

An abstract painting with vibrant colors and visible brushstrokes. The background is a mix of yellow, orange, red, and blue. The text is overlaid on a semi-transparent white and blue rectangular area.

Color Theory

Introduction to the Elements of Art & Design

PART I: SOME BASICS

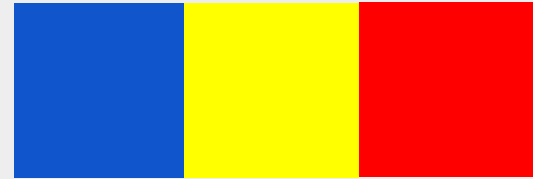
The background is a vibrant, abstract composition of organic, flowing shapes in shades of red, blue, and cyan. The colors are layered and blended, creating a sense of depth and movement. There are several distinct, rounded shapes in various sizes, some appearing as if they are floating or embedded within the larger, more fluid forms. The overall effect is reminiscent of a microscopic view of a biological tissue or a cross-section of a mineral specimen.

Let's Start with some Basic Terms.

Hue

The name of a color in the color spectrum.

Primary Hues



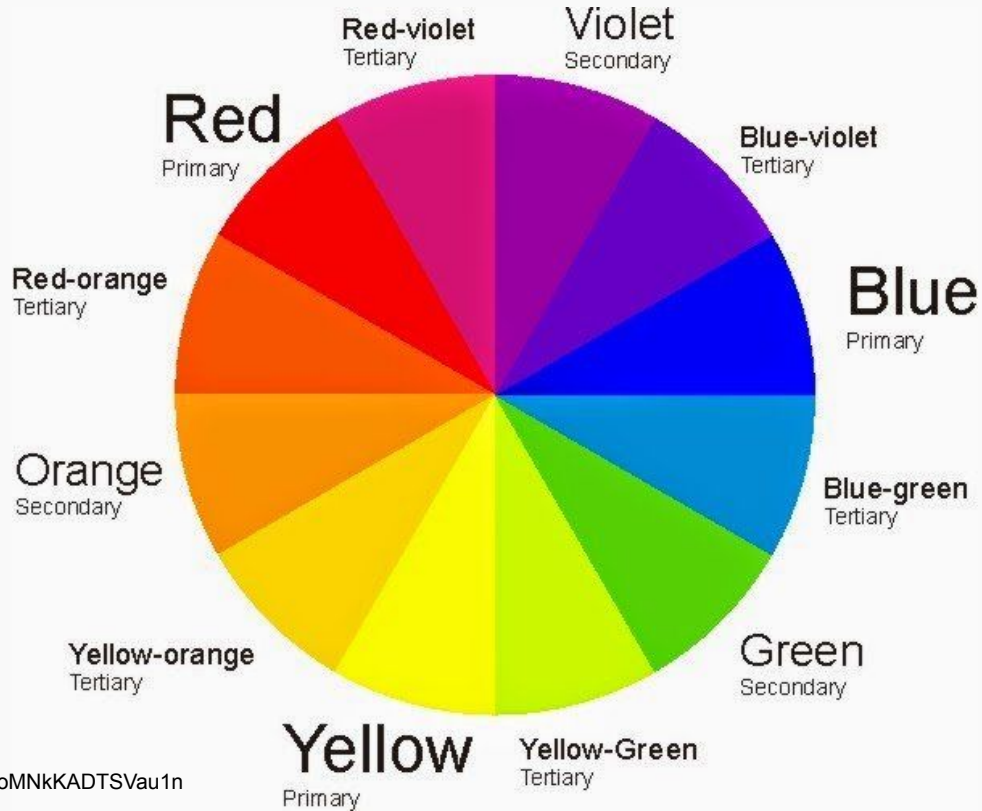
Secondary Hues



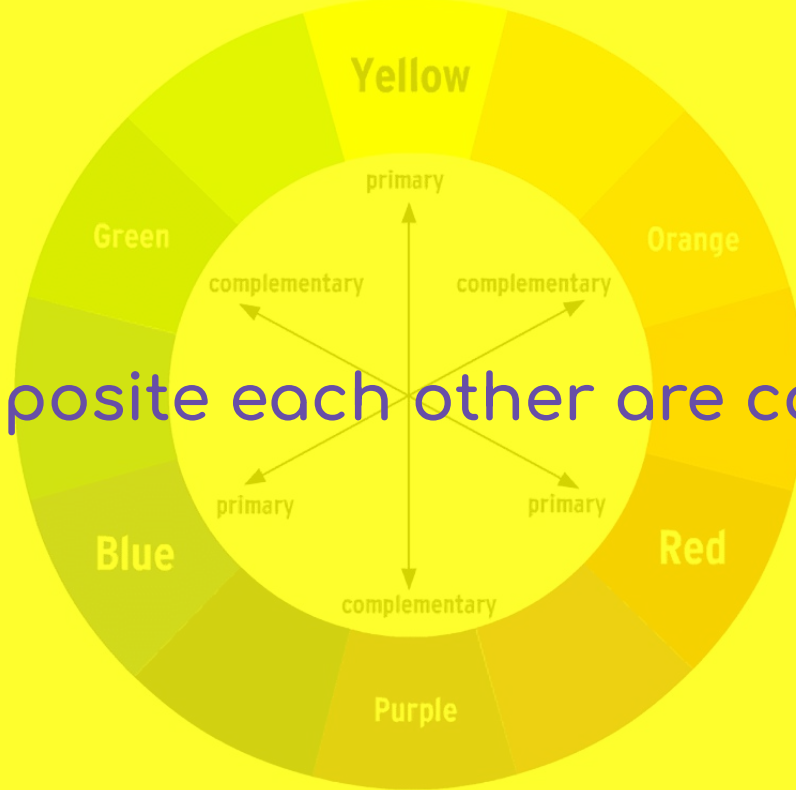
Tertiary (intermittent) Hues



COLOR SPECTRUM WHEEL

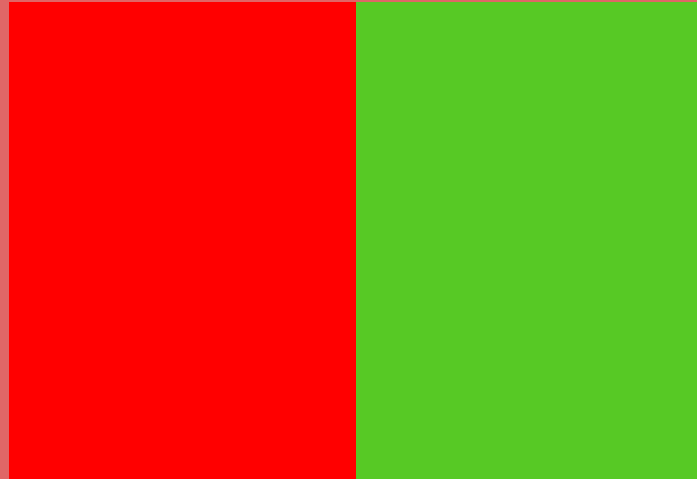


COMPLEMENTARY COLORS

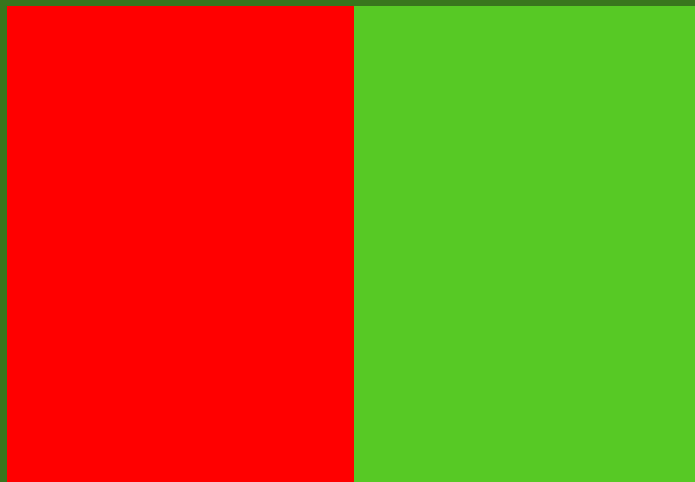


The colors opposite each other are complementary.

