

# FOUR COMPLEMENTARY WHEELS

NOTE: EVERYONE SEES COLOR A LITTLE DIFFERENTLY. THESE ARE MY PICKS FOR THE SPECTRUM COLORS AND THE OPTICAL AFTERIMAGES.

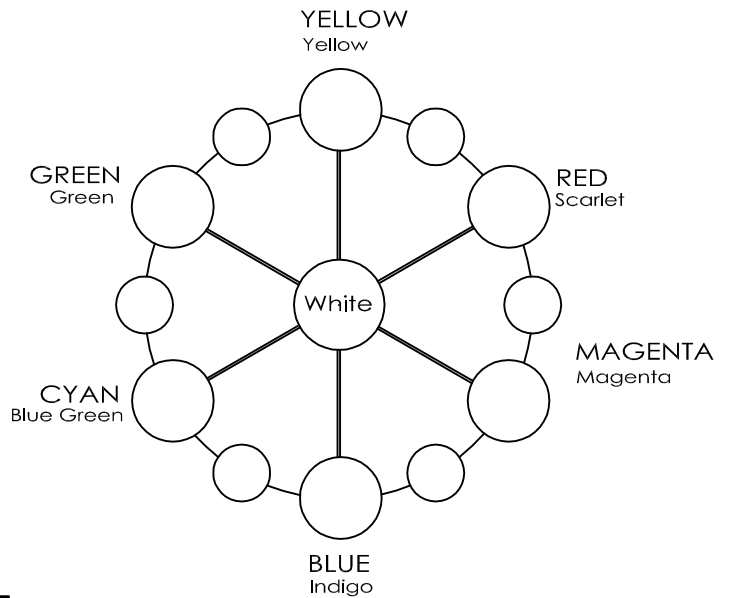
## SPECTRAL COMPLEMENTS

LIGHT MIXING  
NEUTRAL = WHITE

### PRISM EXERCISE

1. POSITION THIS PAPER ABOUT 18" IN FRONT OF YOU WITH DAYLIGHT OR FULL-SPECTRUM LIGHT SHINING ON IT.
2. LOOK STRAIGHT DOWN AT A SPOT A FEW INCHES IN FRONT OF YOU, THEN MOVE A PRISM INTO YOUR LINE OF SIGHT. ADJUST THE PRISM UNTIL YOU CAN SEE THE STRIPED DIAGRAM BELOW IN FULL COLOR.
3. COLOR THREE CIRCLES USING CRAYONS THAT MATCH THE RED, GREEN AND BLUE (BLUE VIOLET) THAT YOU SEE ON THE LEFT SIDE OF THE DIAGRAM.
4. COLOR THE OTHER THREE CIRCLES USING CRAYONS THAT MATCH THE CYAN, MAGENTA AND YELLOW THAT YOU SEE ON THE RIGHT SIDE OF THE DIAGRAM. \*

**WHEN LIGHTS MIX THEY COMBINE TO MAKE A COLOR THAT IS LIGHTER IN VALUE THAN THE COLORS BEING MIXED.**



\* EVERYONE SEES COLOR A LITTLE DIFFERENTLY. THE COLORS IN LOWER CASE ARE MY CRAYON PICKS FOR THE SPECTRUM COLORS AND THE OPTICAL AFTERIMAGES.

## OPTICAL COMPLEMENTS

OPTICAL MIXING  
NEUTRAL = MIDDLE GRAY

### AFTERIMAGE EXERCISE

1. COLOR THE WHEEL ABOVE AND THE SQUARES BELOW WITH SCARLET, GREEN, AND INDIGO.
2. FOCUS YOUR EYES ON THE DOT IN THE SCARLET SQUARE FOR 30 SECONDS THEN DROP YOUR EYES TO FOCUS ON THE DOT BELOW. SELECT A CRAYON THAT MATCHES THE AFTERIMAGE AND COLOR IT OPPOSITE SCARLET ON THE COLOR WHEEL.\*
3. DO THE SAME THING FOR THE GREEN AND INDIGO SQUARES.
4. NOTE THAT THE AFTERIMAGES ARE PALE VERSIONS OF THE COMPLEMENTARY COLORS.

**OPTICAL MIXES "AVERAGE" THE PROPERTIES OF THE COLORS BEING MIXED. EX. THE OPTICAL MIX OF A YELLOW AND BLUE WILL CREATE A COLOR WITH A VALUE BETWEEN YELLOW AND BLUE.**

