



Split-complementary colors

To create a split-complementary color palette, start with one color and then add colors equally spaced on each side of its complement. For instance, if you start with blue, you'd add a red-orange and a yellow-orange hue. If you start with violet, you'd add yellow-orange and yellow-green hues.

If you're trying to decide between a complementary and an analogous color palette, a split-complementary palette offers the best of both worlds. It has the excitement of contrast without being as jarring as a straight complementary combination. It offers the harmonious feel of an analogous palette with a bit of pop.

To use the split-complementary palette to its best advantage, stick to vibrant (highly saturated) colors. Don't give each part of the triad equal weight; pick one to be dominant. If your dominant color is warm, consider using cool tones for the complements (or vice versa) to emphasize the main hue.

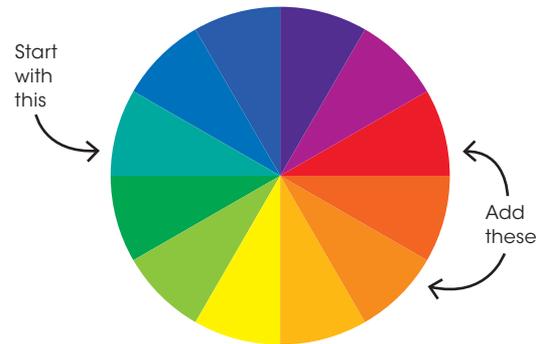
Palettes to try:

Gemstones

Lemon quartz, amethyst, and rhodochrosite
Lapis, topaz, and carnelian
Garnet, citrine, and turquoise

Crystals

Capri blue, hyacinth, and light topaz
Fuchsia, lime, and mint alabaster
Jonquil, tanzanite, and amethyst



Bright colors work best in a split-complementary palette.



The turquoise center band is complemented by the red on each end and the orange crystals.



Matching a cool dominant with warm complements is visually appealing.

Color savvy definition The word "hue" is often used interchangeably with "color." Hue is the property of a color that differentiates it from another color as determined by the dominant wavelength of the light that created it. The term is also used to refer to a gradation (shade) of a color.

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