THE COMPLEMENT OF A HUE ABSORBS ALL OF THE LIGHTWAVES THAT THE HUE REFLECTS



WHEN A PAIR OF HIGH-INTENSITY COLORS ARE PLACED SIDE BY SIDE, THEY SEEM TO VIBRATE.



com·ple·ment

noun

1.
a thing that completes or brings to perfection:

"the libretto proved a perfect complement to the music"

synonyms

accompaniment, companion, addition, supplement, accessory, ... more

antonyms

contrast

2.
a number or quantity of something, especially that required to make a group complete:

"at the moment we have a full complement of staff"

synonyms

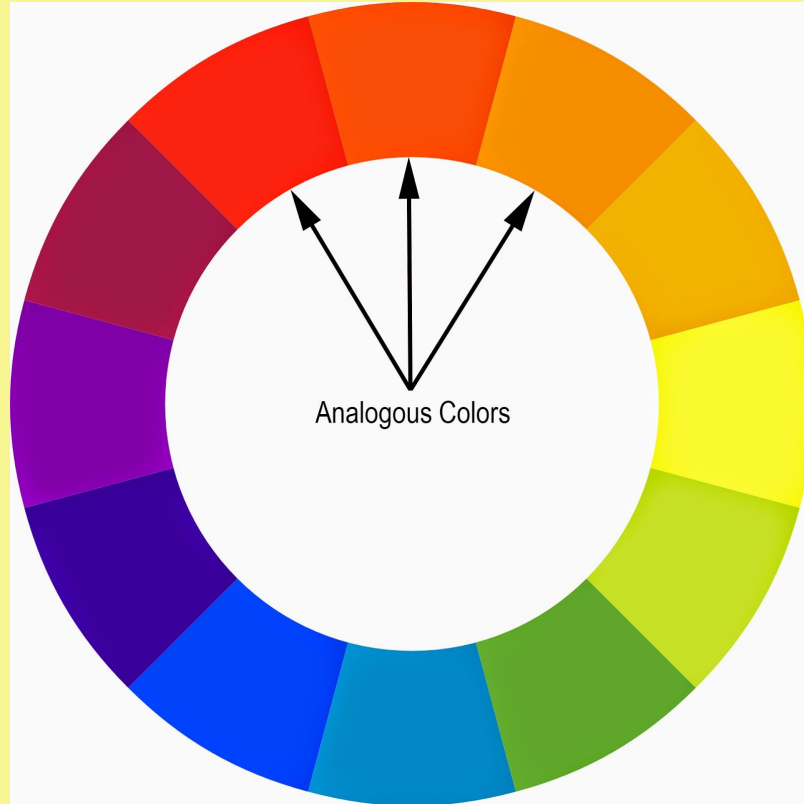
amount, total, aggregate, contingent, company, ... more

