**COLOR**

**VALUE/CONTRAST** : first design element to consider when designing a quilt.

 \*Enhances quilt

 \*Clarifies design

 \*Makes depth apparent (Tumbling Blocks)

 **\*Example:** (Star Blocks)

 Dark background with Medium center (subtle contrast)

 Light background with Medium center (high contrast)

 **\*Tip:** Fabric manufacturers produce more fabrics in the medium ranges.

 If you see a dark/light fabric that catches your eye, BUY IT.

**STRATEGIES FOR VISUALIZING CONTRAST:**

 \*Squinting: limits amount of light the eye receives. This reduces your

 perception of color. Should make contrast more evident.

\*Reducing Tool: (door peep-hole) Reduces the image, making color less

 obvious and contrast more apparent.

\*Red/ Green Cellophane: Obliterates color, allowing values of light and

 dark to become more apparent.

**COLOR/HUE:** Second design element

 **\*PRIMARY COLORS:** All colors derived from RED, BLUE, YELLOW.

 **\*Note:** BLACK, GRAY, WHITE are not on the Color Wheel.

 **\*SECONDARY COLORS:** Mixing Primary Colors in different

 combinations will produce ORANGE, VIOLET, GREEN.

 Red + Yellow = Orange

 Yellow + Blue = Green

 Blue + Red = Violet

 **\*COMPLEMENTARY COLORS:** Color opposite any color on color wheel.

 Red / Green Blue / Orange Yellow / Violet

 Using a small amount of a color’s complement can serve as

 an accent.

 **Tip:** Sprinkle a touch of Orange in a Monochromatic Blue quilt.

 \***TERTIARY COLORS:** Combination of Primary and Secondary colors.

 Primary: RED, YELLOW, BLUE

 Secondary: ORANGE, VIOLET, GREEN

 Tertiary: RED-ORANGE, YELLOW-ORANGE, YELLOW-GREEN,

 BLUE-GREEN, BLUE-VIOLET, RED-VIOLET

 **Note:** Neutral colors (beige, cream) can be added to one-color

 and multi-colored quilts. Neutrals give the eye a place to

 rest among all the other colors. They spread out competing

 colors and add contrast.

 **\*TINTS, SHADES, TONES:**

 Tint: White is added

 Shade: Black is added

 Tone: Gray is added

 Alter a color’s value by adding White, Black, or Gray

 Consider the infinite amounts of these 3 colors that can be added.

 The number of colors available is limitless. By using these colors,

 manufacturers can produce both bright/vibrant colors and a more

 subtle palette, as well.

 **\*TEMPERATURE:**

Fabrics have a warmth, or lack of warmth.

 Predominantly “cool” fabrics (Blue), can be enhanced with

 a touch of “warmth” from Orange or Yellow.

 However, theTtemperature of a color depends on what colors

 are around it.

 Yellow-Green and Red-Violet can be “warm” or “cool” depending

 on what the neighbor color is.

 **\*INTENSITY:**

 When you look at fabric, decide if the color is pure (saturated,

 brilliant), or muted (grayed, subtle). This indicates the

 fabrics intensity.

 Less intense colors are good for larger areas of a quilt.

 Intense colors will appear to come forward.

 Less intense colors will recede.

 Again, Intensity of fabric will change according to the fabrics

 around it.

 **\*COMBINING COLORS:**

 Fabrics may have similar colors to the bright/pure colors on a

 Color Wheel; but, these colors can be influenced by patterns,

 designs, and additional colors in that fabric.

 Study the fabric.

Note the color combinations.

 Use selvage “dots” that show colors used to create fabric.

 **Note:** If you only use the “dot” colors, quilt may look flat.

 Incorporate Tints, Shades, Tones, Intensity, and Temperature.

 **\*\***Color Wheel and Charts are only a guide.

 **\*MONOCHROMATIC COLOR SCHEME:**

 Quilt is designed in a single color.

 Every Monochromatic quilt should include as many variations

 of that single color as possible. (Tints, Shades, Primary,

 Secondary, and Tertiary)

 **Note:** Monochromatic quilts are most successful when fabric

 designs, textures, and contrast are incorporated.

 **Note:** Brown is not on the color wheel (has all colors in it).

 Use Brown when you don’t want to add another color, but

 need some type of contrast or transition.

 **\*SPLIT COMPLEMENTS COLOR THEME:**

Includes Primary, Secondary, and Tertiary colors. It also includes

 the colors on either side of its complement.

 **Example:** Violet Fabric

 Complement is Yellow

 Colors on either side of Yellow: Yellow-Orange

 and Yellow-Green

 **Note:** If these colors are too strong as pure colors, consider

 Eggplant, Olive, and Mustard. These are warm and mellow.

**\*ANALOGOUS COLOR SCHEME:**

 Neighboring colors of Primary colors.

 Select your feature fabric and find its closest companion on the

 Color Wheel.

 Pull your remaining fabrics from neighboring colors.

**Example:** Feature fabric is Green

 Pick a variety of light and dark fabrics in

 Yellow-Green, Yellow, Blue-Green,

 and Blue.

 This is one of the safest color schemes, but your

 quilt can look dull if you don’t use fabrics with

 some interest in their patterns and contrast.

 **\*TRIAD COLOR SCHEME:**

 >Three colors that are equidistant on Color Wheel.

 >Creates a harmonious quilt.

 >Four Triad combinations:

 TRIAD #1: EXAMPLES TRIAD #2: EXAMPLES

 Red Cranberry Violet Eggplant

 Blue Navy Orange Melon

 Yellow Gold Green Seafoam

 TRIAD #3: EXAMPLES TRIAD #4: EXAMPLES

 Blue-Violet Lilac Blue-Green Teal

 Red-Orange Salmon Red-Violet Magenta

 Yellow-Green Yellow-Green Yellow-Orange Mustard

 >You can select from an unlimited number of Tints, Shades, and

 Intensities within these colors.

**\*TETRAD COLOR SCHEME:**

 >Uses four Primary, Secondary, or Tertiary colors that are

 equidistant on the Color Wheel.

 >Three possible Tetrad combinations.

 >Choices are unlimited using Tints, Shades, and Intensities within

 these combinations.

 TETRAD #1: EXAMPLES TETRAD #2: EXAMPLES

 Blue Blue Red Red

 Orange Melon Green Forest Green

 Red-Violet Magenta Blue-Violet Blue-Violet

 Yellow-Green Mint Yellow-Orange Mustard

 TETRAD #3: EXAMPLES

 Violet Eggplant

 Yellow Daffodil

 Blue-Green Teal

 Red-Orange Salmon

 **\*POLYCHROMATIC COLOR SCHEME:**

 >Multi-color combinations

 >Used in scrap quilts

 >Composed of many fabrics in a wide range of colors/textures

 >Varying Contrast, Intensity, and Temperature helps pull the

 Quilt together.

 **>Note:** Adding Neutral fabrics to the mix provides balance among

 the colors that otherwise might compete for attention.

 **\*CLOSING:**

 >Colors have all sorts of names, which can be confusing.

 >Colors evoke emotions in all of us.

 >Combining colors takes OBSERVATION and PRACTICE.

 >Using a Color Wheel can help as a guide.

 >STUDY other quilts that “Speak to You”.

 >LOOK at artwork, fashion, pictures in magazines, etc.