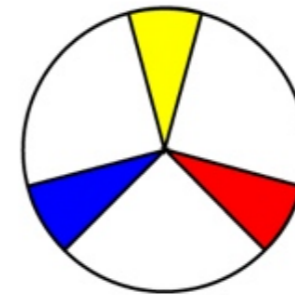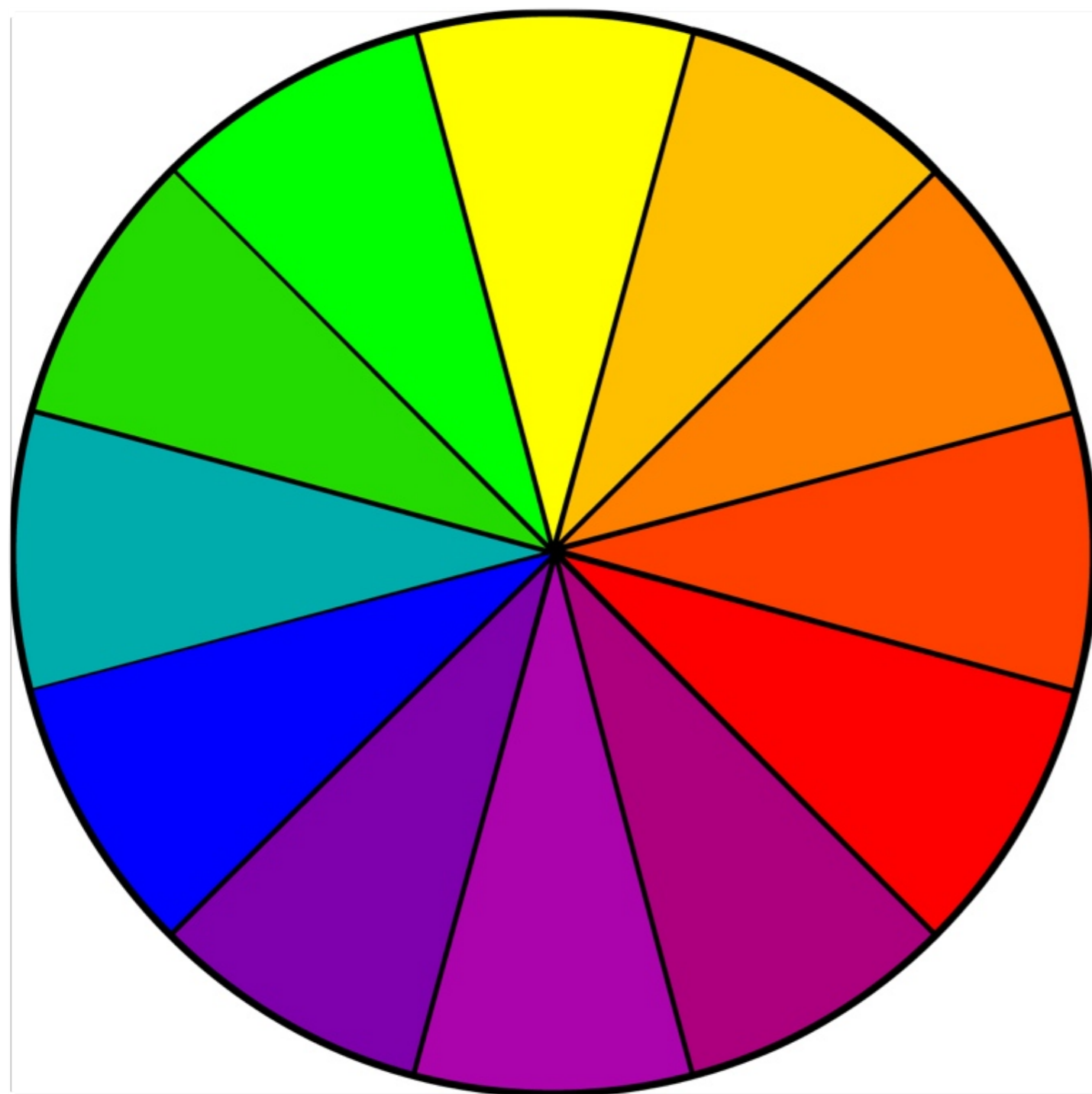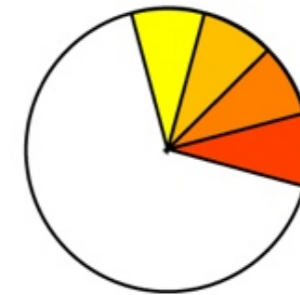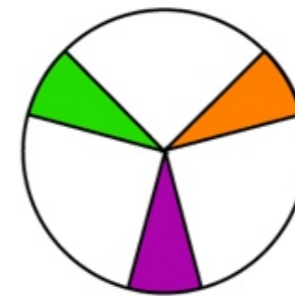# Colour systems

