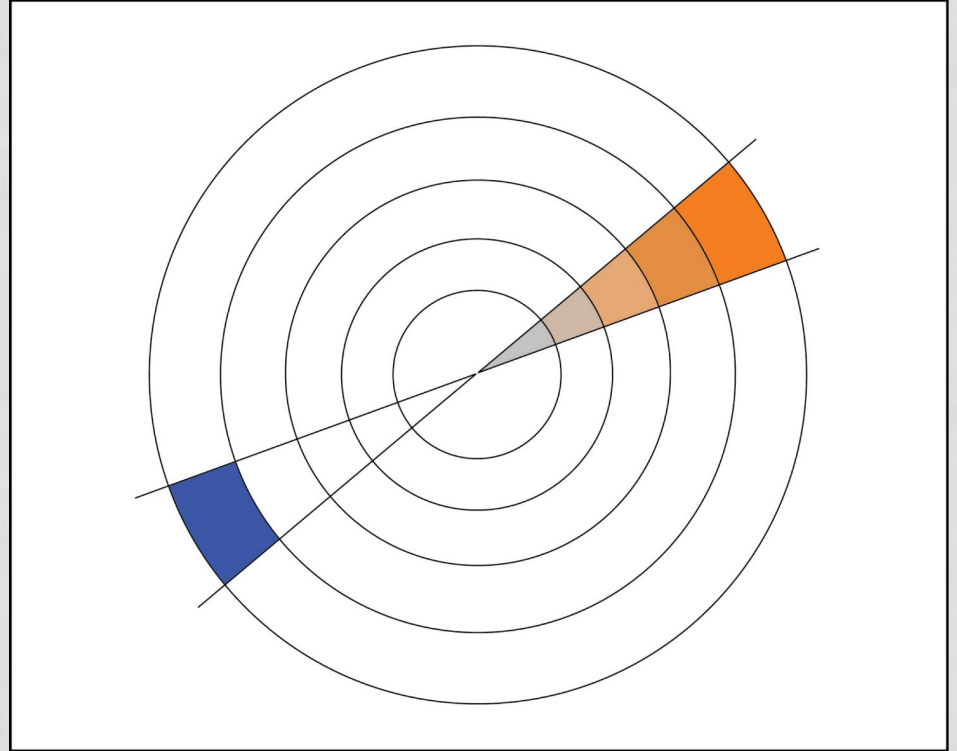- Fill in desaturated "convenience colours" (e.g. burnt sienna)

COLOUR - SATURATION

Saturation:

