



MY COLYR

Introduction to the COLYR Kit

FINDMYCOLORS.COM



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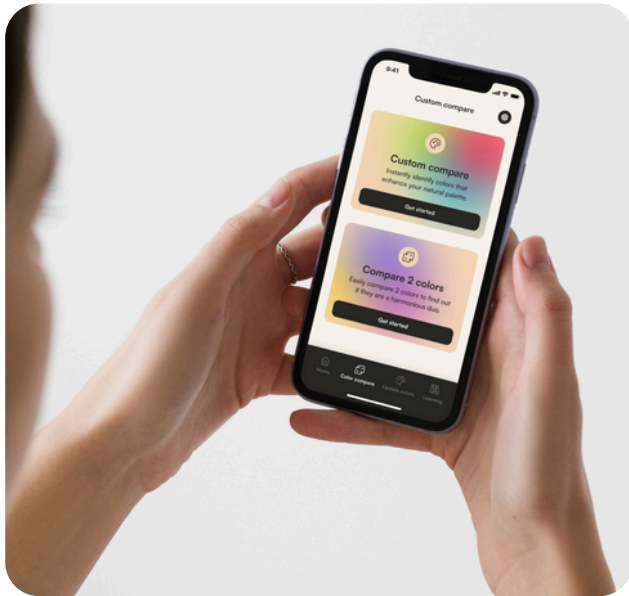


HELLO THERE!

Hi! I'm Susan. I'm a mom, a pharmacist with a law degree, and just generally the wearer of many hats. About 10 years ago, after countless bad purchases and a whole lot of frustration, I stumbled upon a color that helped bring out my natural beauty. But I wasn't going to wait for serendipity to strike again. I was sure there must be some way to easily and accurately identify what other colors might be flattering on me.

On my way to finding an answer, I became a certified personal stylist and color strategist. The latter, in particular, provided the insights necessary for the idea fairy to pay me a visit, which resulted in COLYR. In the end, I wanted color advice that put me, as the customer, first. And I couldn't find it. So I built it. For us.

Creating the **COLYR APP**



If you haven't realized it yet, this app--and the way we think about and use color here--is a little different than what you might be familiar with if you've looked into "having your colors done" in the past. You won't be asked to choose whether the veins in your wrist look more green or blue or to determine if silver or gold jewelry looks better on you. And you won't receive a set of color swatches that you'll need to match. In fact, you don't need to pay much attention to the color swatches in this guide at all.

This guide begins by explaining color and color harmony in simple terms. A combination of technology and color theory are used to systematically and objectively narrow down the universe of colors and create your personalized color palette. Why? Because, as T.M. Cleland said, "A logical and orderly system will, in fact, offer a greater range of possibilities for the combination of color than could be discovered at random."

The real gold here is in the numbers provided by the app. We use the readings from your device to customize a color palette for you. This palette is actually a set of numbers! The app uses these numbers, along with your colorimeter, to discover which items in your closet and at the store will be most flattering and which either need some help or should be left behind.

And with that, let's jump right in!

How It Works

THE QUICKSTART GUIDE

Let's get right to it.



1. To start, wake up your colorimeter by plugging it into the USB-C cable, and the cable into a charger. An orange light on the bottom of the device will indicate it's connected to power. Once charging is complete, it will pulse green. Make sure to allow your device to fully charge before unplugging (about 3 hours).



2. Download and subscribe to the COLYR app from either the Google Play Store or Apple App Store using these links.



3. You must allow location services and wireless connectivity on your device for your Color by YOUR Numbers colorimeter to function.



4. Select the device icon. For most, that will be the Nix Mini 3.

Your Fixed Colors

Then it's time to measure your fixed colors--those in your skin and hair.

Tap on the button to take your skin measurements and then move on to your hair.

