

# THE ART SHERPA™

PRESENTS

## BEGINNERS ACRYLIC PAINTING COURSE

PRIMARY COLOR

*Mixing*



ACRYLIC PAINT, THE BASICS - NOVEMBER 2021



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## VIDEO CHAPTER GUIDE:

Below are the timestamps we inserted in the tutorial video so that you can easily coordinate using the book and the tutorial video simultaneously.

STEPS:	TIME:	DESCRIPTION:
INTRO		
STEP 1	2:31	WHAT ARE PRIMARIES
STEP 2	17:42	THE BASIC COLOR WHEEL
STEP 3	53:44	HOW TO TINT, TONE AND SHADE COLOR
STEP 4	1:02:06	HOW TO MAKE SECONDARY COLORS
STEP 5	1:11:45	HOW TO MAKE TERTIARY COLORS
		THAT'S ALL FOLKS





# STEP ONE - WHAT ARE PRIMARIES

COLOR THEORY IS A RATHER INTENSE SUBJECT MATTER, BUT I'M GOING TO TEACH YOU THE BASICS OF WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW AS A BEGINNER. IT IS PART OF AN ACRYLIC PAINTING COURSE, 7 CONCEPT VIDEOS AND 10 TUTORIALS OF BEGINNER PAINTINGS.

This course is the beginner primary course for acrylic artists.

## WHAT IS A PRIMARY COLOR?

Primary colors are red, yellow and blue. Most of us probably learned this in grade school. They are used to mix all other colors, but other colors may not be mixed to create the primary colors. There is no fixed set of primary colors in acrylic paint.

## DO I HAVE THE RIGHT COLOR?

We chose 3 sets of primaries from the Sennelier Abstract Acrylic Line. Paint makers generalize their color theory, just because it says "primary" on the kit does not mean it is a primary color that mixes with another primary color to get what you are looking for. The pigment code is Pv19 for Quin Rose, or #686, the Pv19 is a pigment violet in the quinacridone family, which can run from red to violet. This is in the rose family. My primary yellow is Py74, and it's not Hansa Yellow, it's Arylide Yellow. Blue is important, primary blue, Pv15, Phthalo Blue, #385.

## PRIMARY RED, YELLOW, AND BLUE



**Pv 19**  
**Quinacridone Rose**  
**\*Pink or Violet**



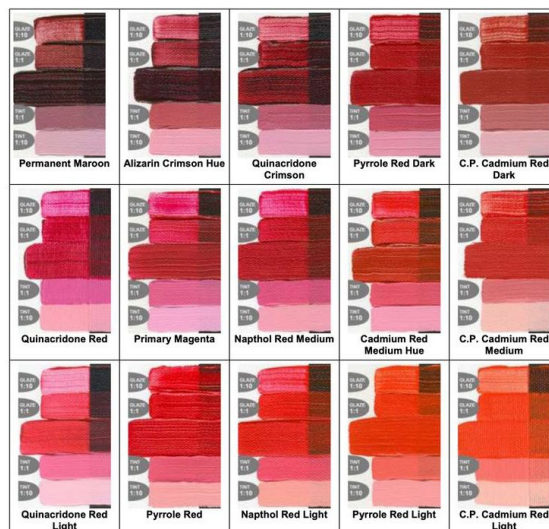
**PY 74**  
**Arylide Yellow**  
**Azo Family**



**PB 15**  
**Phthalocyanine**  
**Blue**

In these Golden Paint Charts, they are organized from cool (blue) to warm (yellow). It allows you to look for a close match if you can't find the exact shade you are looking for without having to know which color has a hidden primary color already in it.