colour wheel
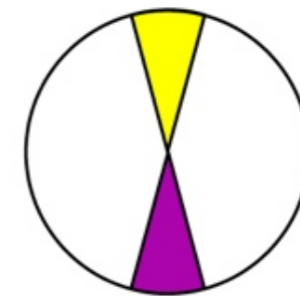

primary   analogous   hue

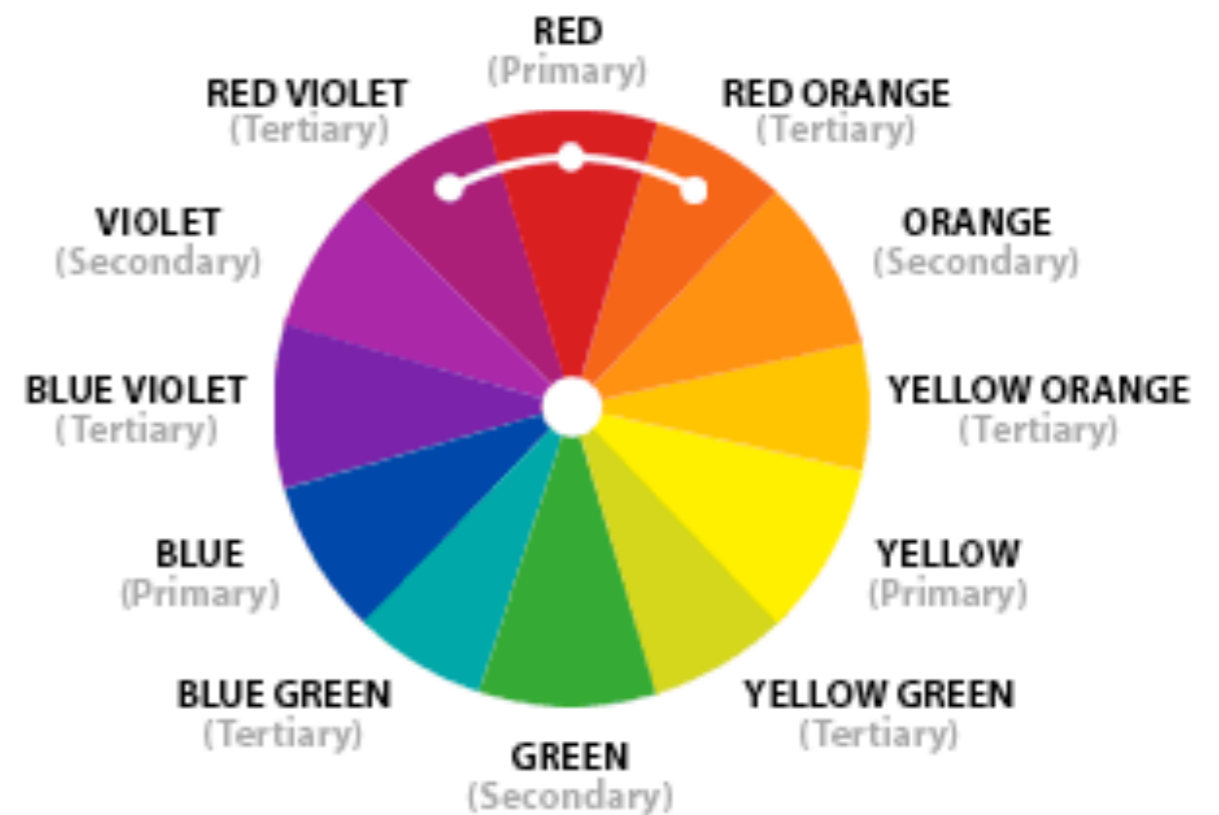secondary   complementary   tint