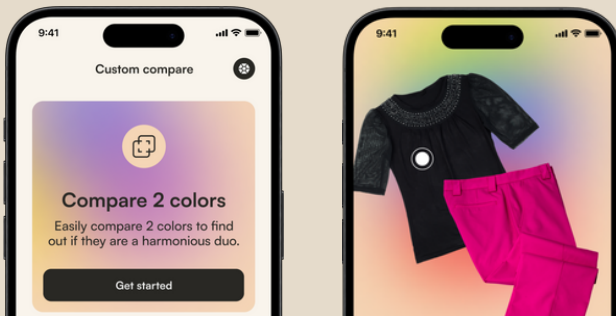


Objects with textures, patterns, extreme gloss, or soft surfaces may be less accurate. So, to get the best reading possible:

1. Ensure the skin is flat by pressing down with minimum force. This prevents the skin from "pillowing" up into the Nix aperture (the curvature of the skin can sometimes cause the light geometry to be thrown off and result in abnormal color readings). Pressing gently onto the skin will also prevent skin blanching (whitening due to reduced blood flow).
2. For hair, it's best to create a sort of solid surface of hair by bunching it together. You should also lay it on some sort of standardized opaque backing in case some light is able to pass through the hair.

Custom compare

Great! Now that your fixed colors are loaded, we can do some custom comparisons. Just choose whatever clothing you'd like to test and then scan it. That's all there is to it!



Compare 2 colors

You've picked your top but aren't sure that your skirt or pants match? Just scan both colors using Compare 2 Colors for your answer.



A COUPLE OF OTHER TIPS:

1. Charge your device every month when not in use
2. Keep the lens clean of all dirt, lint, and smudges
 - Dust and debris can be removed by gently wiping the lens with a dry microfiber cloth

For more information

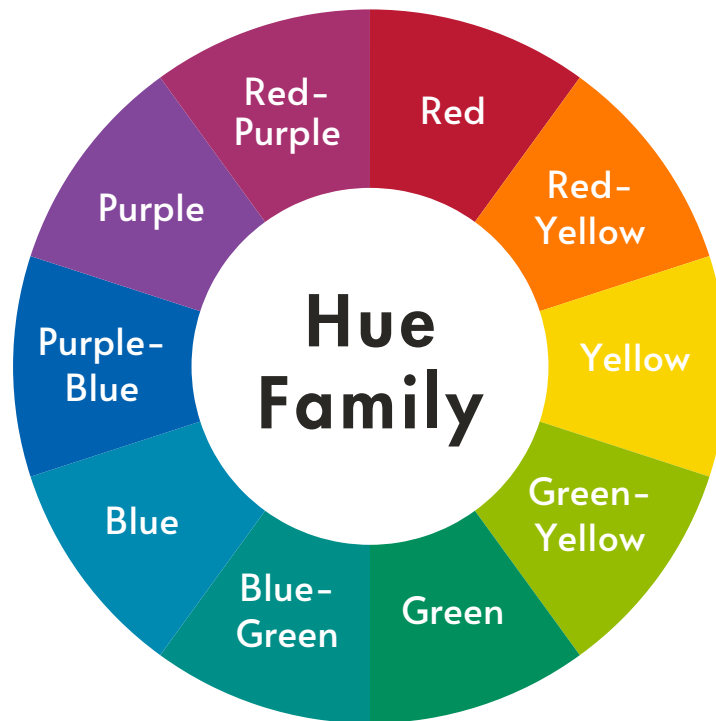
Please check out the [online guide](#) for the Nix Sensor.

