

Color Schemes



Color Schemes

- While some artists and designers use color intuitively, many rely on knowledge of color harmonies based on the color wheel.
- Color schemes help to give a design an underlying harmony and structure, as well as mood.

Monochromatic

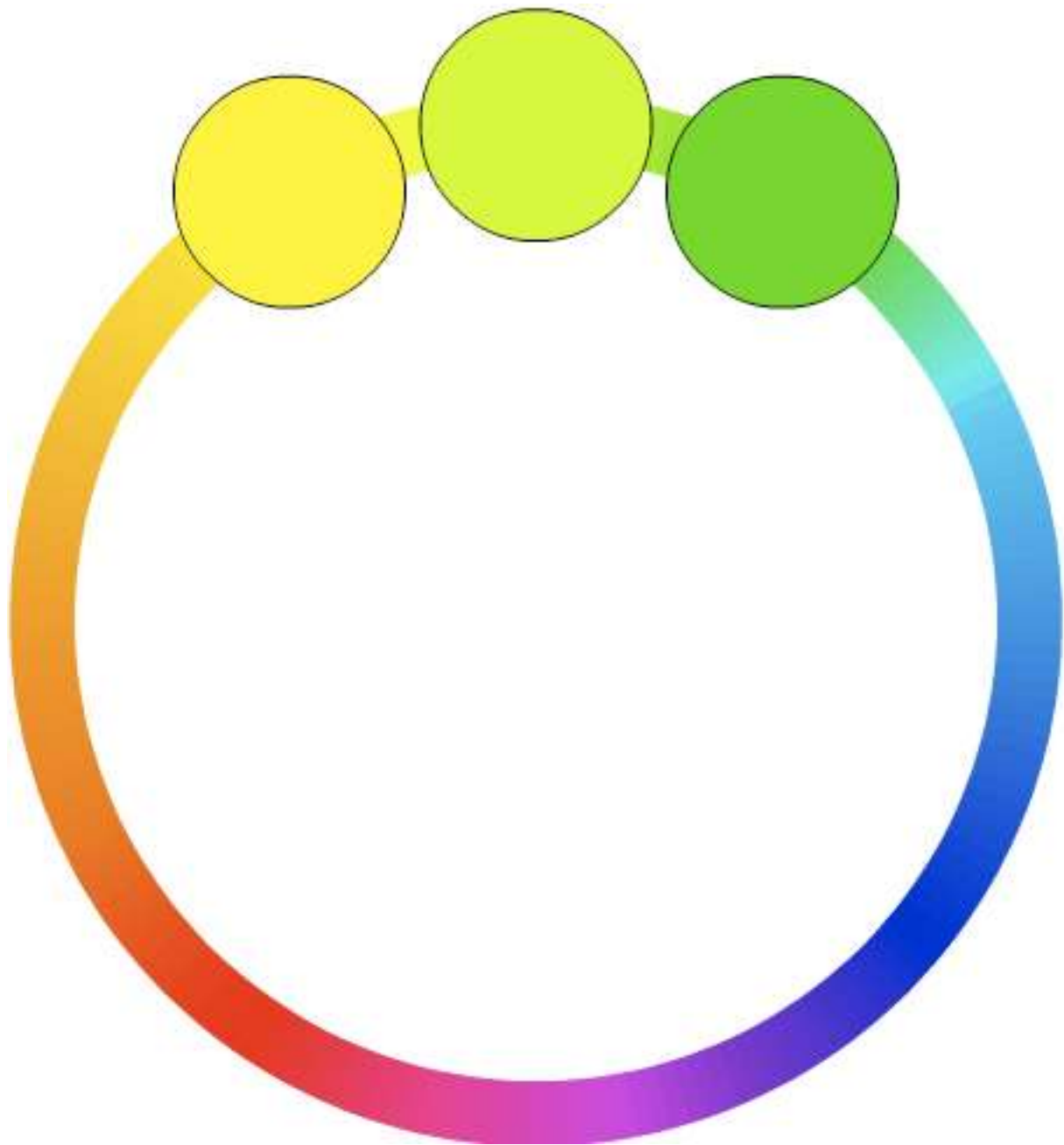
- Uses a single hue, but relies on tints, tones, and shades for variety.
- provides a strong sense of visual cohesion and can help support communication objectives through the use of connotative color. (i.e. Picasso's Blue Period)

Monochromatic



Analogous

Analogous colors are three or more colors that are next to each other on the color wheel, like the circles in the picture in the next slide. Using this type of color scheme makes the composition look harmonious, but the actual feeling conveyed will depend on the colors you chose based mostly on their temperature: warm colors versus cold colors.



