

### **Colour Wheel**

Traditionally the colour wheel is made up of three primary colours, red, yellow, and blue. By combining these together in equal quantity, binary colours, orange, green and violet are produced. From mixing one or more of these all other colours are obtained.

As shown, colours on the wheel divide into warm and cool areas.

On the warm side are red, orange and yellow. Green, blue and violet fall into the cool side.



**NOTE.** Yellow lemons are not considered hot.

Those colours which are positioned next to each other and which have a pigment in common are said to be in harmony.

For example, red and orange, yellow and green, blue and violet.

These colours all harmonize together.

Colours which appear opposite to each other on the colour wheel, often known as complementary colours, work together too.

Red and green, yellow and violet, blue and orange will all complement each other although the contrast is sometimes not to every one's taste.

As a general rule, those colours which do not go together, or do not appeal on an individual level, may be separated one from the other with the addition of white or grey.

Bright, light colours such as lemon-yellows and whites are better reflectors of sunlight than darker hues, which from a distance may be lost or appear muted. Such light colours used in the foreground will seem to jump forward.

Traditionally, colours with depth such as blues, mauves, silvers and purples, are used to create a sense of distance at the farthest reaches of a garden. Paler yellows, pinks and creams occupy the foreground.

Reds, oranges and deep yellows are best planted in the middle of the beds; at a distance they are lost, whilst close up they dominate.

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