Download the COLYR App



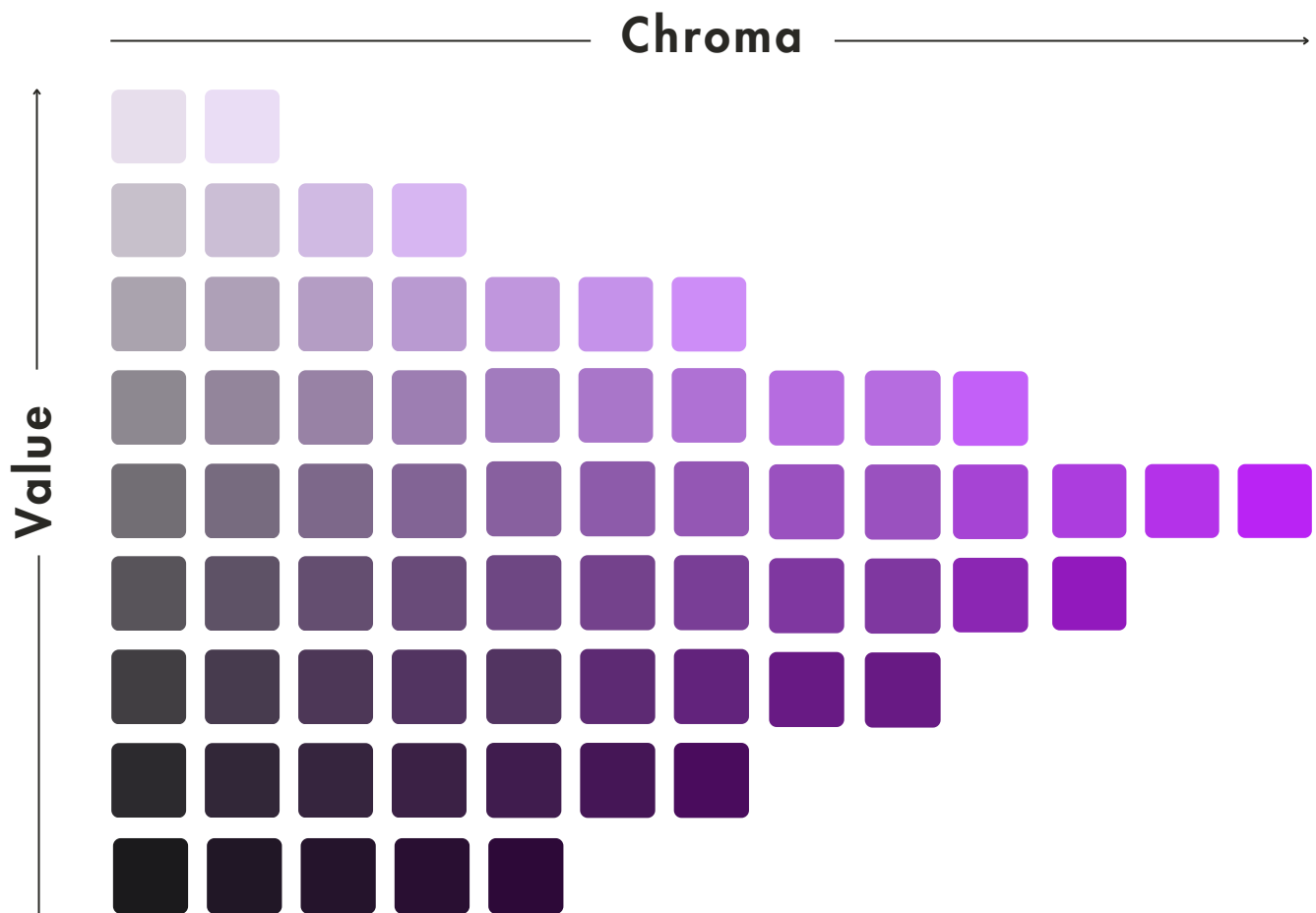
The basics of color

HUE, VALUE & CHROMA



To begin, we need a framework from which we can build our knowledge of color. One of the most intuitive and popular is the Munsell Color System. This three-dimensional color order system is divided into three parts: hue, value, and chroma.

First, let's cover hue. What is "hue" and is it the same thing as the color? It isn't actually. The hue of a color is defined by the dominant wavelength in the visible spectrum. When the wavelengths of a set of colors are a close match, they form a hue family. There are 10 hue families in the picture above. Think of these like the outer ring on a color wheel or the equator on a globe.



Value

Value or lightness is often the easiest of the three aspects of color to grasp. It is defined as the scale of black to white with steps of gray in between. If you were to plot colors on a globe (check out the [Kolormondo](#) for a great example) the line running from the north pole to the south pole would go from white through a gray scale to black. This is the pole of true neutrals; all colors outside of this pole belong to a hue family. Colors closer to the top of the value scale are often described as bright while those closer to the bottom are described as dark.

