

Colour mixing knowledge organiser



Primary Colours

Primary colours are yellow, red and blue. They can not be made by mixing any other colours. That is why they are called Primary.

Secondary colours are made by mixing 2 of the primary colours equally. That means exactly the same amounts of each colour.



Primary and Secondary Colours

Artists use warm and cool colours to encourage feelings about what they create.

Black and white are not Primary colours. Black is made up of all the colours. White is the absence of any colour. But both are useful to make tints and shades.



SHADES

base color
+
black



TINTS

base color
+
white



Tints are described as 'Presence of light'. They are made by adding white to a colour to lighten it. Shades are described by 'Absence of light'. They are made by adding small amounts of black to make a colour darker. You have to be careful not to add to much.

Key Vocabulary

Primary Colour	Colours that can not be made by mixing other colours.
Secondary colour	Colours made by mixing two primary colours.
Tint	Where a colour is added to white to make a lighter colour
Shade	Where black is added to a colour to make it darker.
Warm colours	Made of yellows, reds and oranges
Cool colours	Made of blues, greens and purples.
Motifs	Shapes and symbols