intermediate   split complementary   shade

monochromatic
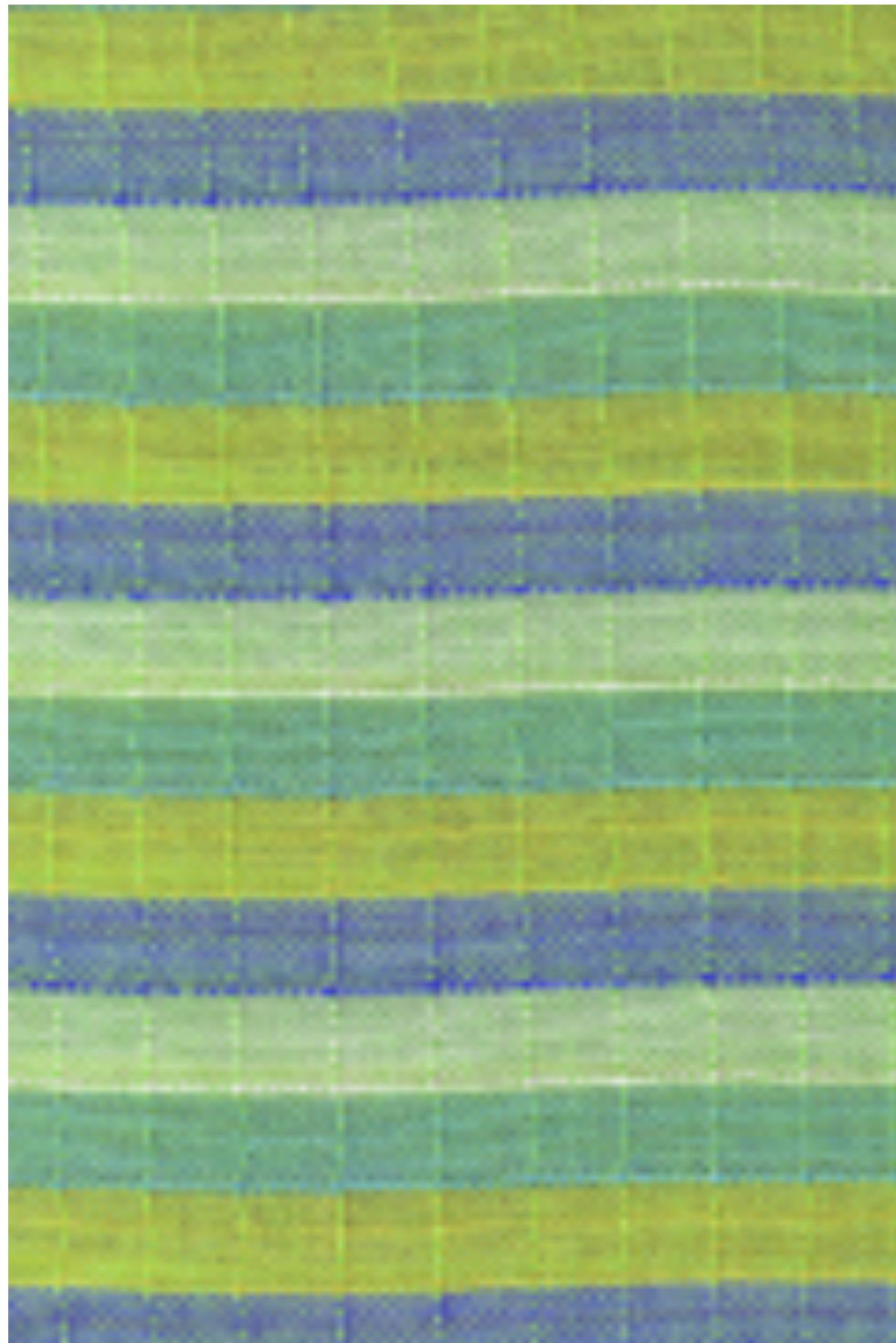

Consists of different values (tints and shades) of one single color found on the color wheel.