Analogous schemes



Britt Bass

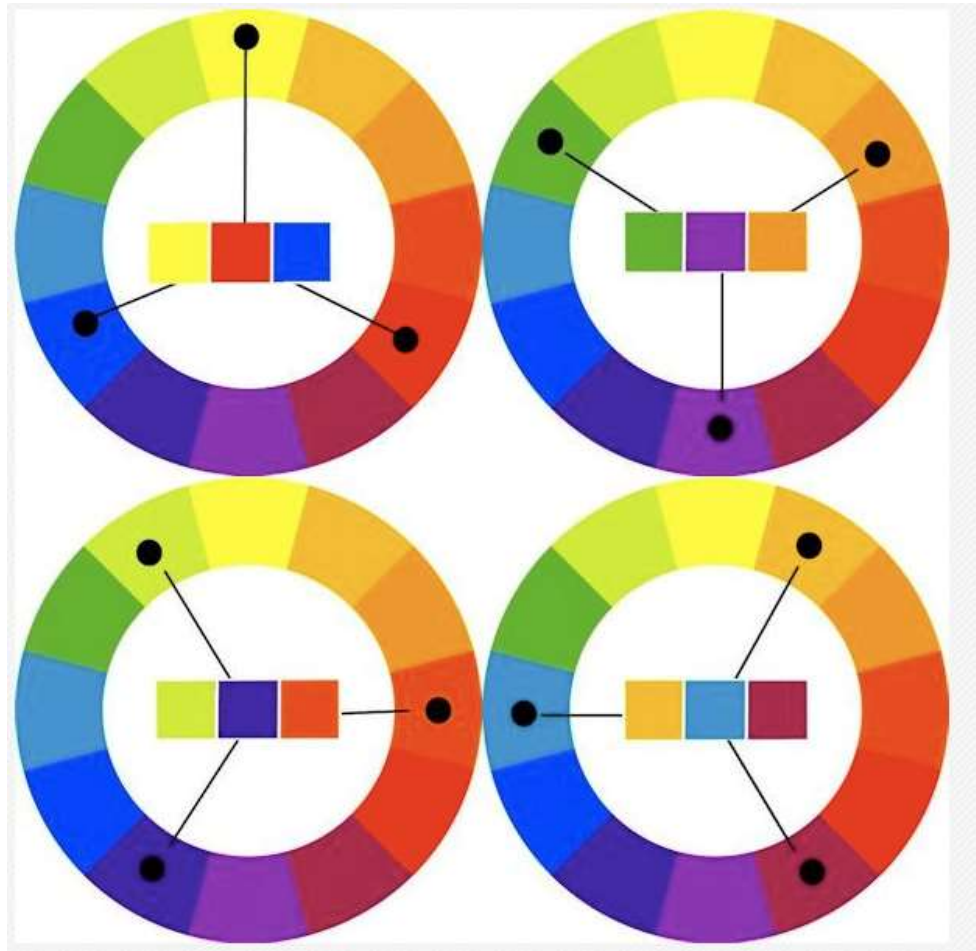


Erin McIntosh

Triadic

- A triadic color scheme will include three colors from the color wheel that are equally spaced to form a triangle, or if you are using a 12 color wheel, the scheme would be comprised by selecting every fourth color on the wheel.