COLOUR - SATURATION

Saturation:
- Same Hue
- Same Value
- Reduced Saturation by mixing with complimentary colour
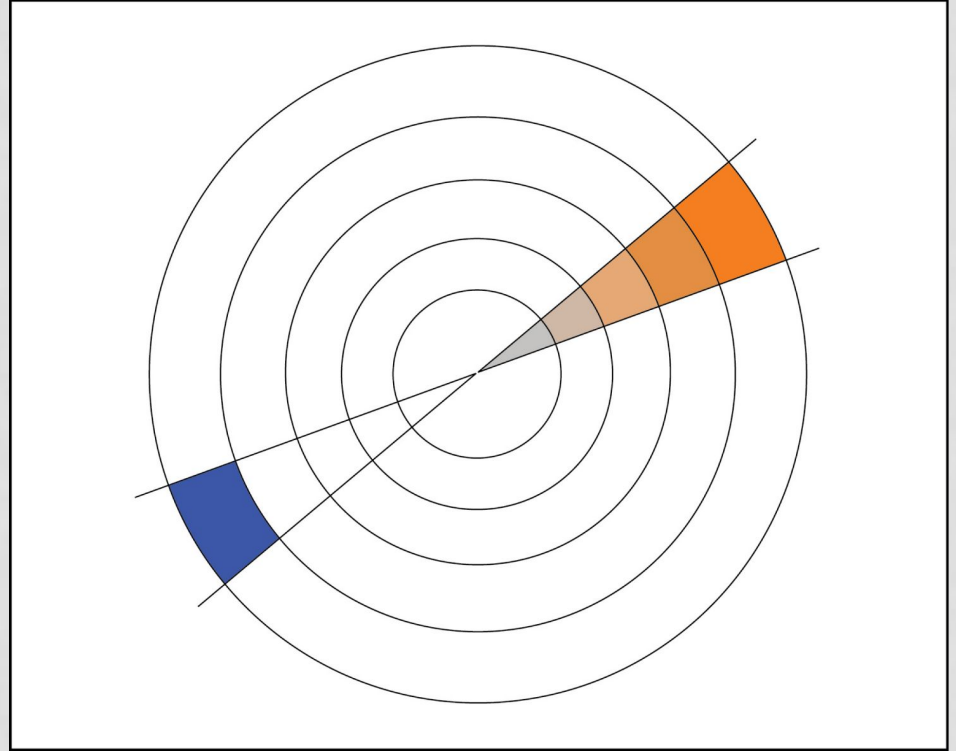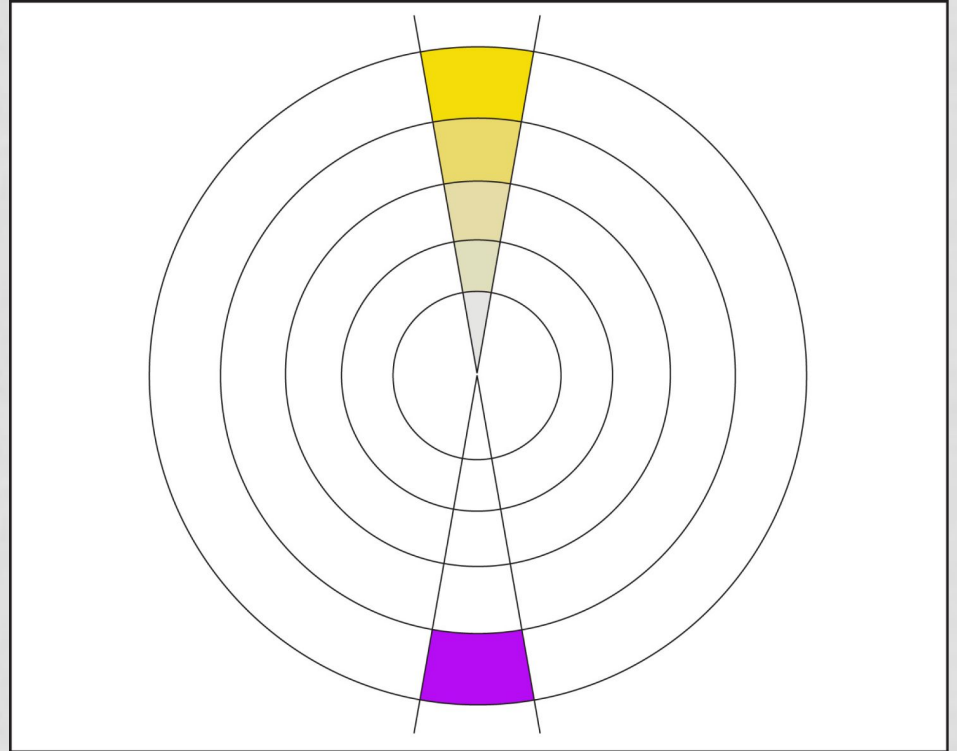
COLOUR - SATURATION

Exercise:
- Desaturate Orange (Burnt Sienna) with Ultramarine Blue and ...
- Vice versa

