

# The Teleidoscope — The Key to Color Confidence

Choosing the right combination of colors can be very intimidating. In comes the trusty teleidoscope. To begin, choose a few Starter Colors. You can find inspiration for these colors from many sources -- favorite paintings, nature photos, fabric swatches or even travel memories. Second, collect a much larger selection of Option Colors. This pile of yarns will be the source of unexpected color sparks.



Lay your Starter Colors close to each other on a neutral surface -- light cream or light grey. Hold the teleidoscope over the Starter Colors and see what they look like so far. Adjust how close you hold the teleidoscope to the yarn to keep out non-yarn color from the background surface. You may need to overlap the yarns to block out any extraneous color.

Once you have become comfortable with your yarn arrangement, you can begin to play with combinations. You may want to ask a friend for help so that you can continue to look through the teleidoscope while he/she moves colors in and out of your view. As you play, you may discover that one or two of your Starter Colors need to be abandoned in favor of Option Colors that work out better. Be sure to keep an open mind. You will recognize an ideal color blend when you see it.

You can borrow a useful tip from the quilting world: quilters often intentionally use a color they dislike in scrap quilts. They find those few little bits are the sparks that really liven up the finished piece. Be sure to remember this when you are adding and subtracting yarns under your teleidoscope.

The teleidoscope can be helpful while planning many types of colorwork. Keep in mind that different yarn gauges are better for different types of color work. For instance, 2-color work is great for fingering to worsted weight yarns, Fair Isle is best with fingering to DK weight yarns, while stripes and intarsia can be knit up in any gauge yarn.



Looking through the teleidoscope at yarn selection



Sample of yarns seen through the teleidoscope



Sample of knitted swatch using colors viewed through the teleidoscope

## **80173—Magic Marble Teleidoscope**

Use this teleidoscope to look at colors in a new light. Lay out your yarn, take a peek through the lens, and instantly see your magical color combinations come to life.

Be creative and toss in an unconventional color: it might be just the spark your palette needs!  
8¾" x 1".



## **80037—Color Book & Color Wheel**

by Nancy Shroyer

Choose color fearlessly with this book and 5" color wheel. You will be able to successfully choose from three up to nine coordinating colors. Softcover. 22 pages.

