Color Name Diagrams for the 
The New Munsell Student Color Set

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The Munsell Soil-Color Charts (Munsell Color 2009) were originally designed for soil scientists, but have been adopted by archaeologists for describing color in a variety of contexts, including artifacts. Unfortunately, the range of hues in these charts does not include all the colors encountered in archaeology.

The following charts have been designed especially for archaeologists to insert into The New Munsell Student Color Set (Long 2011). For the names on these charts, precedence is always given to those included in the Munsell Soil-Color Charts because of their long-standing use in archaeology. Where these do not exist, the ISCC-NBS system is followed (Kelly and Judd 1976), a nomenclature employed by many other disciplines. This compromise will provide archaeologists with an objective color terminology, while remaining consistent with past publications.

To use these name diagrams, print the file at 100% scale, cut along the outer line of each page, and punch holes through the circles on the right. Then insert each page into The New Munsell Student Color Set, facing the appropriate hue page. Color notations can then be matched with names in the same way as in the Munsell Soil-Color Charts.

The author hopes that this system proves useful for the communication of color in archaeology (and perhaps other disciplines), and would welcome correspondence at the address above.

References
Hue Value/Chroma Chart

- N9/ white
- N8/ light gray
- N7/ gray
- N6/ very dark gray
- N5/ dark gray
- N4/ weak red
- N3/ red
- N2/ strong red
- N1/ black

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Color Names for *The New Munsell Student Color Set* (Long 2011)

**Hue: 5R**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Value</th>
<th>Chroma</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2.5/2</td>
<td>/2 /4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/</td>
<td>/6 /8</td>
</tr>
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<td>4/</td>
<td>/10 /12 /14</td>
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<td>5/</td>
<td>/14</td>
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<tr>
<td>6/</td>
<td>/12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7/</td>
<td>/10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8/</td>
<td>/8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **light pink**
- **pale red**
- **light red**
- **strong yellowish pink**
- **deep pink**
- **deep yellowish pink**
- **weak red**
- **red**
- **strong red**
- **vivid red**
- **dusky red**
- **very dusky red**

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Hue: 5YR

Value

Chroma

pinkish white

pink

pinkish white

light reddish brown

reddish gray

reddish brown

dark reddish gray

dark reddish brown

dark reddish brown

pinkish white

pink

reddish yellow

moderate orange

strong orange

reddish yellow

moderate orange

strong orange

Color Names for The New Munsell Student Color Set (Long 2011)

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Chroma

Hue: 5GY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>8/1</th>
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<th>5/1</th>
<th>4/1</th>
<th>3/1</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>pale yellow green</td>
<td>grayish yellow green</td>
<td>light grayish green</td>
<td>grayish green</td>
<td>dark grayish green</td>
<td>very dark grayish green</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>light yellow green</td>
<td>moderate yellow green</td>
<td>pale yellowish green</td>
<td>light olive green</td>
<td>olive green</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>brilliant yellow green</td>
<td>strong yellow green</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Color Names for The New Munsell Student Color Set (Long 2011)

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Color Names for *The New Munsell Student Color Set* (Long 2011)

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# Color Names for The New Munsell Student Color Set (Long 2011)

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**Hue: 5B**

<table>
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<td>/6</td>
</tr>
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<td>4/2</td>
<td>/8</td>
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<td>/12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7/2</td>
<td>/14</td>
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### Value

- **8/**
  - very pale blue
- **7/**
  - pale blue
- **6/**
  - grayish blue
- **5/**
  - moderate greenish blue
- **4/**
  - dark grayish blue
- **3/**
  - dark greenish blue

### Chroma

- **8/**
  - very light greenish blue
- **7/**
  - light greenish blue
- **6/**
  - greenish blue
- **5/**
  - strong greenish blue
- **4/**
  - brilliant greenish blue

**Value**

- very pale blue
- pale blue
- grayish blue
- moderate greenish blue
- dark grayish blue
- dark greenish blue

**Chroma**

- very light greenish blue
- light greenish blue
- greenish blue
- strong greenish blue
- brilliant greenish blue

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Chroma
8/2
8/4

very pale blue

7/2
7/4
7/6
7/8

pale blue
light blue
brilliant blue

6/2
6/4
6/6
6/8
6/10

grayish blue
moderate blue
strong blue

5/2
5/4
5/6
5/8
5/10

4/2
4/4
4/6
4/8
4/10

3/2
3/4
3/6
3/8

dark grayish blue
dark blue
dark blue

Value

2.5/2
2.5/4

/2
/4
/6
/8
/10
/12
/14

Chroma

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Hue: 5P

Value

2.5/ /2 2.5/ /4 2.5/ /6 /8 /10 /12 /14

Chroma

very pale purple
pale purple
light purple
grayish purple
moderate purple
strong purple
dark grayish purple
dark purple
deep purple

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Hue: 5RP

- **8/**
  - 8/2: pale purplish pink
  - 8/4: light purplish pink
  - 8/6: moderate purplish pink

- **7/**
  - 7/2: grayish purplish pink
  - 7/4: moderate purplish pink
  - 7/6: dark purplish pink
  - 7/8: deep purplish pink

- **6/**
  - 6/2: pale purple
  - 6/4: light grayish purplish red
  - 6/6: dark purplish pink
  - 6/8: deep purplish pink
  - 6/10: strong purplish red

- **5/**
  - 5/2: grayish purple
  - 5/4: grayish purplish red
  - 5/6: moderate purplish red
  - 5/8: strong purplish red
  - 5/10: strong purplish red
  - 5/12: strong purplish red

- **4/**
  - 4/2: grayish purple
  - 4/4: grayish purplish red
  - 4/6: moderate purplish red
  - 4/8: deep purplish pink
  - 4/10: strong purplish red

- **3/**
  - 3/2: dark grayish purple
  - 3/4: dark purplish red
  - 3/6: deep purplish pink

- **2.5/**
  - 2.5/2: pale purplish pink
  - 2.5/4: light purplish pink

- **1/**

**Value**

- /2
- /4
- /6
- /8
- /10
- /12
- /14

**Chroma**