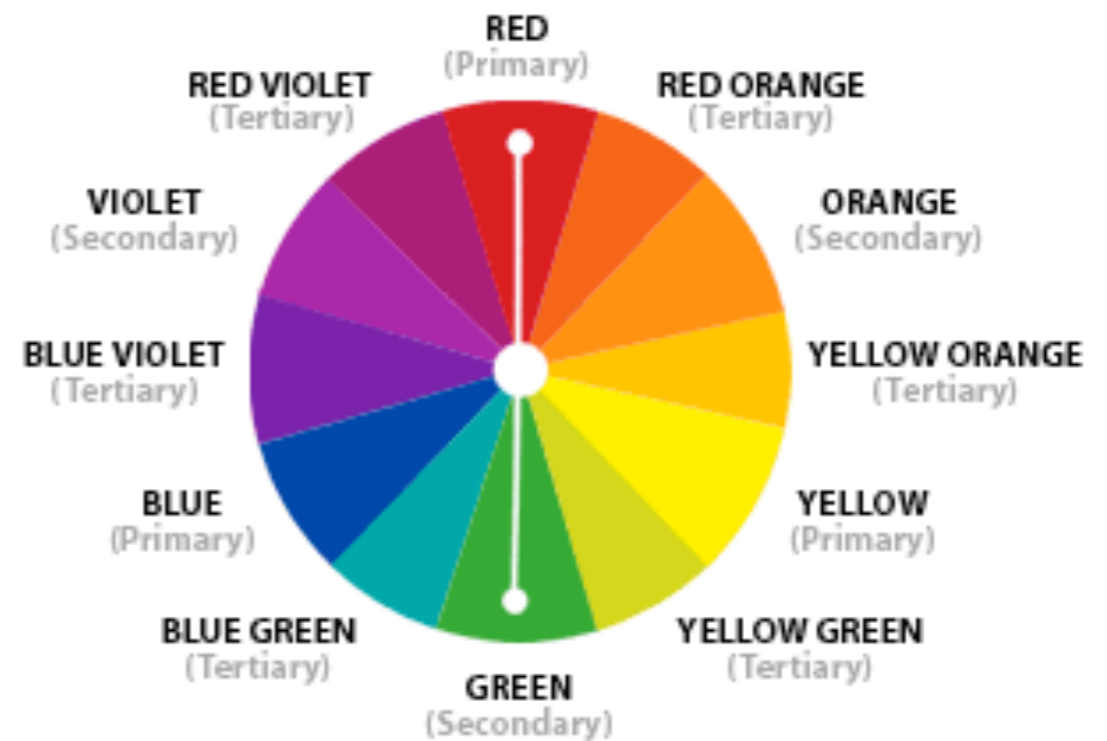# neutral

Beyond the Screen Door

Includes only colors not found on the color wheel. Neutrals can include brown, beige, and gray.