Triadic

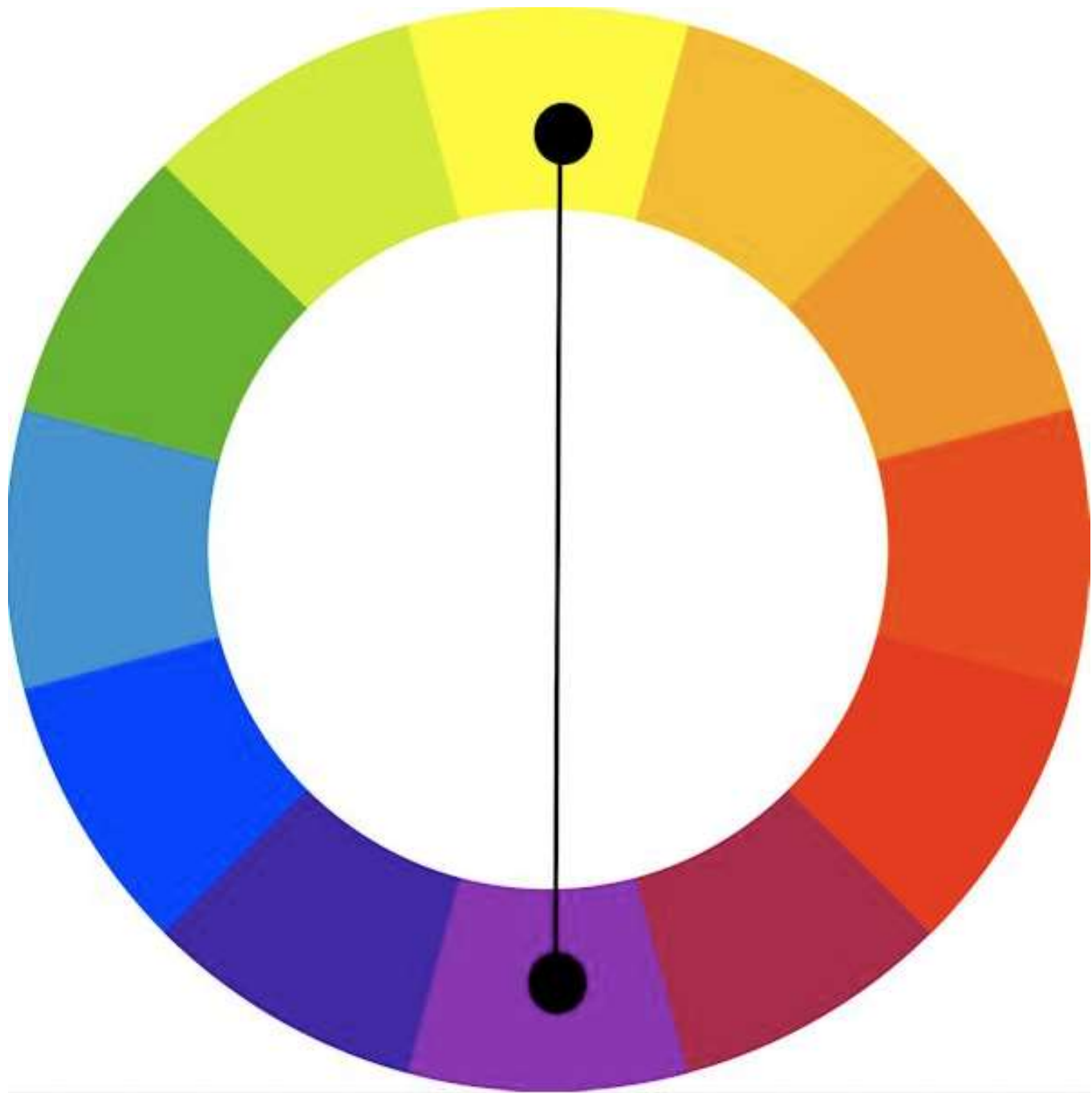


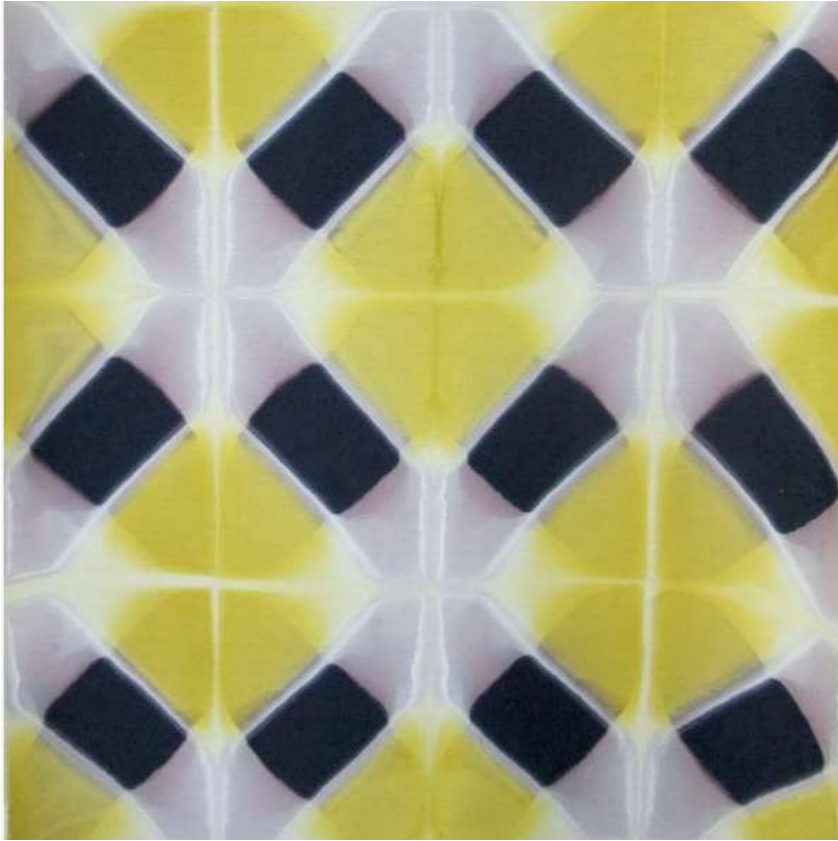


Remember that tints, tones, and shades of each or any of the colors can create a more nuanced palette.

Complimentary

- Complementary colors are colors that are located across each other on the color wheel. For example red-green, blue-orange and purple-yellow.





Shibori dyed cloth



Tantric painting, unknown artist

When a painting is made using a complementary color scheme, the result is usually very vibrant and high-contrast. As in the other color schemes, you will get better results if one of the colors is dominant while the other is used as an accent. (Or one is Tinted, toned, or shaded to lower the intensity/saturation of the color.)



Can include tones (even tinted tones!)

Tetrad

- Tetrad or Double Compliment Square Tetrad :
Two pairs of equidistant complimentary colors that are at the points of a square.
- Rectangular Tetrad - Two pairs of complimentary colors that are at the points of a rectangle.