COLOUR - SATURATION

Exercise:
- Desaturate Yellow with Ultramarine Purple (Mix Ultramarine Blue with Alizarin) and ...
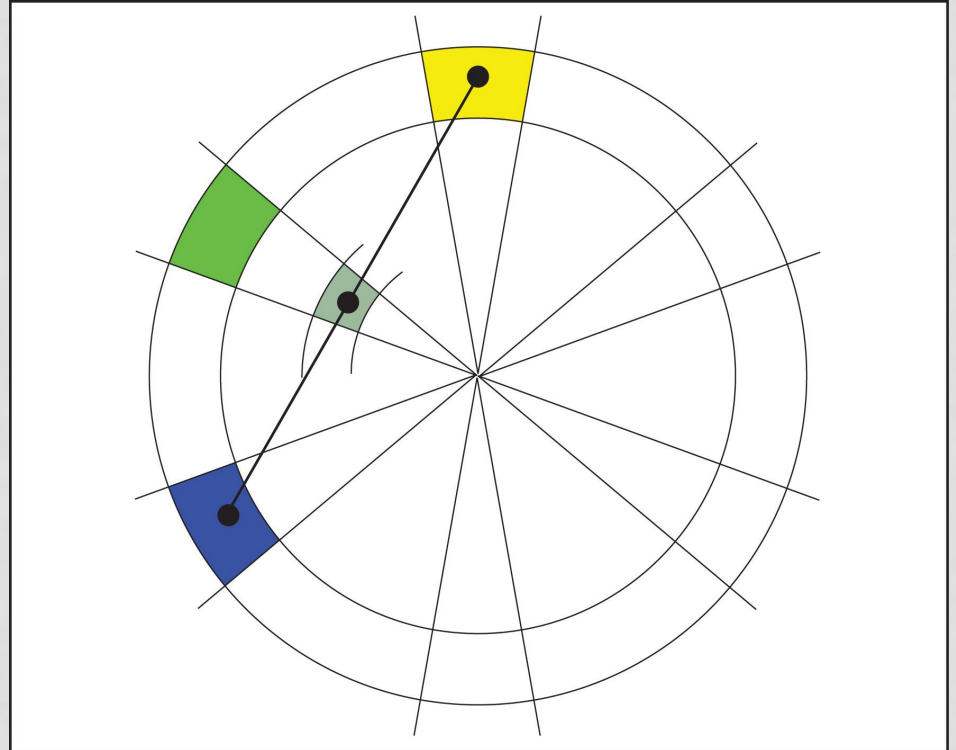- Vice versa

COLOUR - MIXING

Mix from Primary Colours:
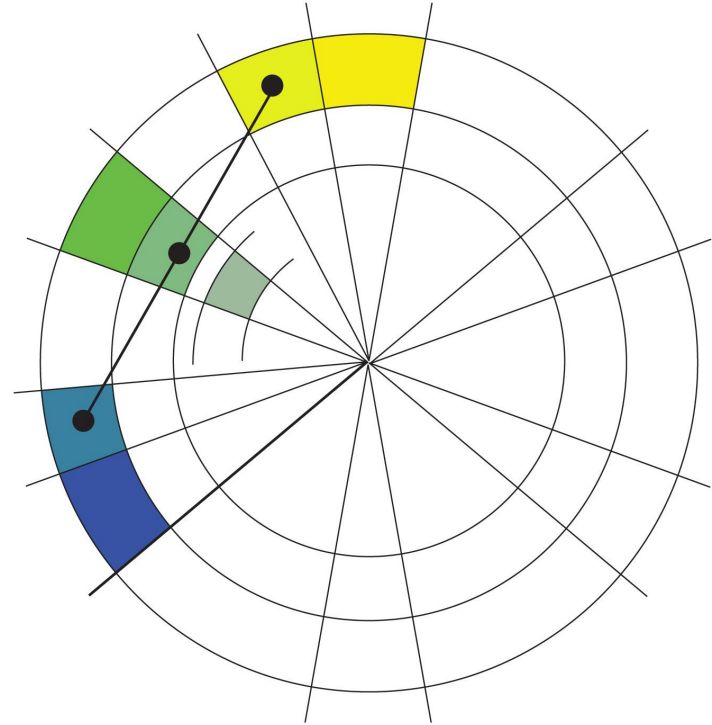- Mix Green from Primary Blue and Yellow