[WWW.GOLDENPAINTS.COM](http://WWW.GOLDENPAINTS.COM)  
PRIMARY RED

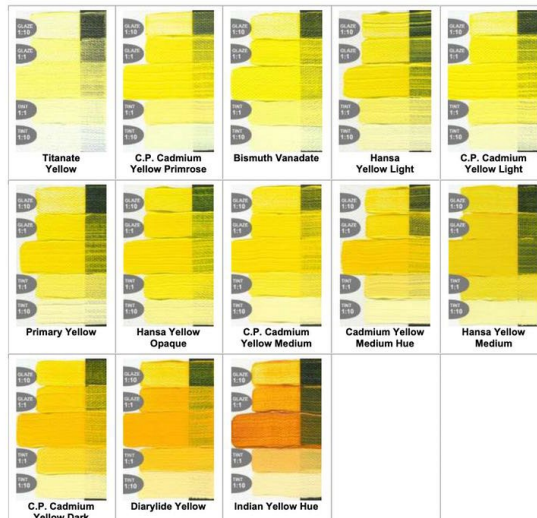




## STEP ONE: CONTINUED

WWW.GOLDENPAINTS.COM  
PRIMARY YELLOW

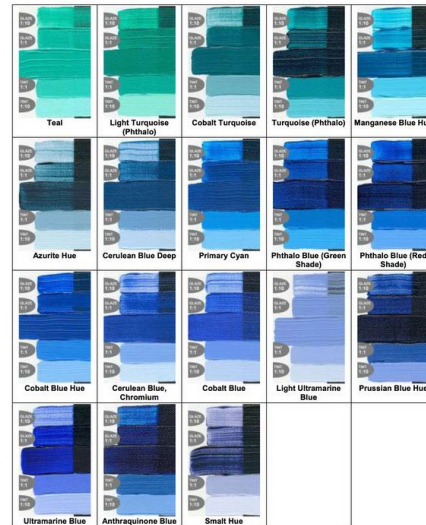
Yellow (Green to Red Bias)



## PB 15 Phthalocyanine Blue

WWW.GOLDENPAINTS.COM  
PRIMARY BLUE

Blue (Green to Red Bias)



### PHTHALO BLUE?

#### PB 15:1 – Phthalocyanine Blue Red Shade



Colour Description: Red-blue  
Transparency/Opacity: Transparent

PB 15:1 refers to the warmer, red-shade variety of Phthalocyanine Blue. It is similar in masstone to Prussian Blue but has the clean brightness of Ultramarine Blue when

thinned. It is a useful colour for artists who want to achieve dark, warm values in their paintings.

#### PB 15:3 – Phthalocyanine Blue Green Shade

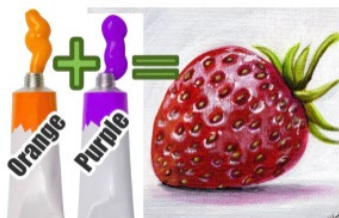


Colour Description: Green-blue  
Transparency/Opacity: Transparent

PB15:3 refers specifically to the green-shade of Phthalocyanine Blue.

## HUE HAS TWO MEANINGS

Hue is a color name, like red or blue. It is also an approximation in the pigment load of a color.



## PRIMARY COLOR MYTHS







# STEP TWO - THE BASIC COLOR WHEEL

## HOW TO READ THE WHEEL

The Color Wheel Company is a great color wheel for beginners. The color wheel works across all mediums in art.

## PRIMARY COLORS

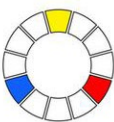
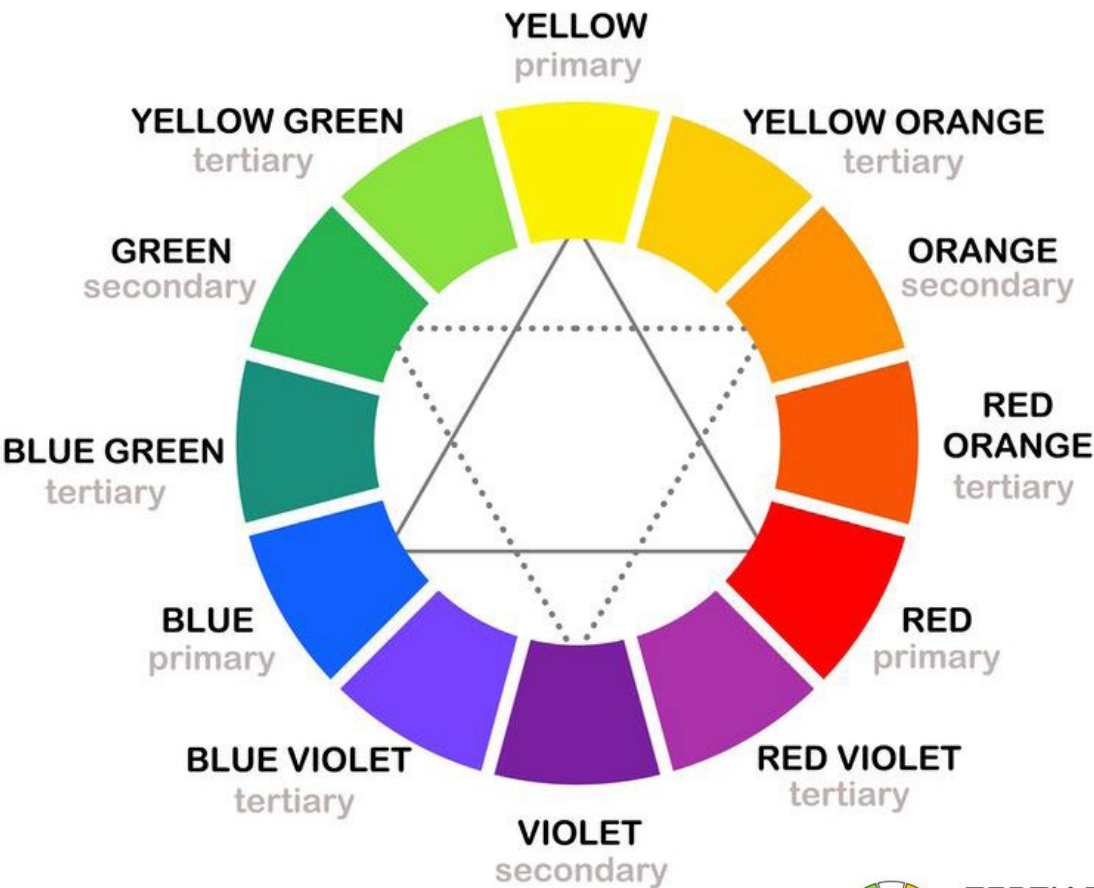
On the outer edge are the primary colors, blue, yellow and red, at equal distances apart. It is a triangle.

