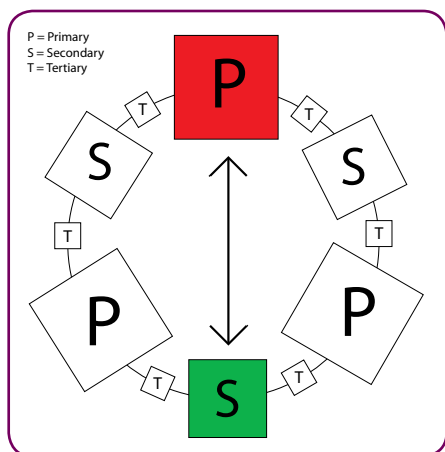
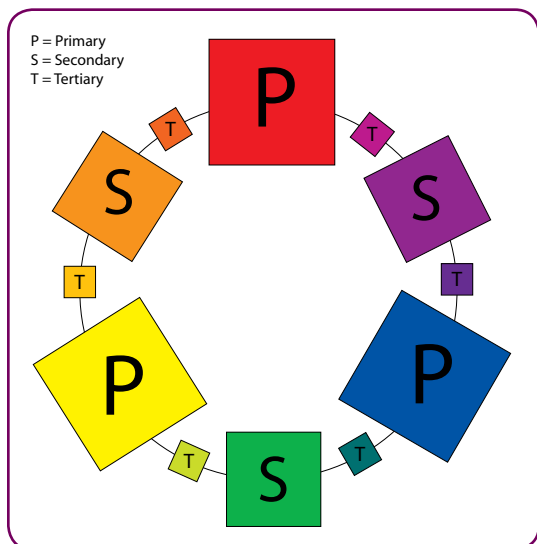


A Little Understanding Will Go a Long Way. . .



The Color Book and Color Wheel



Color Book and Color Wheel
80037

The **Color Book and Color Wheel** (Item # 80037) are invaluable tools for selecting color combinations according to the universal “rules” of color theory. Nancy Shroyer has taken what painters have understood for centuries and made it easily accessible to fiber artists. It is an excellent reference to have on hand as you plan projects.

There are three basic sets of colors on a color wheel - primary, secondary and tertiary. The wheel is also divided into two halves - cool colors and warm colors. Within such a deceptively simple framework, you will find the structure you need to design colorful garments that turn out just the way you imagined. Choose quiet blends of colors from the same half of the wheel (complimentary) for a consistent look, or spark it up with just a touch of color from the opposite of the color wheel (secondary), or make a bright, dramatic garment using equal amounts of colors forming a triangle within the wheel.

Knowledge of color theory and psychology can help you make your color choices as well. You may want to maintain a scheme consisting of cool colors such as blues and greens with a purple accent color thrown in for a calming effect. Warm colors such as red, yellow and orange work well together creating a vibrant and energizing palette.

While it's critical to have a plan before you start your project, it's ok to experiment with offbeat color combinations. Once you know the “rules” of color theory, it's legal and perfectly normal to “break” them. This is a good time to knit a few test swatches trying out different color combinations. Who knows—your swatches, when pieced together, may form the foundation of a crazy patchwork blanket.

Mix bright, “juicy” colors with “drab” or subtle colors such as khaki, gray and olive green. The combination has the effect of toning down the “juicy” colors while lending new vibrancy to the neutral colors. Another innovative idea is mixing heathers and solids of the same hue. With a plethora of new heathers available, it's a great time to experiment with this concept. The very best reference for our yarns are the color cards and at \$1.99 each, they're inexpensive and an invaluable tool for project planning.

With the right tools, choosing the colors for your next knitting project needn't feel overwhelming. In fact, it's a wonderful opportunity for self-expression, showing your true colors to the world.

... Towards Successful Color Adventures

Magic Marble Teleidoscope

The **Magic Marble Teleidoscope** (Item # 80173) employs similar techniques to a kaleidoscope using a transparent lens on the end of the tube to view colors in a new light. Lay out your yarn color choices, take a peek through the lens and instantly see your magical color combinations come to life. The teleidoscope lets you see your color choices intermixed as they would be in a more intricate color pattern—very helpful when combining three or more colors. Be creative and try unconventional color combinations—you might be pleasantly surprised at the results.



Looking through the teleidoscope at yarn selection



Sample of yarns seen through the teleidoscope

Sample of knitted swatch using colors viewed through the teleidoscope



Stitch and Motif Maker



Stitch and Motif Maker 80030

On the opposite end of the technology spectrum, the **Stitch and Motif Maker** (Item # 80030), is a high-tech yet easy to use tool that knitters can employ to plan color patterns. The computer software allows the user to draw in color or knitter's symbols and choose from a palette of 74 colors. Custom colors can also be created and knitter's symbols and colors can be utilized in tandem to create a project stitch chart. The software is quite intuitive and simple to understand.

Handy Tips for Working with Color

1. Carry the strands of unused color LOOSELY in the back of the project. Loose stitches or strands can be tightened, but it is virtually impossible to loosen stitches that are too tight and they will cause unsightly puckering on the right side of your project and may even affect the fit.
2. Choose lighter weight yarns that can be doubled—fingering, sport and DK are ideal weights for stranded color work.
3. Bear in mind that your finished project will be quite warm because of the two layers.
4. For color patterns which involve 3 or more stitches of one color in a row, be sure to wrap the unused yarn in the back of the work.
5. Color work is easiest worked in the round, on circular needles or double point needles employing steeks where necessary to create openings for the armholes, neck and cardigan button/zipper bands.

Try using our fingering weight **Palette** or sport weight **Telemark** for an of your colorwork projects