



Think in Colour

Taking the time to understand colour harmony when used on your slides, can make a significant difference to your final results. Designers often use a colour wheel to determine the approach they are going to take.

We will look at the four primary types of colour harmony:
complimentary, split, triad and **related**.

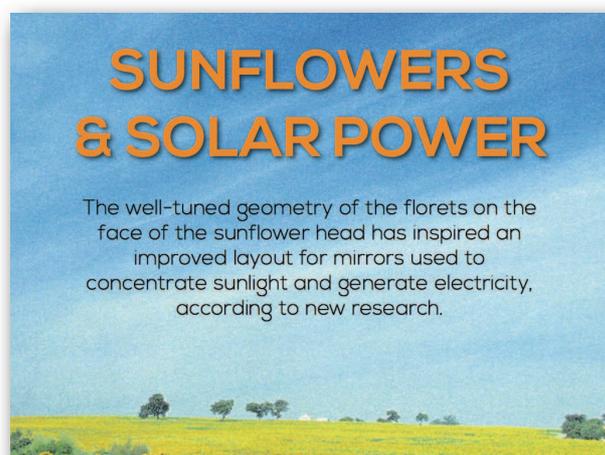
What is a “key colour”? Key colour in a scene or piece of art is the predominant colour. It is either the biggest amount of colour in the scene (a blue sky, as the example below) or what you are trying to concentrate your audiences’ attention on in your slide.

Using a colour wheel allows you to determine the other colours in that particular harmony.

Complementary

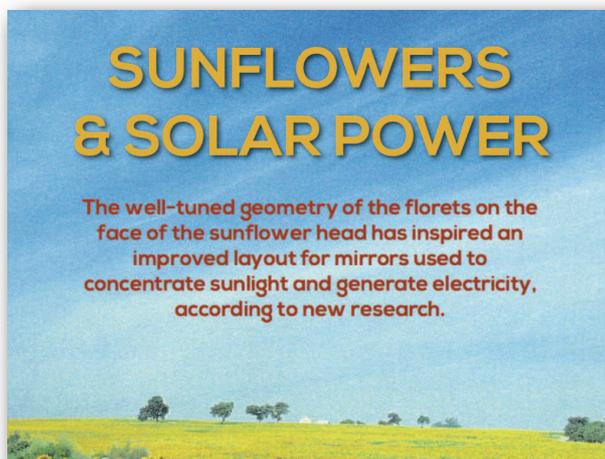
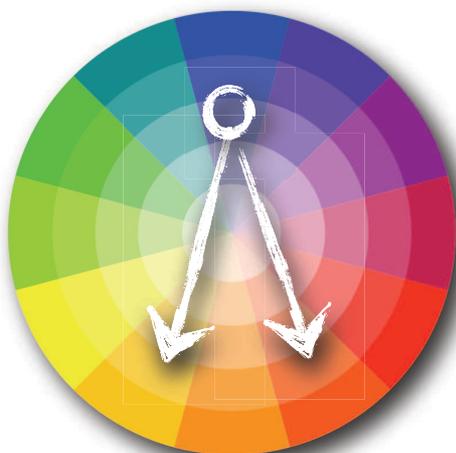
This is the colour directly opposite the key colour on the colour wheel.

In the slide below the blue is the prominent colour, the orange of the text is the complementary colour as it sits opposite within the colour wheel.



Split Complementary

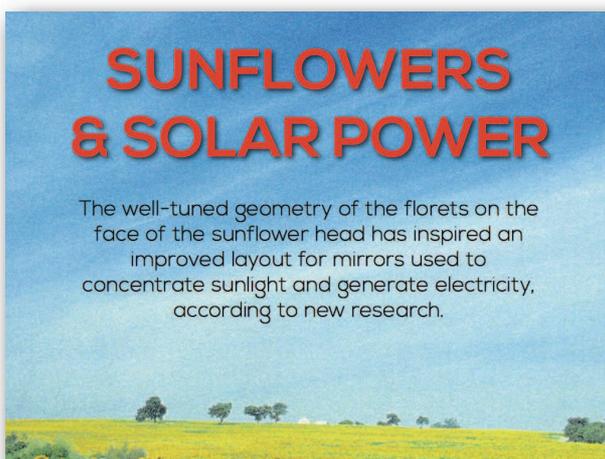
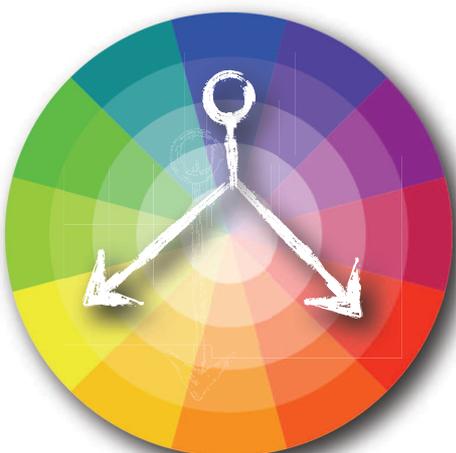
These are also called Splits. These refer to the colours immediately adjacent to the complement of the key colour.



Triadic Harmony

This is also called Triadics or Triads. This refers to the colour two spaces to either side of the key colour's complement. When using triadics, you are dealing with just spots of colour in a picture.

In the same slide below the red of the headline and the yellow of the sunflowers are the triad colours.



Related Colours

This is also called Analogous harmony. The immediate adjacent areas to the key colour are the analogous colours. When you go two spaces away from the key colour on a colour wheel, you are stretching colour harmony.

In the same slide below we are now pushing the colour harmony. The slide is now beginning to look discordant. It's a personal thing, but it now feels like there are too many colours.