## SECONDARY COLORS

Secondary colors are when you mix equal parts of a primary, you get the middle color between the two primaries, or purple, orange and green. This issue can be if you have a pure red, and is more red-orange, like Cad Medium Red, which has a bit of yellow in it. If you mix yellow and blue and yellow, you get a muddy color. This hidden primary of yellow in the Cad Medium Red affects the shade you will get when you mix the two primary colors. The color wheel has some clear windows that tell you if a color has a hidden primary.

## TERTIARY COLORS

Tertiary Colors are when you mix 2 parts of one primary and 1 part of one primary. It also shows you what you might get in that window if you added more of any color. Sometimes we desaturate a color by adding a titch of another color to de-saturate a color.



**PRIMARY**  
YELLOW  
RED  
BLUE



**SECONDARY**  
ORANGE  
VIOLET  
GREEN



**TERTIARY**  
YELLOW ORANGE  
RED ORANGE  
RED VIOLET  
BLUE VIOLET  
BLUE GREEN  
YELLOW GREEN



## STEP TWO: CONTINUED

### HUE

Saturation of value, the color that it is.

### VALUE

The value bar at the end of the graphic above, is how light or dark the color is. Is it a shadow or is it a highlight?

### INTENSITY

Intensity of your color, pure color from the tube, is strong, but when you add other colors to it, you lessen the strength and intensity of the color. Intensity can be part of toning, but toning is not a part of intensity.

### -tone

Adding graying to desaturate the intensity of the color.

### SHADE

To shade, you add black to your color; to tint, you add white to the color.

### COLOR SCHEMES

The first color scheme is complimentary. Yellow and purple are opposite from each other on the wheel.

Analogous is color harmonies and they only mix good colors, few color biases. They are next to each other on the color wheel.

Triadic colors are in a triangle, equally spaced apart, separated by 3 colors between them. Very dynamic.

Split-Complementary colors is not an equal triangle, but starts with one color, goes directly across to that color, ignores it, and goes one space right and one space left. That is a split-complementary.

Rectangle is the split complementaries on both sides of the color and directly opposite on the wheel.

Square Harmony is a Bob Mullis favorite, and the colors in the equal square for a perfect square. All the colors are two spaces apart.



**Complementary  
Harmony**



**Analogous  
Harmony**



**Triadic  
Harmony**



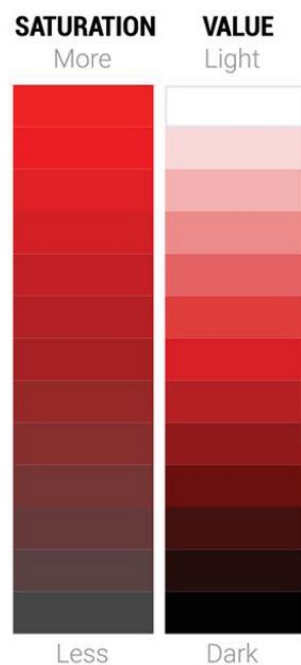
**Split-Complementary  
Harmony**



**Rectangle  
(tetradic) Harmony**



**Square  
Harmony**







# STEP THREE - *HOW TO TINT, TONE, AND SHADE COLOR*

**IN PRACTICE, NOT IN THEORY. I HAVE RED, YELLOW, BLUE, BLACK AND WHITE ON MY PALETTE AND A BRIGHT, ANGLE BRUSH, ROUND, FAN AND A HOG BRUSH AT THE READY. HANDS ON.**

