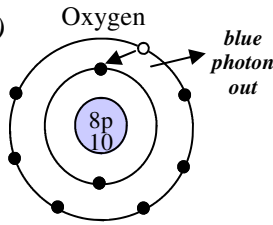


Color

Light Comes From the Atom

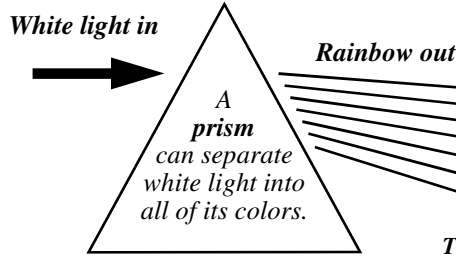
Photons (light) come from electrons falling from high electron orbits to low orbits.



When the electron falls back, a photon is given off: light!

Different Colors

Different colors come from white (sun) light. Each of these colors has its own frequency, wavelength, and energy.



Color	Frequency	Wavelength	
Red	462 THz	650 nm	Low E
Orange	500 THz	600 nm	
Yellow	517 THz	580 nm	
Green	566 THz	530 nm	
Blue	638 THz	470 nm	
Indigo	675 THz	440 nm	
Violet	750 THz	415 nm	High E

The first letters spell: ROY – G – BIV

Lights—Additive Color RGB Model

Before you turn on any lights, a room is black. By adding lights you add color. The three primary light colors are red, green, and blue. By adding different amounts of each color we can make any color we want. This method of additive color is known as RGB.

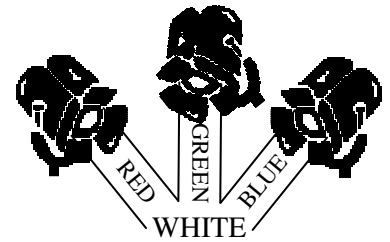
Lights add color to a black background. The three primary lights colors are Red, Green, and Blue (RGB)

Adding Light Colors:

Red and Blue make Magenta (purple).

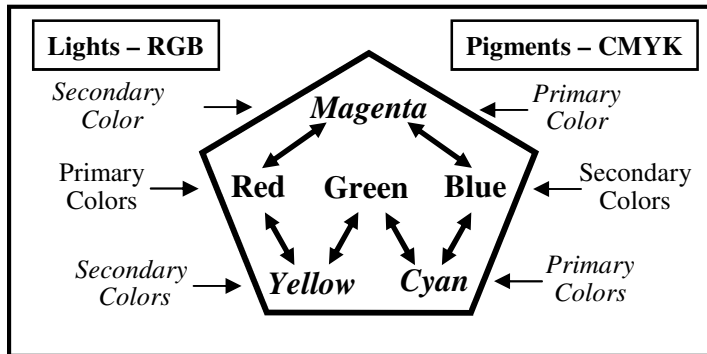
Red and Green make Yellow.

Green and Blue make Cyan (sea green).



Red, green, and blue together make white.

Computers and TVs are black when off, so they use lights: RGB. Red, green, and blue lights make all the millions of colors on your screen.



Using the Color Chart:

Lights (RGB): Follow the arrows from the lights to the color you are making. Red and Blue make *Magenta*.

Pigments (CMYK): Follow the arrows from the pigments to the color you are making. *Yellow* and *Cyan* make Green.

Pigments—Subtractive Color CMYK Model

Pigments reflect color and have a white background. The three primary colors of pigments are Cyan, Magenta, and Yellow.

Pigments are *dyes* that color paints, inks, and even food. Pigments produce color by **reflection**. What you see is what is reflected.



Pigments that absorb all colors look black.

Pigments that reflect all colors look white.



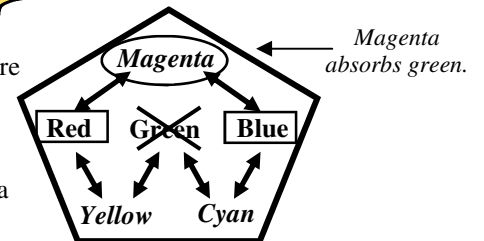
We see an object's color by **reflection**. A banana reflects yellow light. So it absorbs all other colors.

You can tell that ink uses CMYK, because the paper is white.

CMYK—As you know from your color printer at home, color pigments are very expensive. To make black by mixing three pigments (CMY) doesn't make sense. So printers add black (K) to make four colors: CMYK. (*K stands for black* because B stands for blue.)



CMYK colors are made by **reflection**. Magenta reflects red and blue, so magenta **absorbs green**.



When you buy paint, pigments (dyes) are mixed into white paint. Yet because the store has more room than your printer, they can use more than just three dyes.



Green light is reflected off a leaf, so the leaf absorbs red and blue. To make green with CMYK you would use yellow (absorbs blue) and cyan (absorbs red).