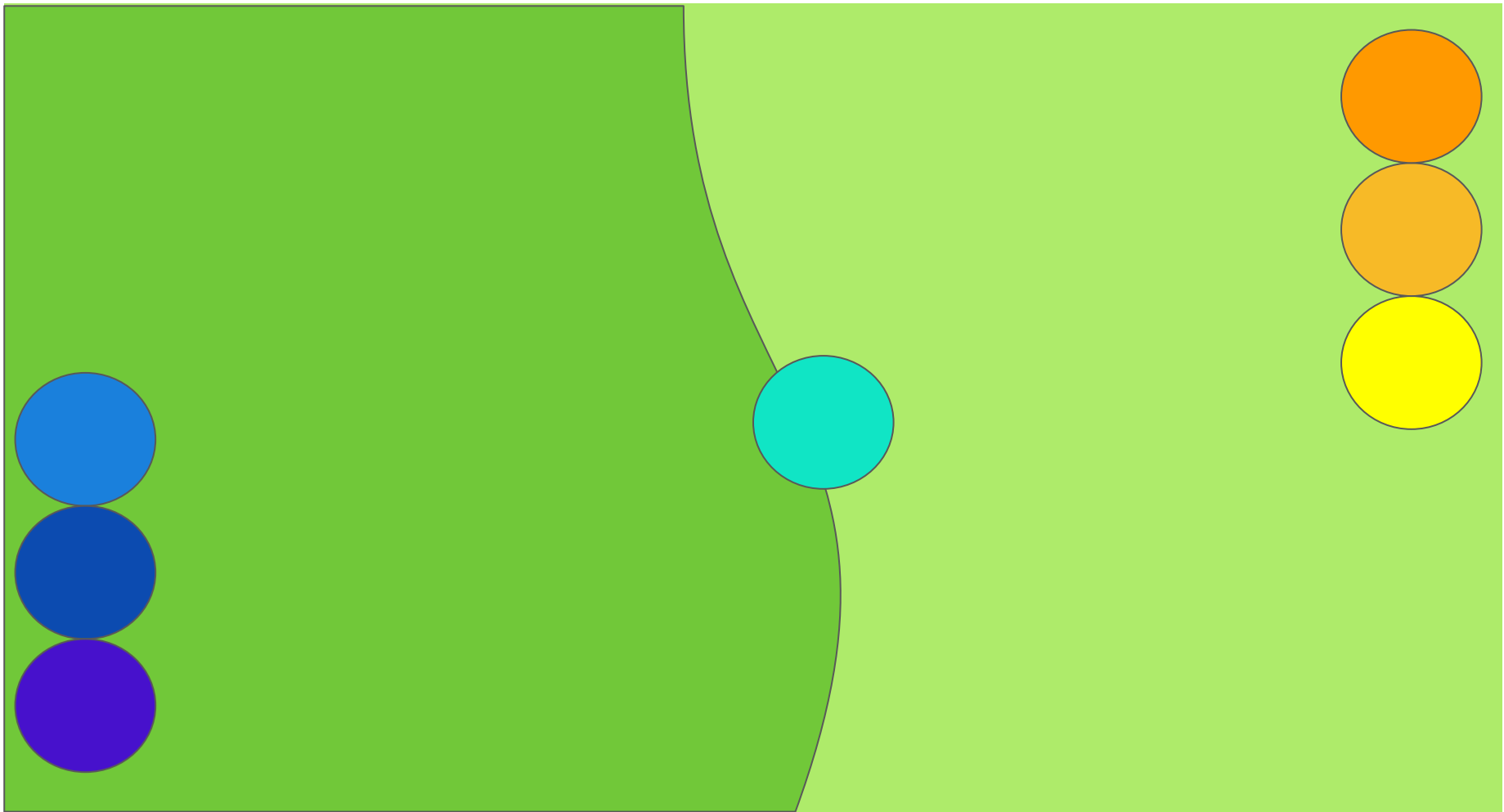
verb

1.
add to (something) in a way that enhances or improves it; make perfect:

"a classic blazer complements a look that's stylish or casual"

Analogous Colors





The background of the slide features a close-up of an artist's palette with various colored paint wells on the left and a paintbrush with a blue handle and white bristles on the right, resting on a surface. The entire scene is partially obscured by a semi-transparent blue rectangular overlay that contains the text.

Definition of *analogous*

: similar or comparable to something else either in general or in some specific detail

Timbre in music is *analogous* to color in painting.

