

**STRONG TOWER ACADEMY, IKORODU,
LAGOS.**

WEEK: 6TH WEEK NOTE

CLASS: JSS 1

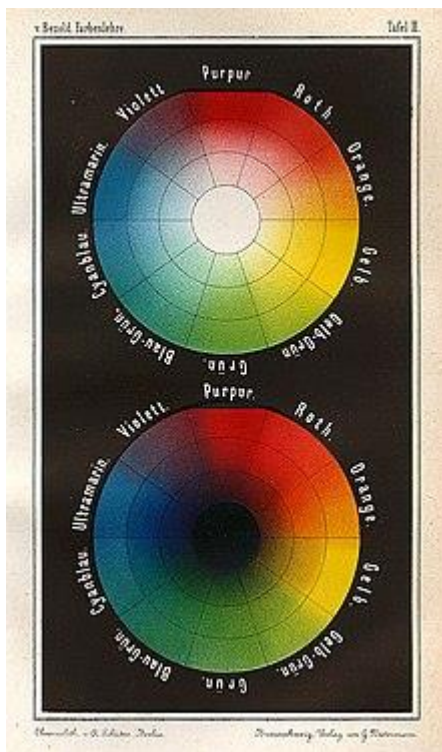
SUBJECT: VISUAL ARTS

TOPIC: COLOUR WHEEL

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COLOUR WHEEL.

This is the arrangement of colours in a wheel.



A **color wheel** is an abstract illustrative organization of **color hues** around a circle, which shows the relationships between **primary colors**, **secondary colors**, **tertiary colors** etc.

Some sources use the terms *color wheel* and *color circle* interchangeably; however, one term or the other may be more prevalent in certain fields or certain versions as mentioned above. For instance, some reserve the term *color wheel* for mechanical rotating devices, such as **color tops**, filter wheels or **Newton disc**. Others classify various color wheels as *color disc*, *color chart*, and *color scale* varieties.

As an illustrative model, artists typically use **red**, **yellow**, and **blue** primaries (**RYB color model**) arranged at three equally spaced points around their color wheel. Printers and others who use modern subtractive color methods and terminology use **magenta**, **yellow**, and **cyan** as **subtractive primaries**. Intermediate and interior points of color wheels and circles represent color mixtures. In a paint or subtractive color wheel, the "center of gravity" is usually (but not ^{always}) black, representing all colors of light being absorbed; in a color circle, on the other hand, the center is white or gray, indicating a mixture of different wavelengths of light (all wavelengths, or two complementary colors, for example).

The original color circle of **Isaac Newton** showed only the spectral hues and was provided to illustrate a rule for the color of mixtures of lights, that these could be approximately predicted from the center of gravity of the numbers of "rays" of each spectral color present (represented in his diagram by small circles). The divisions of Newton's circle are of unequal size, being based on the intervals of a **Dorian** musical scale. Most later color circles include the **purples**, however, between red and violet, and have equal-sized hue divisions. Color scientists and psychologists often use the **additive primaries**, red, **green** and blue; and often refer to their arrangement around a circle as a color circle as opposed to a color wheel.



Colors of the color wheel

A 1908 color wheel with red, green, and violet "plus colors" and magenta, yellow, and cyan blue "minus colors"



Newton's asymmetric color wheel based on musical intervals. Mixing "rays" in amounts given by the circles yields color "z" (1704)

- Goethe's symmetric color wheel with 'reciprocally evoked colors' (1810)



A color circle based on additive combinations of the light spectrum, after Schiffman (1990)