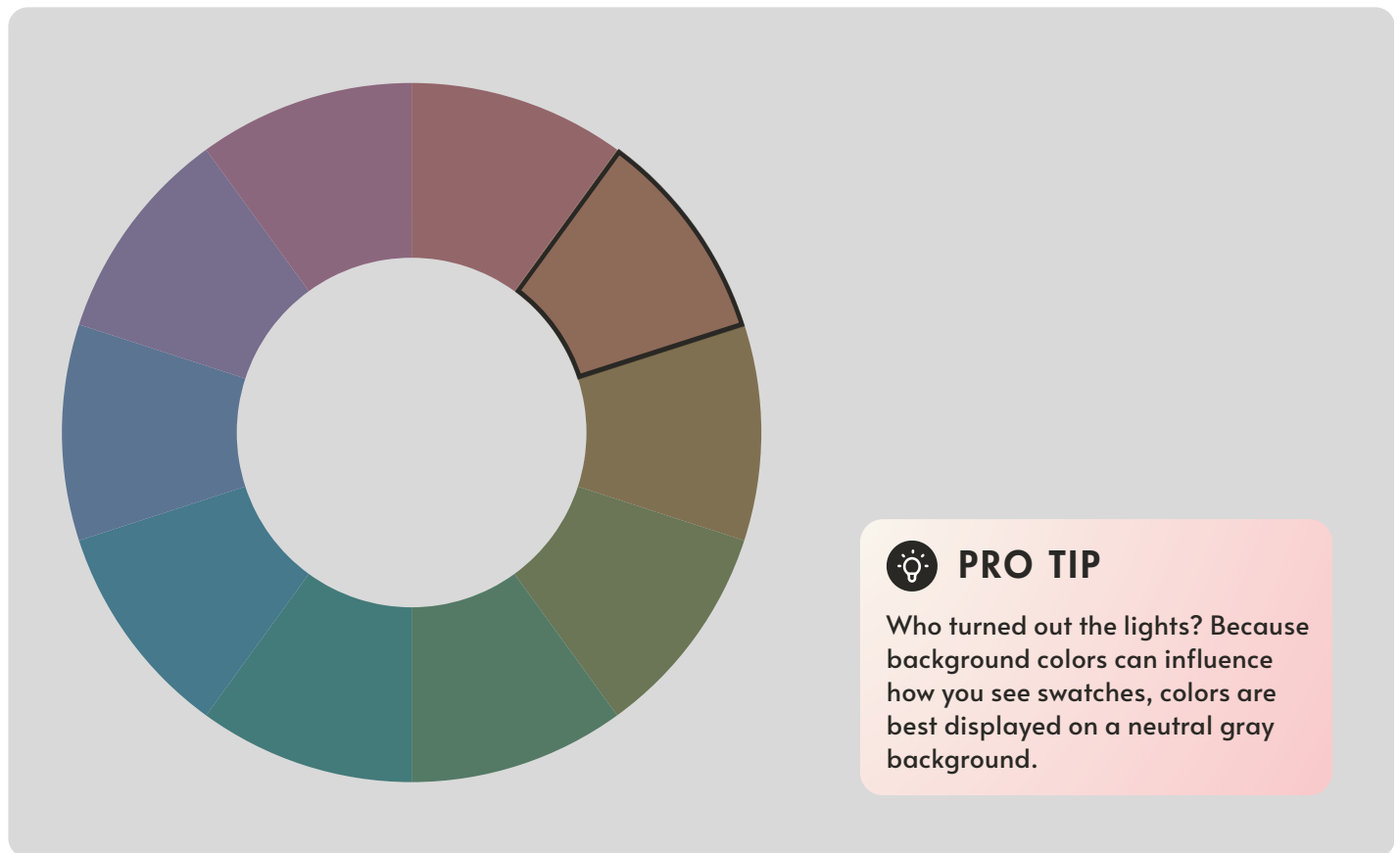
Chroma

Chroma is usually the least familiar aspect of color for most people. In the illustration below, the red-purple tiles are ordered from the most neutral gray to the most colorful red-purple.

A color's chroma determines if it is strong and clean or weak and shaded. Colors at the far left of the chroma scale are often called grayed or muted while those at the right side are described as clean or pure.

Now that we've covered some of the basics of color, let's get into how they work together to create your palette!

Learning about COLOR HARMONIES



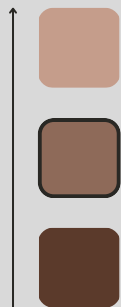
PRO TIP

Who turned out the lights? Because background colors can influence how you see swatches, colors are best displayed on a neutral gray background.

At the core of all color analysis is a focus on fixed colors (the colors you have to work with). The COLYR app focuses on a set of dominant fixed colors--those taken from skin and hair readings.

We'll begin with an example. The fixed color is found in the color swatch with the bolded border. This color falls into the yellow-red (most know this as "orange") hue family. The remaining colors in the color wheel to the right are all value and chroma matches.