## HOW TO TINT

How a color affects the tinting strength; yellow being the weakest. When we tint, we add white by taking a bit of the color to the white in small increments. Pull out some red, then pull out another color and take it to the pulled out red to get the color you want. Always take the strongest color to the weakest color, so pigment always goes to the white.

## HOW TO TONE

Toning is to make a gray with black and white, and take it to your color (the red), and you have desaturated the value of the color (red). You have knocked back the saturation.

## HOW TO SHADE

Like tinting, but with black; but you take the black to the color (red). You darken the color (red). It doesn't take a lot of black to darken any color on your palette.

*Rinse out your brush before you go forward.*



# STEP FOUR - *HOW TO MAKE SECONDARY COLORS*

## ORANGE

Take yellow and red and make orange. Not every red and every yellow make the same hue of orange. Sometimes they are desaturated before and there is a hidden bias.

## GREEN

Yellow and blue, both of my brands have a hidden bias, but I still get a green. I can tint it by adding white to get mint. I lighten my green with yellow first, then add white. It's kind of a

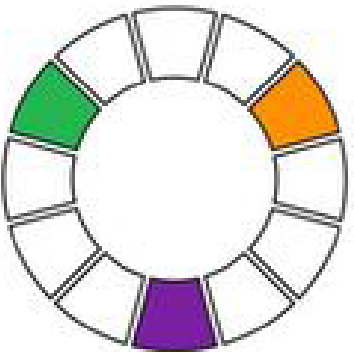
weird rule. I lighten red with yellow too, sometimes. I can add black if I want to shade.

## VIOLET / PURPLE

Red and blue makes a purple, depending on any bias, but a purple. Tint with white; shade with black.

## GREY

Grey is black and white to the hue that you want. Take the black to the white.





## STEP FIVE - HOW TO MAKE TERTIARY COLORS

### YELLOW ORANGE

Bring a small amount of red to the yellow and tint in increments. It's very easy to have too much red.

### RED ORANGE

Take a smidge of yellow to a red and it warms it up. If you want a Cad Red, this is your mix. You can continue to add yellow to get a bright orange. Practice making a yellow orange, a mid orange, and a red orange with your brush. Red Violet / Purple  
Blue has more tinting strength than red, to take small amounts of blue to the red for purple.

### BLUE VIOLET / PURPLE

If you make a red violet/purple and add a lot more blue to it, past purple, you get a blue violet. Tint with white for a mid purple.

### YELLOW GREEN

Make a mid green with blue and yellow, then add more yellow to the green. Always take the weak to the strong.

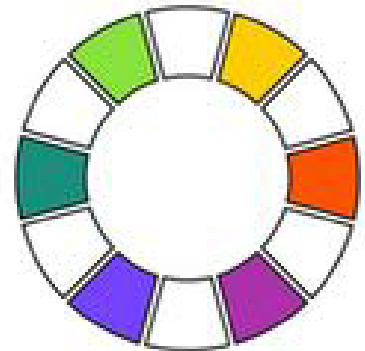
### BLUE GREEN

With your mid green, you can darken it with blue for a blue green.

*Let's cover a little about what we learned today.*

*We know about primary colors and compliments; the compliment to yellow is purple, which is not a primary, but I can make a compliment to yellow which is purple. The compliment to blue is orange, and I know how to make orange and I can use my color wheel to help me get to the right color by saturation, tint, or shade.*

*Concepts about medium, studio and tools, color, technique but it's not knowledge until you put it into practice.*



## THAT'S ALL FOLKS

As our classroom sessions come to an end, I hope that you feel you have learned something new and are more confident in your ability to be able to successfully proceed on your art journey. Please share, subscribe, and like the video on Facebook or YouTube. If your question is not answered by chat, we can

leave it in the comments after the show, and I will try to answer all of them. We are also going to go to Facebook right now and answer any questions in an information Q&A session right now. We will hold these Q&A sessions after all the informative classes in the series.

Tomorrow, we put paint and brush to canvas and create one of the most requested tutorials since we created my studio wall of art - the Two Cats. 1:00 pm EST.