Tetrad



Tetrad



Britt Bass

Red and green, blue and orange plus tints, shades, black, grey



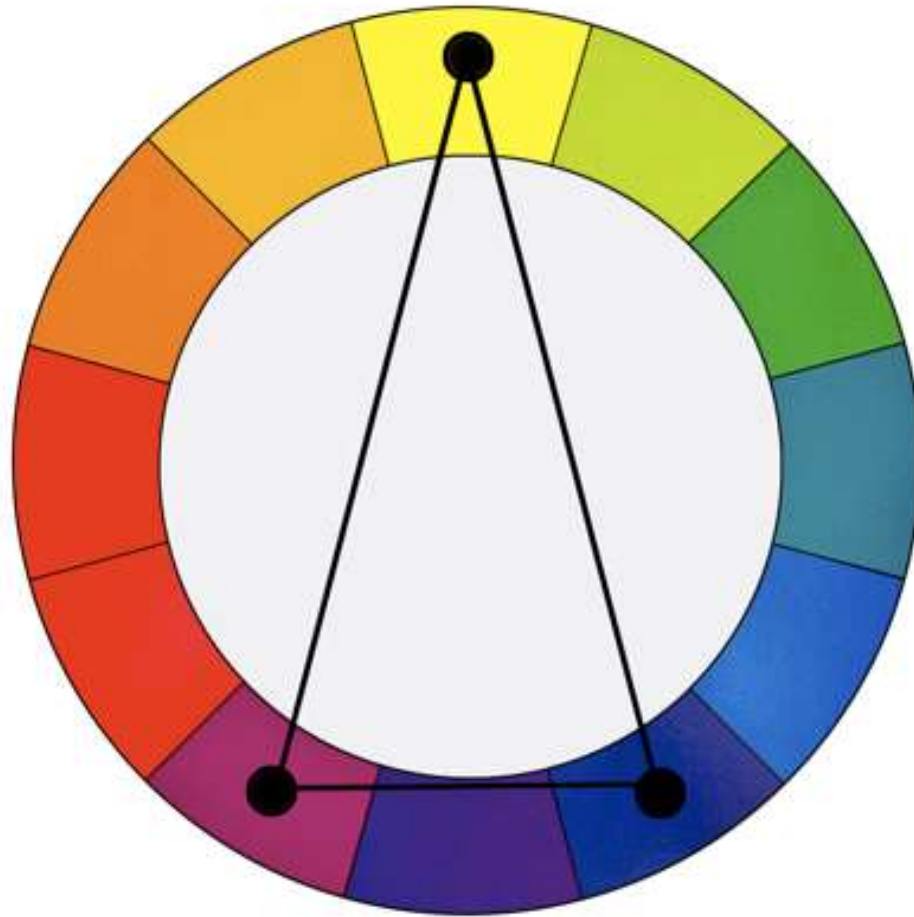
Claire Grille

Yellow and Violet, blue-green and red-orange

Split Complementary

- In a Split Complementary color harmony we use two colors plus the color that is opposite to them on the color wheel.
- This harmony has a strong visual contrast, similar to the complimentary color harmony , but with less tension because three colors are used instead of two.

Split Compliment





Project: Cell, Motif, Pattern.

- From a single cell (one designed unit), you will create 2 patterns (8"x8") with their own unique color scheme.
- Your cell design will be 4"x 4" and include only hard edge shapes.
- Sketch several (at least 3) cell design ideas in greyscale before committing to your final! Try to make dynamic, nuanced designs.

Cell: one visual unit



Motif: two visual units (one repeat)

