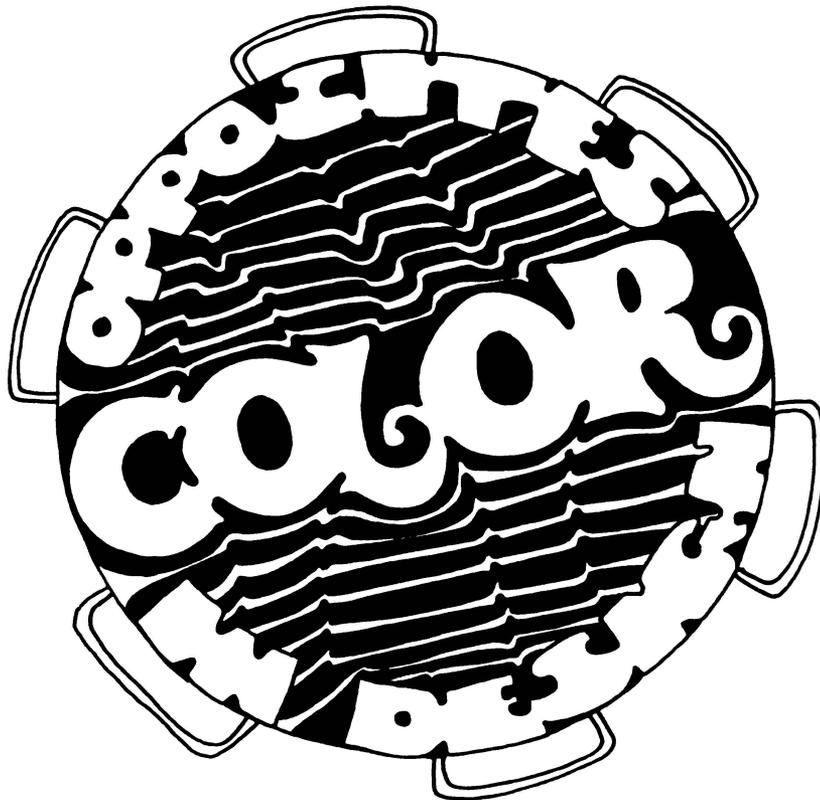


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Recommended by Katherine Habel  
Extension Specialist  
Home Furnishings

Publication No. MK-513  
CRAFT SHEET NO. 12  
COLOR  
LEVEL II



The way you plan to use color in a design is called a **COLOR SCHEME** or a **COLOR COMBINATION**. You can put colors together so that your design is **STRONG** and **EXCITING**. This is done by choosing colors that are opposites on the **COLOR CIRCLE**. We call this plan a **COMPLEMENTARY COLOR COMBINATION**.

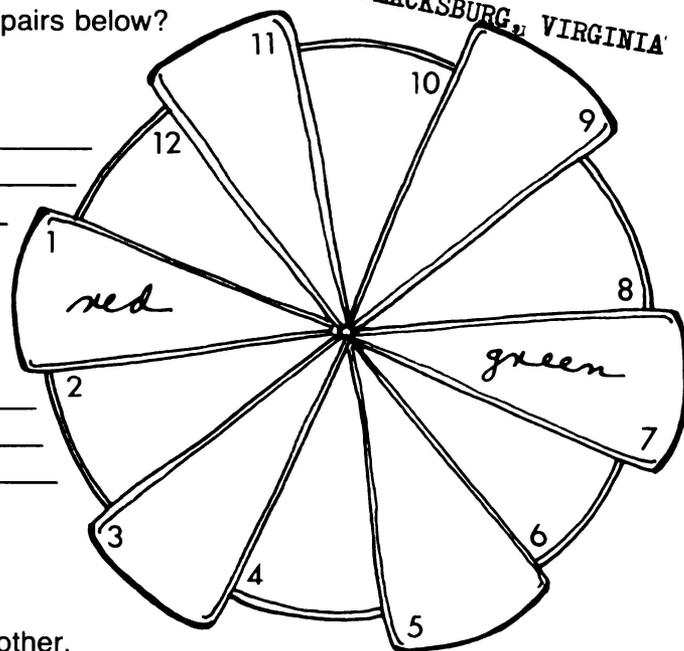
The pair of colors that appear opposite each other on the color circle are also called complements. For example, **RED** is the complement of **GREEN**. Look again! **GREEN** is the complement of **RED**!

