

Primary Colors



Primary colors are defined as a set of colors that when combined together produces a gamut of colors. The primary colors are **Red**, **Yellow** and **Blue** or sometimes noted as **RYB**. In addition to Primary colors there are **Secondary colors**. Secondary colors are **Green**, **Orange** and **Purple**. And finally **Tertiary colors**. There are six Tertiary colors which are formed by combining Primary and Secondary colors. There are: **Red-Orange**, **Yellow-Orange**, **Yellow-Green**, **Blue-Green**, **Blue-Violet** and **Red-Violet**.

If the source is **Light** then the Primary colors are Red, Green and Blue or **RGB**. RGB is considered “additive colors”. If the source is **Paint**, then Red, Yellow and Blue. It depends on the source medium you are working with.



The **CMYK** color model is considered “subtractive colors” and most commonly used in color printing. The colors are **Cyan**, **Magenta**, **Yellow** and **Black**. When printed on a White paper these colors absorb the light.

RGB denotes the primary colors of light and **CMYK** denotes the primary colors of pigment.