Result:
- Desaturated Green

COLOUR - MIXING

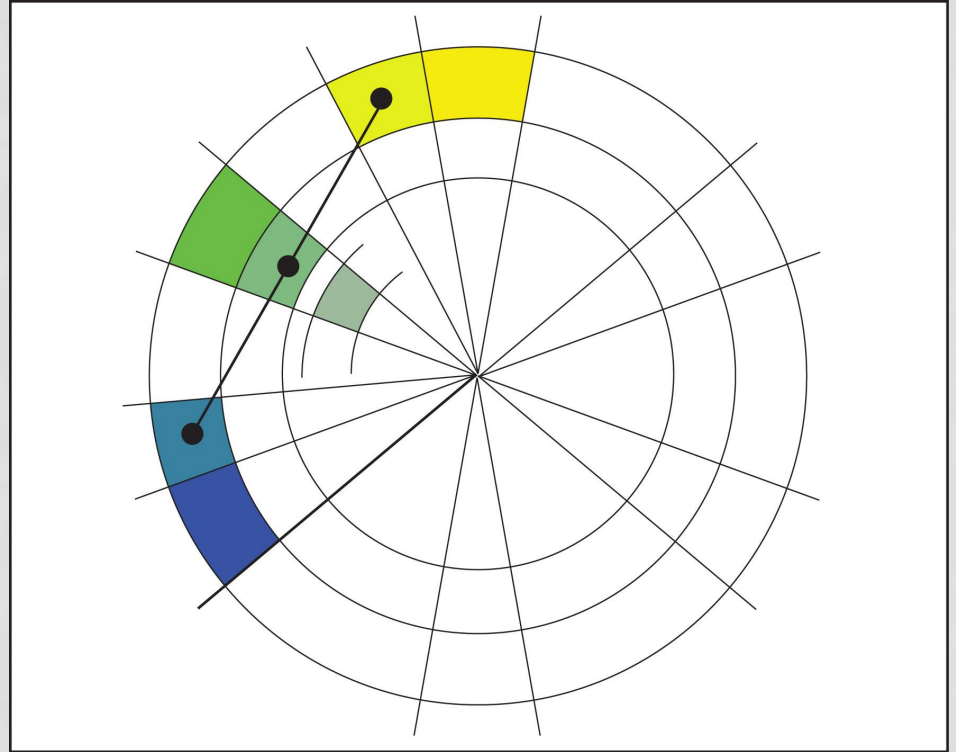Mix from a colder yellow and a warmer blue results in a more saturated, more vibrant green

COLOUR - MIXING

Exercise:

Mixing Blue - Yellow
- Ultramarine - New Gamboge
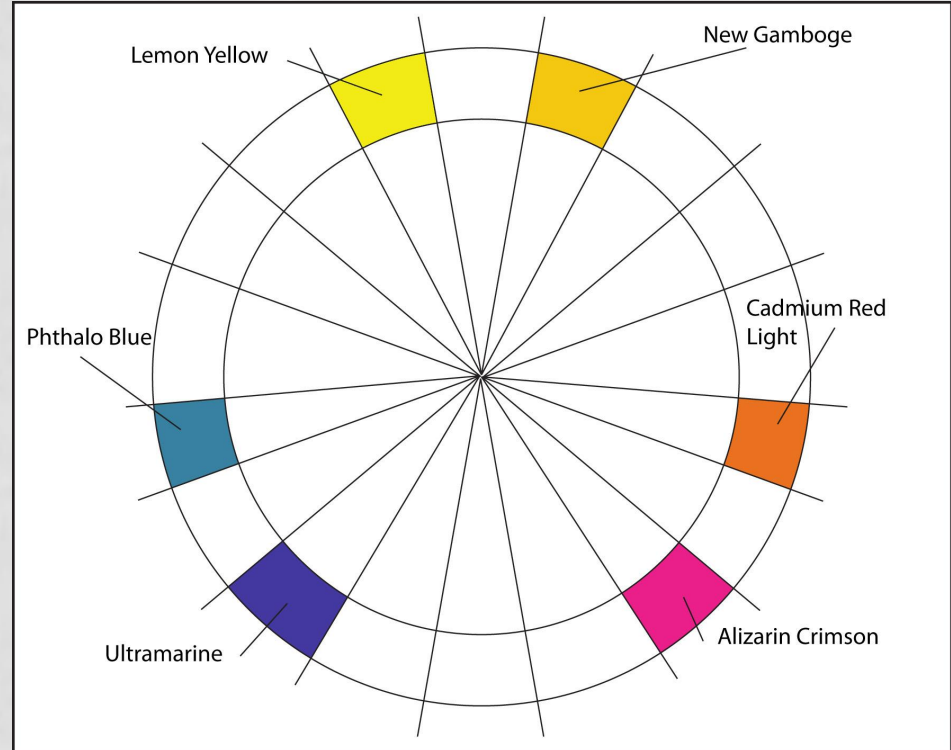- Phthalo - Lemon Yellow