This is the first of our color harmonies. Harmony--changing from one condition to another with a sense of ease and pleasing variation--can be achieved for colors by combining them in certain ways. Here we'll explore three in addition to value & chroma.



1. Hue & Chroma

The colors shown above share both a hue family and chroma. They vary only in value. These are great colors to try for a monochromatic look. Remember that lighter colors tend to draw the eye.



2. Hue & Value

The colors shown above share both a hue family and value. They vary only in chroma. Note that higher chroma colors may be used sparingly and can balance out a larger field of lower chroma color.



3. Complementary

This is a one of the classic color relationships. Balanced through a neutral grey, when complementary colors are combined, they enhance each other's brightness and colorfulness. For example, yellow will make purple-blue look more bright and pure and vice versa.



PRO TIP

Concerned about combining cool and warm colors? Don't be! A thoughtful combination of cool and warm colors can actually provide balance and be quite pleasing.

Putting it all **TOGETHER**



When using the COLYR app, you'll notice numbers that represent your personalized color guide. The app gives you clear instructions on how to use these results, but let's spend a minute going over what they mean.

Colors that match your skin or hair exactly (within about ± 10 for your lightness or "L," ± 5 for your chroma or "C," and ± 10 for your hue or "H" numbers) make great everyday basics. Those that form color harmonies by matching two out of the three elements of your colors (e.g., L & C matches) are also great choices. Items that only match one of the three--either the hue, value, or chroma of your skin or hair--are reasonable choices, with hue arguably the best of the three. Your complementary color is also good one to try when you want your skin or hair to really pop.

Items that don't match any of your color values may require some extra help. Think about investing in a scarf or a statement necklace if you'd like to get some additional wear out of these pieces. As you scan, I'd recommend labeling each item in some way. That way you don't need to look up its values again.

The next time you go shopping, make sure you bring your colorimeter and your phone loaded with the COLYR app along. The device is small enough to keep in your purse to ensure it's always available. When you find an item you like, just scan the available colors. Then you'll only be choosing from flattering options.



PRO TIP

The LCH color space is actually based on the Munsell color space described above.

What should I do when...?

GLAD YOU ASKED



PRO TIP

Salvage an unflattering blouse with a scarf or statement necklace in your palette.

Q. What should I do with all the items I currently have in my wardrobe that don't match my palette?

A. You'll want to keep your best colors near your face, but even blouses can be salvaged by a beautiful statement necklace or scarf in one of your best colors. [eBay](#) is a great place to look for vintage scarves, and [Etsy](#) is my go-to for finding jewelry in just the right color. You can also try dyeing lighter clothing or reselling to fund the purchase of a few items in your ideal color palette.

Q. Will I need to adjust my palette if I dye my hair or it goes gray?

A. Yes, you'll want to use your current hair color as a new fixed color from which to derive your palette.

Q. I get tan in the summer, and my hair gets lighter. Do I need to redo my palette?

A. Not necessarily. You may be able to get away with choosing items that are a little darker than your normal skin palette and a little lighter than your normal hair palette. However, if either color changes substantially, a new palette (i.e., taking some new readings) wouldn't hurt.

Q. Why doesn't this analysis include my eyes?

A. While your eyes do garner a lot of attention, your largest fixed colors are your skin and hair. If someone is standing more than about 10 feet away from you, they may not even be able to tell what color your eyes are. If you'd like to include your eye color in your palette, try adding it as an accent in your accessories or in a pattern. Please note that the colorimeter is not safe to use on your eyes.



Parting words

ALL COLORS ARE BEAUTIFUL IN THE RIGHT CONTEXT.

One final thought I wanted to share before we part. While the calculation of the colors by the COLYR app is objective, appreciation of color is not. If there's a color in your palette that you just can't stand, you don't need to wear it. That being said, please try to keep an open mind! My palette includes a color that is not unlike pea soup, but I happened to try it on and found it looked lovely on me. I now find myself reaching for it again and again. Always remember that all colors are beautiful in the right context.



Thanks to you

**PLEASE STAY
CONNECTED**

📷 [@styleforsubstance](#)

🌐 www.findmycolors.com

✉ susan@colorbyyournumbers.com

Looking for more thoughtful color resources for your home & decor?
Check out thelandofcolor.com

*A special thanks to our friends at Radicle Inc for all the skill and thought
they put into developing COLYR's outstanding app!*