analogous

Colors that are adjacent to (next to) each other on the color wheel.
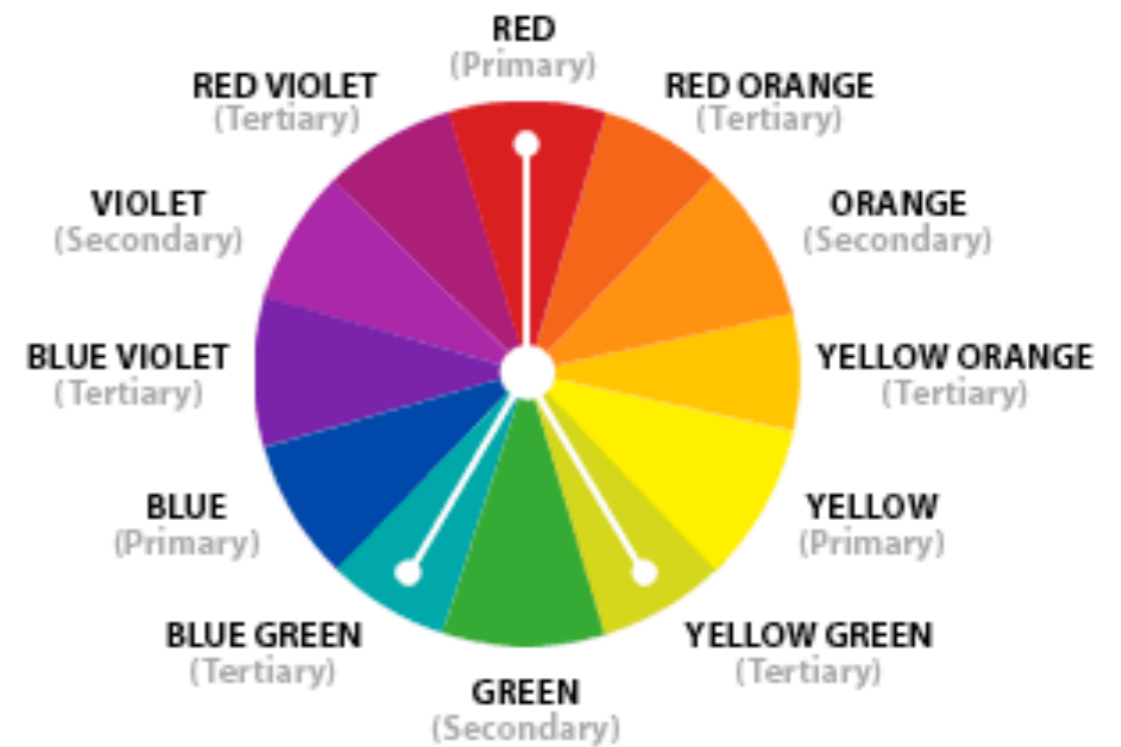
complementary

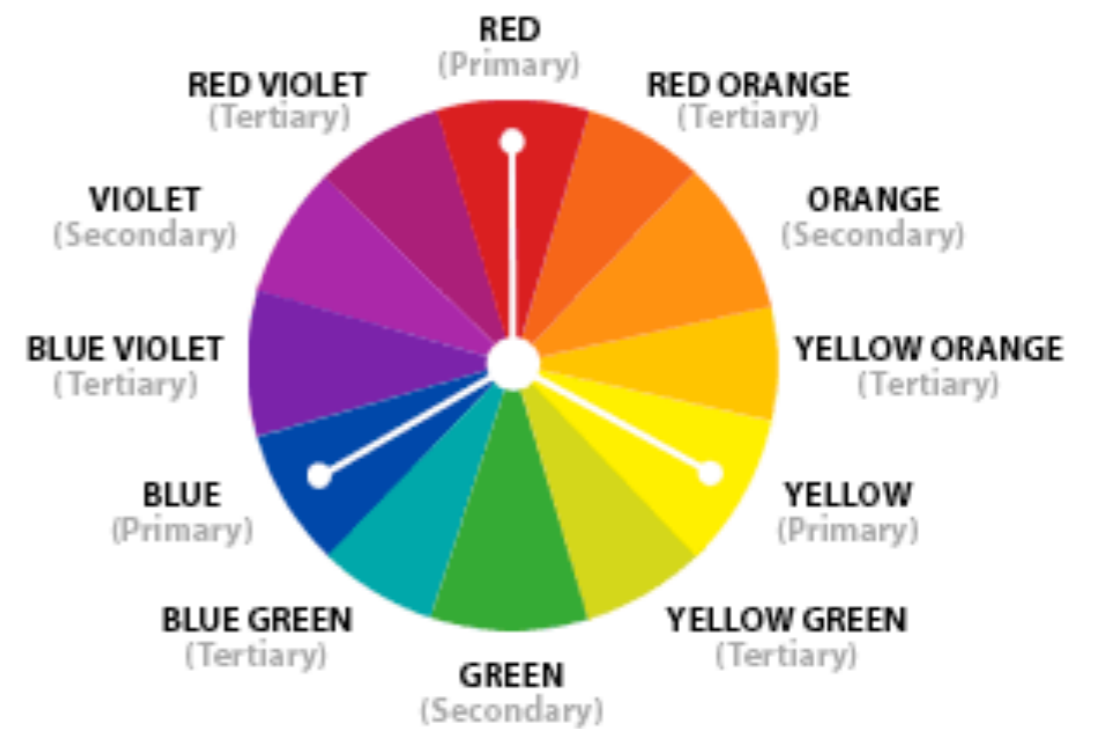Colors that are opposite on the color wheel.