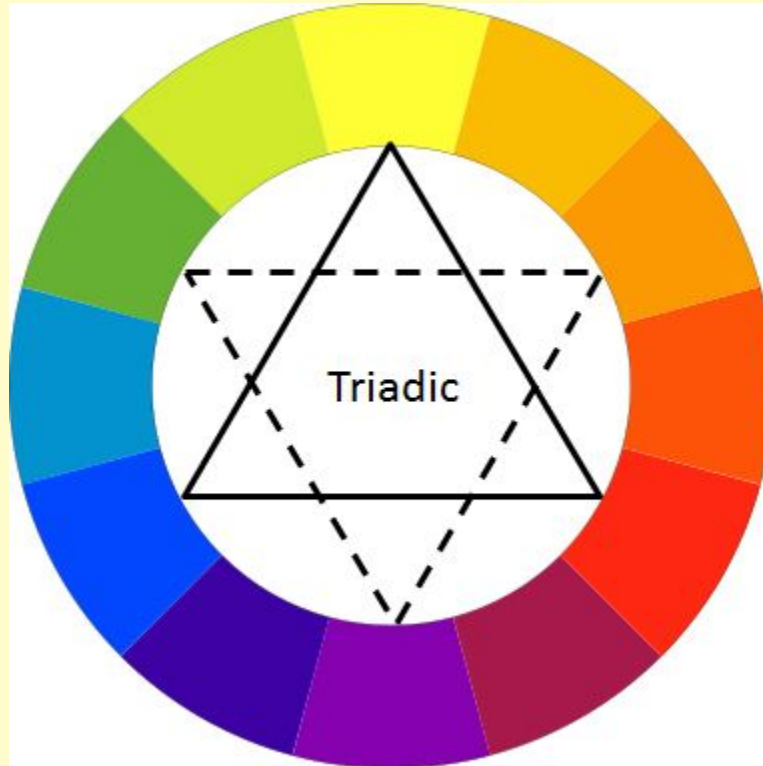
— Aaron Copland

An airplane's joystick is somewhat *analogous* to the reins on a horse.

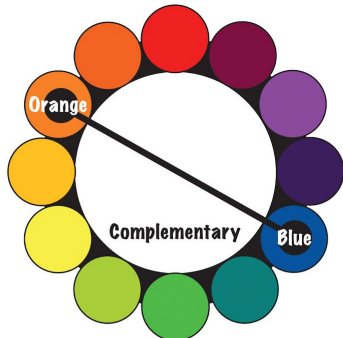
: similar in a way that invites comparison : showing an analogy or a likeness that permits one to draw an analogy

a town council and a government body that serves an *analogous* function

Triadic Colors



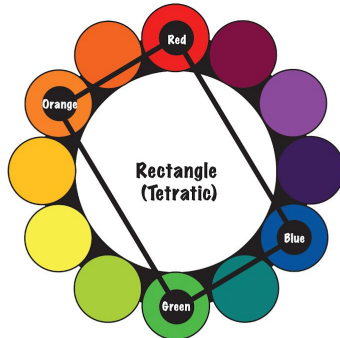
Color Schemes



Complementary color scheme

Colors that are opposite each other on the color wheel are considered to be complementary colors.

(example: Orange and Blue).



Rectangle (tetradic) color scheme

The rectangle or tetradic color scheme uses four colors arranged into two complementary pairs.

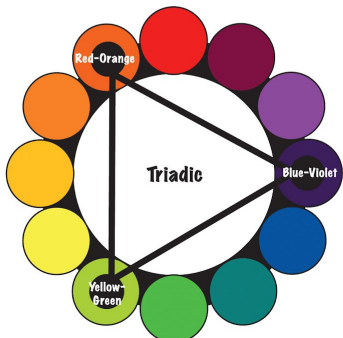
(example: Orange, Red, Blue and Green)



Analogous color scheme

Analogous color schemes use colors that are next to each other on the color wheel.

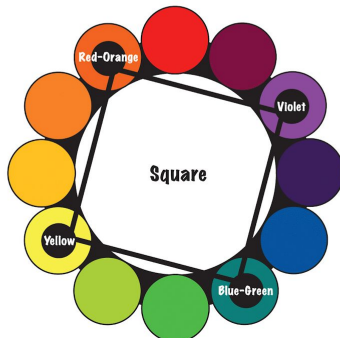
(example: Green, Blue-Green and Blue)



Triadic color scheme

A triadic color scheme uses colors that are evenly spaced around the color wheel.

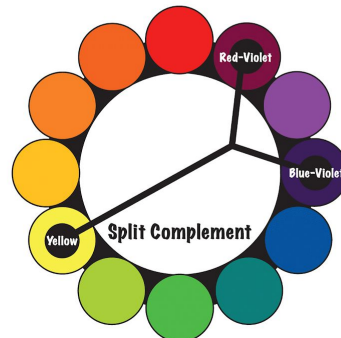
(example: Yellow-Green, Red-Orange and Blue-Violet)



Square color scheme

The square color scheme is similar to the rectangle, but with all four colors spaced evenly around the color circle.