Can you find the rest of the complementary color pairs below? First write these colors in the color circle \*

- 2 Red-Violet \_\_\_\_\_
- 3 Violet \_\_\_\_\_
- 4 Blue-Violet \_\_\_\_\_
- 5 Blue \_\_\_\_\_
- 6 Blue-green \_\_\_\_\_
- 8 Yellow-green \_\_\_\_\_
- 9 Yellow \_\_\_\_\_
- 10 Yellow-orange \_\_\_\_\_
- 11 Orange \_\_\_\_\_
- 12 Red-orange \_\_\_\_\_

then write the complement of each color on the line so you create a pair.

\* The color circle is an easy way to remember the way colors are related to each other.



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The best way to learn about color is to experiment.  
Try these experiments with color opposites at home.

1. Look through magazines for large brightly colored shapes. Place a piece of pure white paper next to one of these bright shapes. Now look at the shape without looking away until you count to one hundred. Then quickly look at the white paper. You will see the very same shape appear as its color opposite or complement! This "razzle-dazzle" with your eyes is what makes complementary color combinations so exciting! It is especially so if you use very bright, pure colors.



2. Choose a pair of complements in tempera paint. Put a puddle of each on a piece of white paper. Leave a space between. Pull the colors together with your brush. What color did you create? \_\_\_\_\_  
Is the new color bright or dull? \_\_\_\_\_  
Try the same experiment with other complementary pairs.

## WHAT CAN YOU DO WITH **COLOR?**

1. Pick a favorite color
2. Find the color opposite.
3. CREATE A MARBLED DESIGN

Marbling is a way to decorate paper that was invented many years ago. The paper was used to cover the inside end pages of precious books.

Even the books were put together by hand. This process was called BOOKBINDING. Use both these crafts to

**'MAKE A GOOD BOOK'**

### YOU WILL NEED:

- |                           |                           |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| ___ artist's oil paints   | ___ large shallow pan     |
| ___ turpentine or thinner | ___ bucket                |
| ___ wall size             | ___ plastic dishpan       |
| ___ drawing paper         | ___ wooden spoon          |
| ___ construction paper    | ___ tin cans              |
| ___ rubber cement         | ___ stirring sticks       |
| ___ crochet cotton        | ___ metal knitting needle |
| ___ yarn                  | ___ stitchery needle      |
| ___ newspapers            | ___ scissors              |

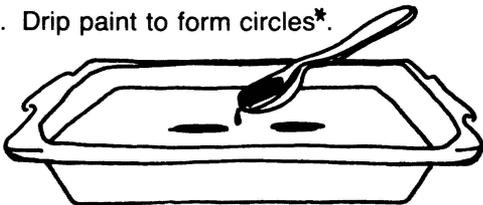
Be sure you work in a well ventilated room.  
Cover all working surfaces with layers of newspapers.

## BEFORE YOU START

- Trim white paper so it fits easily into the pan of wall size.
- Choose your favorite color and its complement in bright, light shades.
- Prepare wall size according to package directions. Wall size becomes thick — like pudding — and your paint will float on the surface. You can get wall size at a hardware store. You may also try wheat paste, but it's messier!
- Pour turpentine or thinner into tin cans just enough to cover the bottom. Use a can for each color.
- Squeeze about 2cm (1") of oil color into the can and stir with sticks or metal spoons until completely mixed. No lumps please! The paint should be runny and easy to pour, but still be rich and full of color.

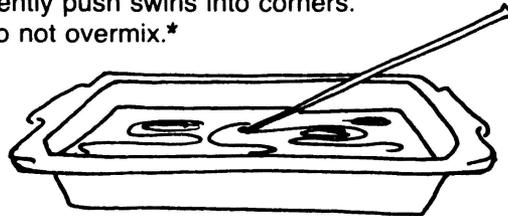
The process is called marbling because the swirling designs on the paper remind us of marble.

1. Drip paint to form circles\*.



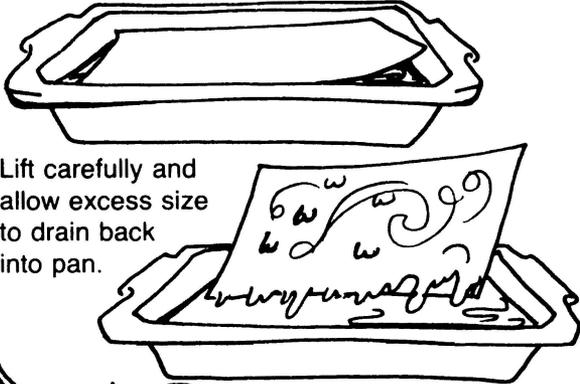
Make a pattern of large and small circles. Leave large empty spaces between. \*If circles "sink" the paint is too thick. Don't worry about the "sinking circles," just add a little more thinner to the can.

