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&

the
mindful artist

COLORS: TRANSPARENT, TRANSLUCENT & OPAQUE

transparent colors

alizarin crimson hue permanent
dioxazine purple
prism violet
quinacridone blue violet
indanthrene blue
iridescent white
naphthol crimson
naphthol red light
quinacridone crimson
quinacridone magenta
quinacridone burnt orange
quinacridone red
quinacridone red-orange
phthalo green (blue shade)
phthalo green (yellow shade)
phthalo blue (green shade)
phthalo blue (red shade)
transparent burnt sienna
transparent burnt umber
transparent mixing white (zinc white)
transparent raw sienna
transparent raw umber
vivid red orange
yellow light hansa
yellow medium azo
yellow orange azo

opaque colors

bright aqua green
brilliant blue
bronze yellow
burnt sienna
burnt umber
cadmium orange
cadmium red medium
cadmium red medium hue
cadmium red deep hue

opaque colors (continued)

cadmium yellow deep hue
cadmium yellow light
cadmium yellow light hue
cadmium yellow medium
cerulean blue
cerulean blue hue
chromium oxide green
cobalt blue
cobalt blue hue
cobalt teal
cobalt turquoise
emerald green
green deep permanent
ivory black
light blue permanent
light blue violet
light green permanent
mars black
medium magenta
naples yellow hue
neutral gray
parchment
Payne's gray
pyrrole crimson
pyrrole red
raw sienna
raw umber
red oxide
titanium white
ultramarine blue (red shade)
unbleached titanium
viridian hue permanent
vivid lime green
yellow oxide

translucent colors

brilliant yellow green - ●
cadmium orange hue - ●
cadmium red light hue - ●
cadmium yellow medium hue - ●
deep magenta
green gold*
Hooker's green deep hue permanent - ●
Hooker's green hue permanent - ●
Indian Yellow - ●

iridescent bright gold
iridescent bright silver
Prussian blue hue*
pyrrole orange - ●
sap green permanent
transparent viridian hue*
Turner's yellow
ultramarine blue (green shade)

* transparent enough to use for glazing

Which colors to use?

In each hue family, there are transparent, opaque and translucent versions of each color. For example, in the red family there are opaques such as cadmium red or pyrrole red and transparents such as alizarin crimson or quinacridone red and translucent reds such as cadmium red light hue or deep magenta.

Transparent colors allow light to shine through their pigment particles making them perfect for layering and glazing techniques.

You will find when mixing two or more opaque color or when mixing a transparent and an opaque that the colors tend to dull, muddy or lose some of their brilliance and intensity of hue. Therefore, avoid mixing colors with too many opaques if you want to obtain rich, saturated color.

Transparent colors on the other hand can be mixed together to make rich, dark hues that give a feeling of depth.

Lean towards transparent or translucent colors when mixing shadows. For example, if you want to use blue in your shadow, start with ultramarine or phthalo blue rather than cerulean.

Instead of using pure black, try mixing two dark complementaries such as viridian hue or phthalo green with alizarin or quinacridone crimson to create a black. Mix with white for a neutral grey.

Use transparent colors for glazing. Light shines through layers of paint and bounces off the back of the surface and back out again creating a luminous look.