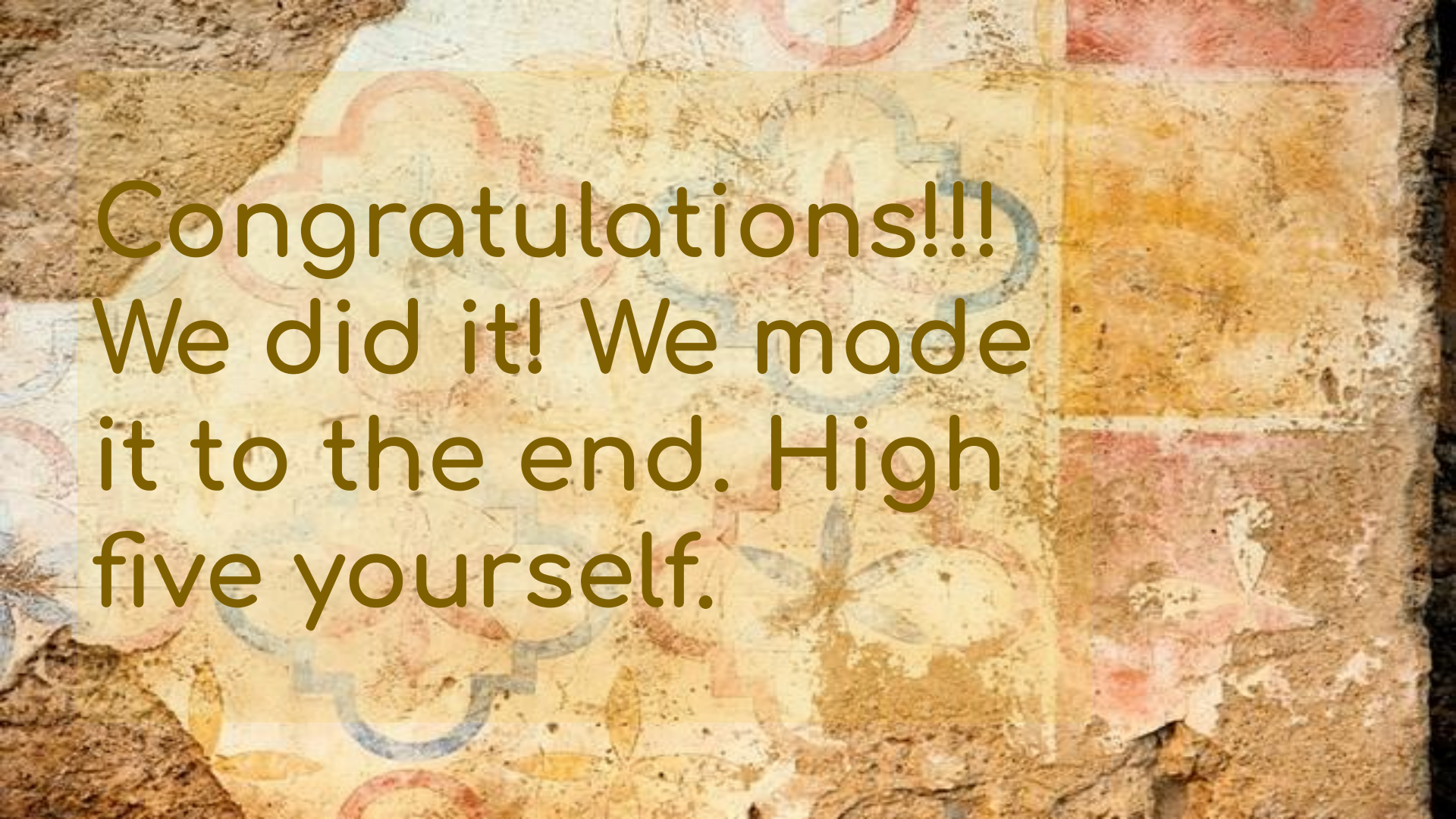
(example: Yellow, Red-Orange, Violet and Blue-Green)



Split-Complementary color scheme

The split-complementary color scheme is a variation of the complementary color scheme. In addition to the base color, it uses the two colors adjacent to its complement.

(example: Yellow, Red-Violet and Blue-Violet)



Congratulations!!!
We did it! We made
it to the end. High
five yourself.