2. Swirl the colors with a knitting needle. Gently push swirls into corners. Do not overmix.\*



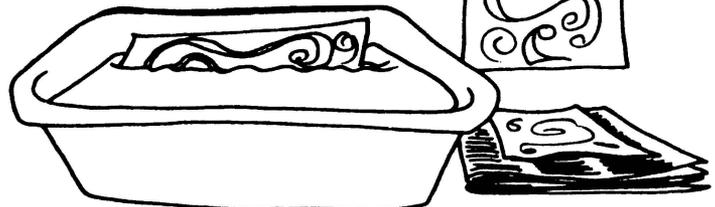
\*One of the things that happens in overmixing is that gray or brown is formed when you mix complements. You may like the grays or browns or you may not!

3. Settle a piece of paper on the surface until the paint shows through the paper.



Lift carefully and allow excess size to drain back into pan.

4. Dip the marbled paper into a clear water bath. Gently rub off excess size or rinse under running water.\*



Hang on line to dry or dry flat.

\*Oil and water do not mix so you can easily clean off all the size without disturbing the marbled design on the paper.



Try many different designs or add a little white oil color to see what happens! How many different colors appear?

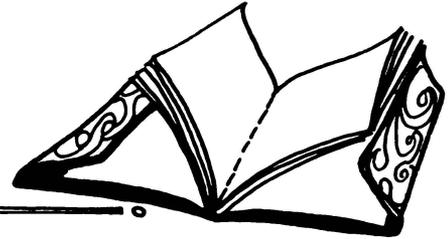
After the designs are dry iron flat between sheets of waxed paper.

Pick out the designs that look the best and please you.



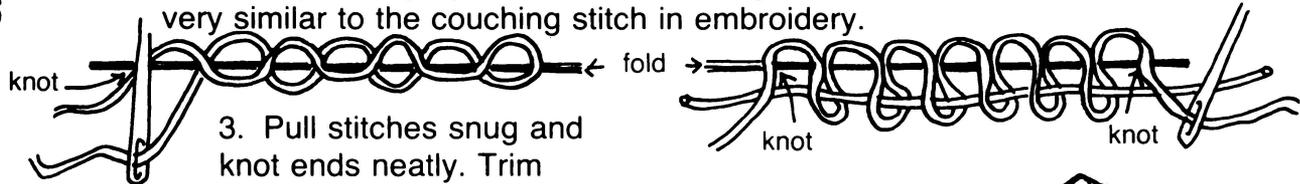
## TO START YOUR BOOK

- Pick the marbled paper you like best
- Fold carefully in half. This is your book cover.
- Fold eight sheets of construction paper or typing paper.
- Trim the folded set of papers to fit inside the cover with at least 4cm (1½") on each side for fold over.



### Sew the pages together

1. Make holes through the folded edge with the needle 2cm (1") apart.
2. Sew the pages together with the crochet cotton using an outline stitch, or you may try a basic bookbinding stitch. It is very similar to the couching stitch in embroidery.

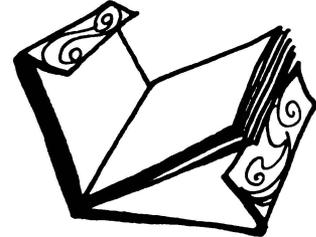


3. Pull stitches snug and knot ends neatly. Trim excess ends.

### Finish the cover

1. Cover *outside* of signature with rubber cement including the stitching. Let dry.
2. Cover inside of cover including end flaps with rubber cement. Let dry. Open cover flat, sticky side up.
3. Center a signature over cover. Press together to join.

**NOTE:** Use rubber cement to avoid wrinkling the papers.



## CHEER UP with COLOR

- Use your marbled paper to:
- Decorate an empty space on a wall by mounting on cardboard and adding a mat or frame.
- Try a marbled design on fabric
- Cover a box with marbled paper or fabric to use for jewelry or other treasures.
- Make a good book using marbled paper for all the pages to use as an album.
- What else can you think of?

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