COLOUR - MIXING

Many artists choose a basic set of 6 colours.
(Split Primary Colours)
Note:
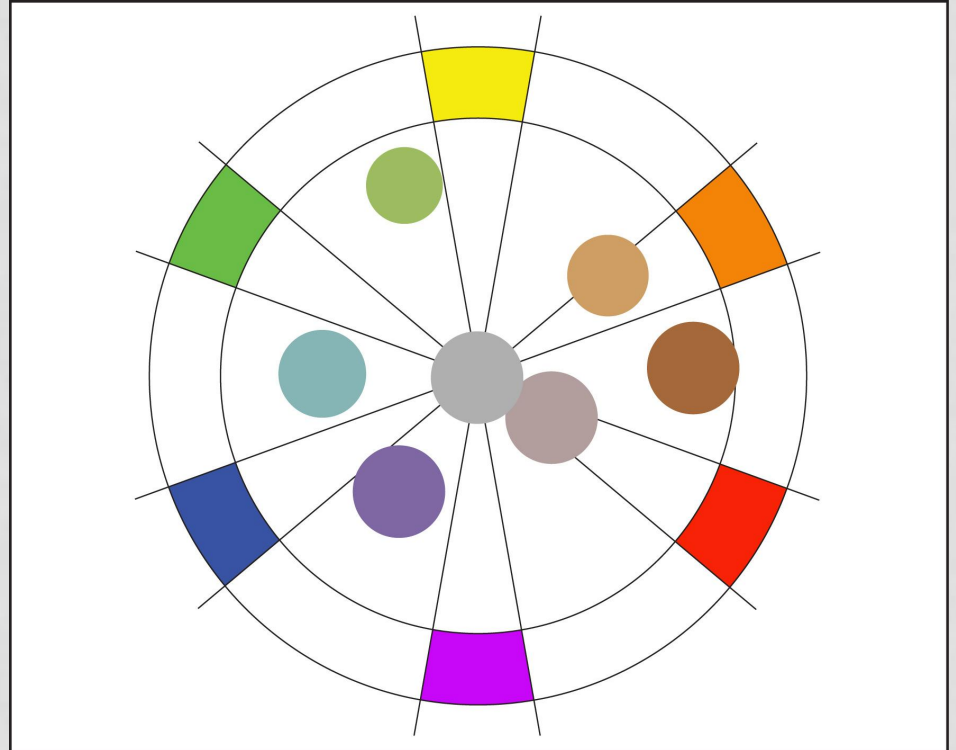- Every manufacturer has its own definition of colours

COLOUR - HSV

Colour Exercise
"Colour matching"
● Match the colour of samples

COLOUR TIPS

Limited Colour Palette

COLOUR TIPS

Connect shapes through continuous washes

COLOUR

Direct Painting Technique
- Start with a rough drawing
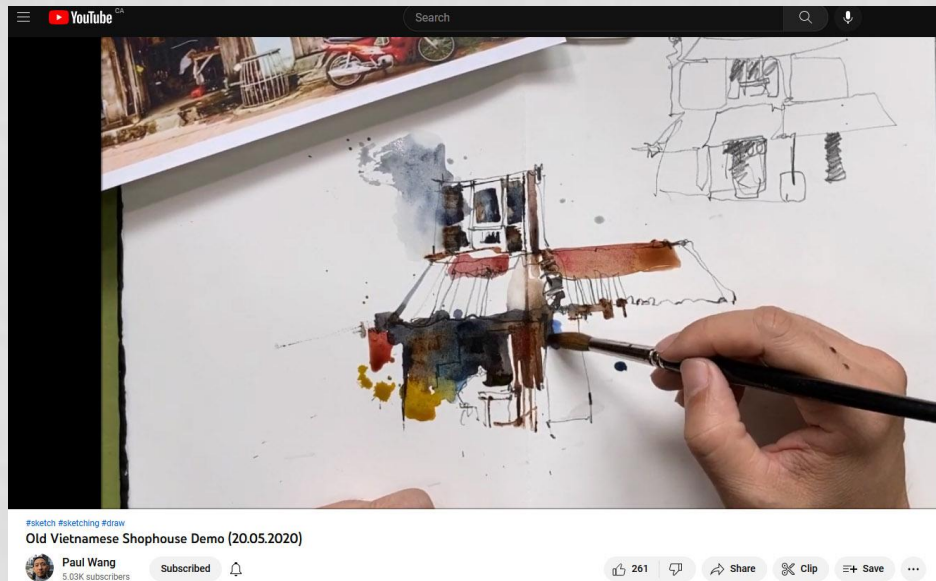

Paul Wang

COLOUR

Direct Painting Technique
- Start with a rough drawing
- Pre-mix colours (Try for a match)
- Fill in colours with correct hue, value and saturation

Paul Wang