*Hope to see you there.*



## Q & A SESSION

WHERE CAN I LEARN MORE ABOUT PIGMENT CODES OR HEX CODES WHATEVER THOSE ARE?

I have several tutorials on my website and there is a lot of information from paint manufacturers like Golden, Holbein, and Sennelier.

WHAT DOES SERIES NUMBER MEAN?

This was covered in our series video from November 4 on paint and you can access that tutorial on YouTube or through the website at [www.theartsherpa.com](http://www.theartsherpa.com).

CAN YOU USE BEHR PAINTS OR ANY BULK LIKE THAT FOR PAINTING? PARTIES?

Yes, you totally can.

WHAT DO I SEARCH FOR ON YOUR WEBSITE?

I need to work on tagging on my website, but I have done at least 100 tutorials on it and I have several playlists that you can search through. I have about 1800 videos and they need organizing, but search "color mixing" and go to the YouTube channel and look at the playlists on there. See especially the first year of BAQ (Big Art Quest).

RANDOM BUT IF PAINTING ON WOOD WHAT WOULD YOU USE TO PREP THE SURFACE AND TO SEAL IT?

Watch the canvas and surface and board video because it addresses wood.

DOES THIS INFO APPLY TO WATERCOLOR MIXING TOO?

Yes.

HOW DO YOU KNOW WHAT COLORS HAVE A BIAS?

Nobody knows all the bias' of all paints, check your manufacturer's website and be sure to use the chart that I provided in this tutorial from Golden.

I'M STILL HAVING TROUBLE IDENTIFYING WARM AND COOL HUES TO EACH PRIMARIES, ANY TRICK TO LEARN THAT?

Cool hues have blue in them; warm hues have yellow in them; the color wheel can probably help you make that identification. Use the Golden website for a specific pigment.

SO PRIMARY CYAN IS PRIMARY BLUE?

Remember that all manufacturers label their paint names and blend their paints differently, in some brands, it is; in others, probably not.

WOULD LIKE TO KNOW IF THERE IS SUCH A WHEEL THAT TEACHES MORE EARTHY COLORS, REALISM COLORS.

Yes, Color Wheel Company makes those wheels.

HOW TO MIX TURQUOISE COLOR?

Blue and green make turquoise, you could tint with white.

DO YOU HAVE ANY TIPS FOR PEOPLE WHO ARE TINT\COLOR BLIND?

I want to do a separate video on this, but there is science to color theory and you can use value and various tools to assist in seeing values and contrast. Plein Aire painting tools can help you and I am going to do a video on this. You might use a reduced color process.

WHAT'S THE DIFF BETWEEN PURPLE AND VIOLET?

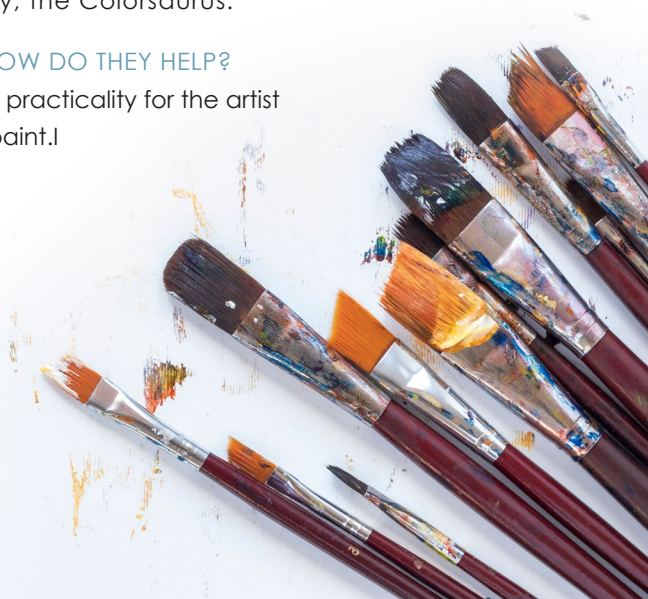
The practical term is violet, but I call it purple.

WHERE CAN I GET THAT COLOUR WHEEL FROM?

This is by the Color Wheel Company, the Colorsaurus.

WHAT DO THE SWATCHES DO AND HOW DO THEY HELP?

It takes the concept of color mixing to practicality for the artist and the specific paint being used to paint.







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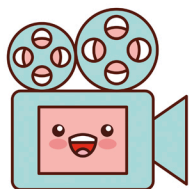
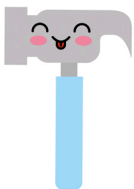
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