split-analogous

Includes one main color and the two colors one space away from it on each side of the color wheel.

split-complementary

RED
(Primary)

RED VIOLET
(Tertiary)

RED ORANGE
(Tertiary)

VIOLET
(Secondary)

ORANGE
(Secondary)

BLUE VIOLET
(Tertiary)

YELLOW ORANGE
(Tertiary)

BLUE
(Primary)

YELLOW
(Primary)

BLUE GREEN
(Tertiary)

YELLOW GREEN
(Tertiary)

GREEN
(Secondary)

SPLIT COMPLEMENT

Includes one main color and the two colors on each side of its complementary color on the color wheel.

triadic

RED (Primary)

RED VIOLET (Tertiary)

RED ORANGE (Tertiary)

VIOLET (Secondary)

ORANGE (Secondary)

BLUE VIOLET (Tertiary)

YELLOW ORANGE (Tertiary)

BLUE (Primary)

YELLOW (Primary)

BLUE GREEN (Tertiary)

YELLOW GREEN (Tertiary)

GREEN (Secondary)
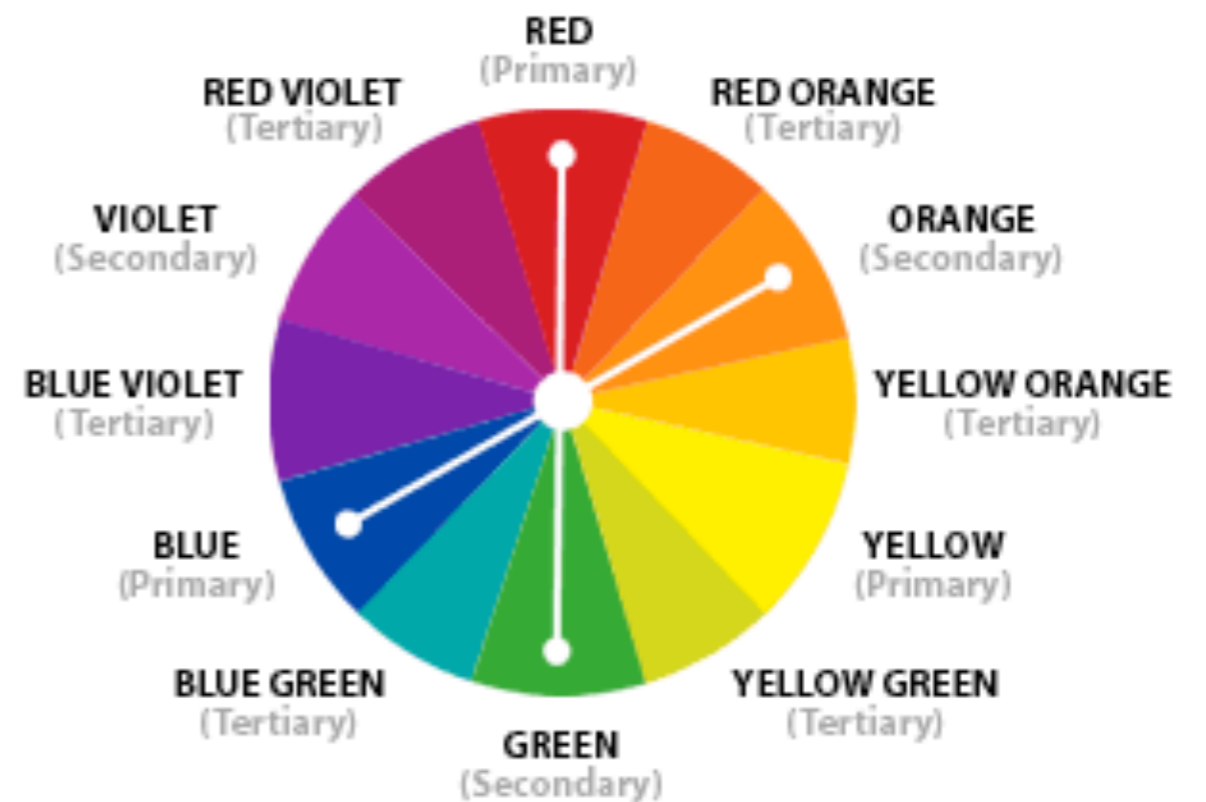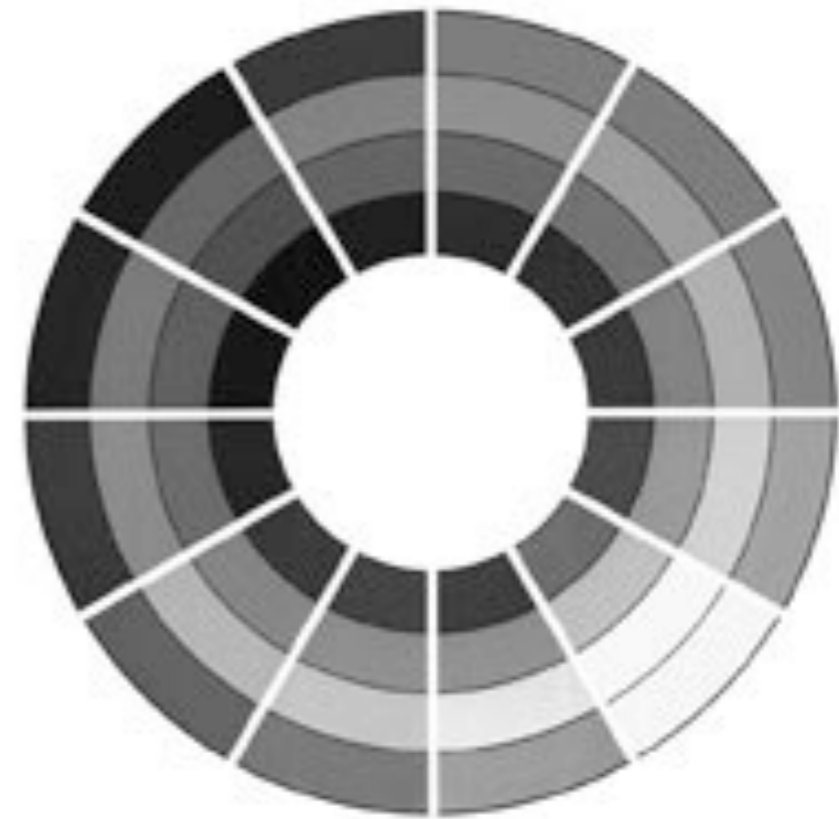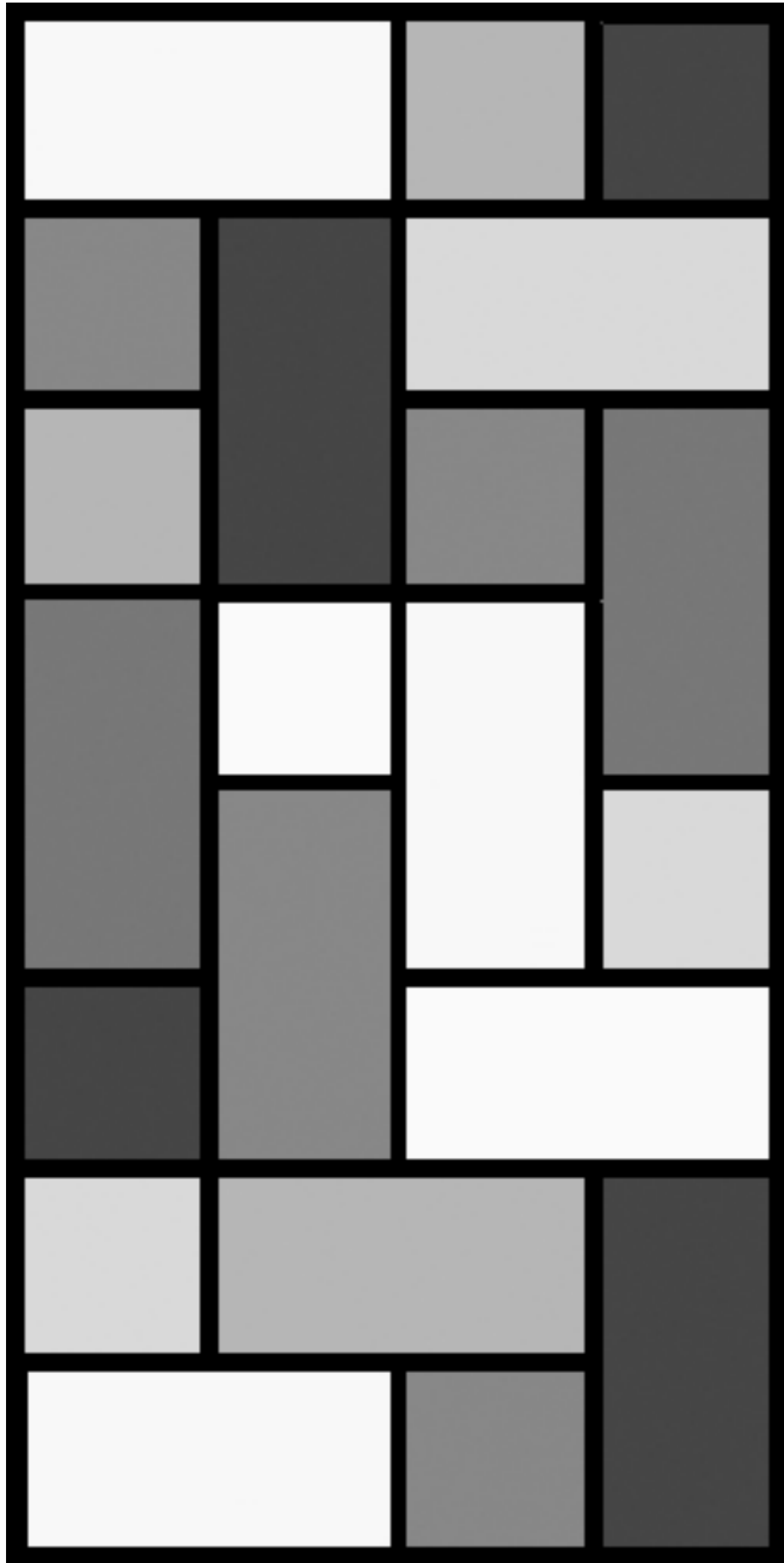
Three colors equally spaced apart on the color wheel.

tetradic

Also called double complementary – a scheme using four colors: two sets of complementary (opposite) colors.

achromatic

Use no colour, just shades of grey, black and white (also known as grayscale).