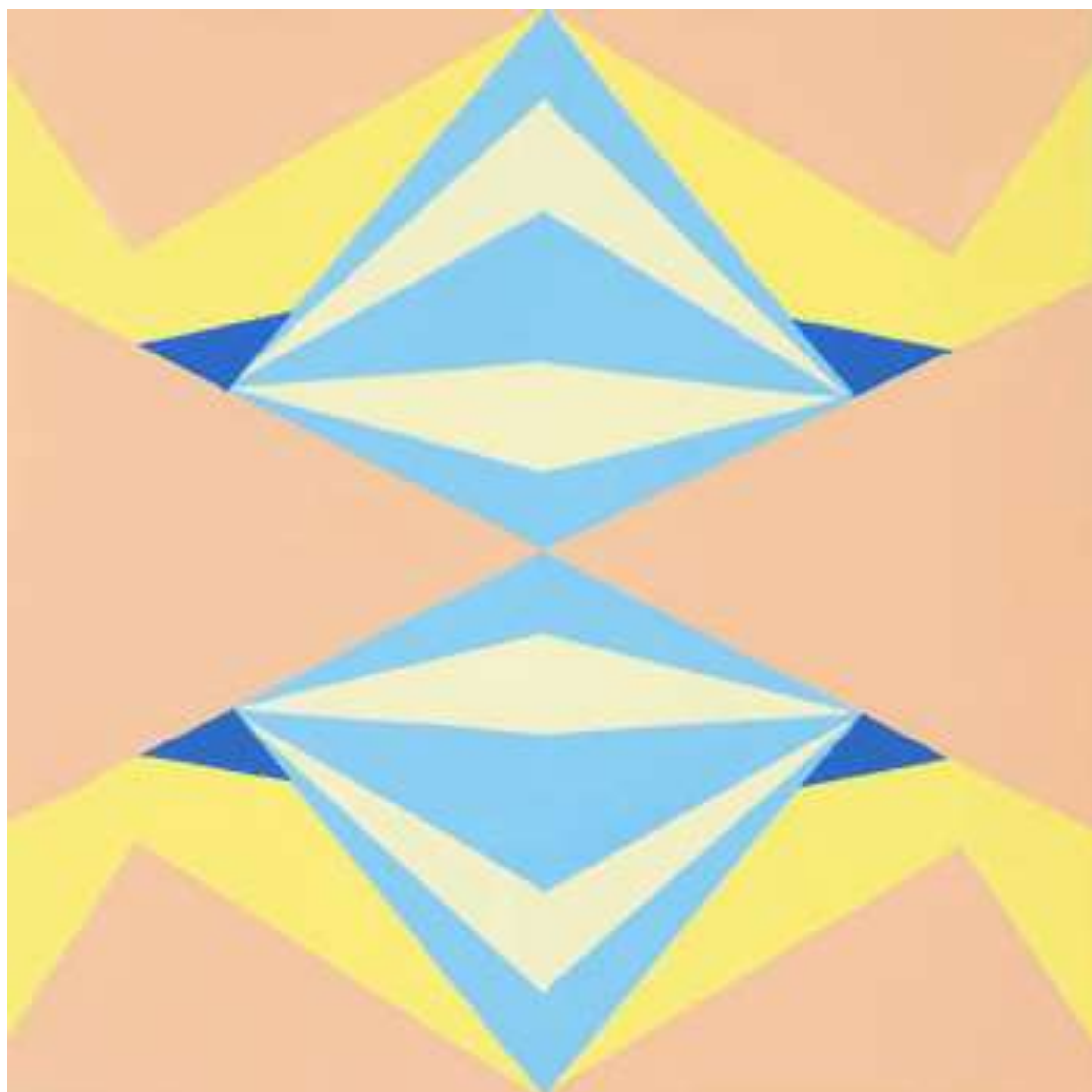


Experiment with different rotations:

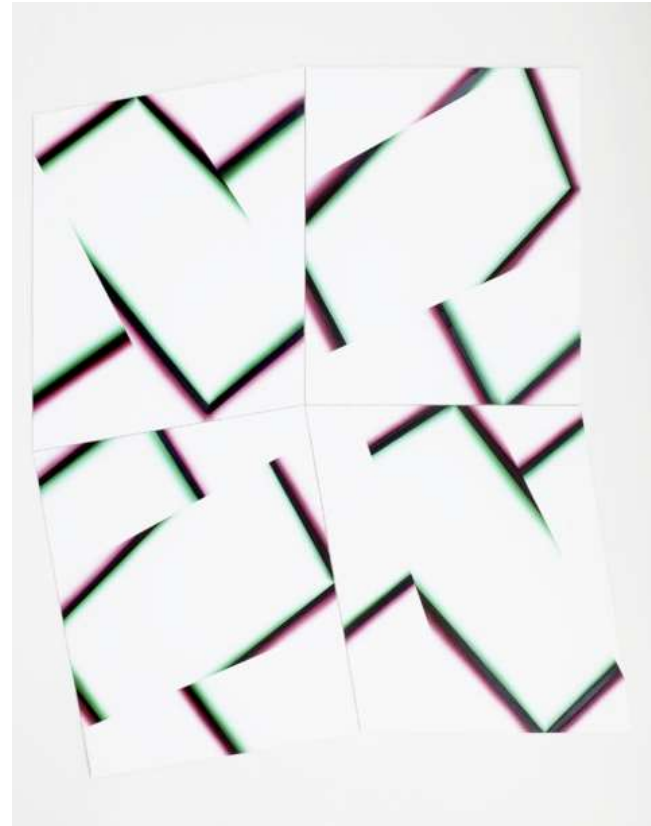


- You will pick 2 color schemes to apply using tape and acrylic paint. You **MUST** use some unmodified color in your design (tint, tone, shades)





Some geometric pattern examples:



Lots of geo patterns, repeat and non-repeat:

<http://www.pinterest.com/starsineyes/geodesic-or-geometric/>