How to Make a Color Aid
A Wardrobe Planning and Shopping Guide

The colors that make up your personal color harmony, the colors of your hair, eyes, skin, and related red, can be matched in fabric or paper to start a valuable purse or wallet-size shopping guide, a "color aid."

A purse-size color aid in actual size is illustrated below. The colors are pasted to a number of sections, or "sticks," 1" x 5" long. (Eight sticks may be cut from a 5" x 8" file card.) The sticks are punched and held together with a brad, to resemble a fan.

A wallet-size color aid uses twelve 2¼" x 3½" pieces of field card that can be inserted into an accordion-style photo/credit card holder. The ¾"-wide strips of colors are pasted onto the file card inserts in the same arrangement as for the purse-size color aid. When the color aid is completed, the cards are inserted into the pockets of the photo/credit card holder.

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Directions for Matching Personal Colors

You will need

- A collection of samples of fabric or paper in colors resembling your skin tone, your hair, and your eyes, and an assortment of reds. The size of the samples should be approximately 1½" x 3".
- A mirror in good light.

**Match skin tone**

Use a paper mask (see illustration). Hold the mask against your forehead and place different skin-tone samples under one window to compare to your skin tone seen through the other window.

When you find a good match, compare the sample to the skin tone of face and neck areas by moving the sample over these areas without the mask.

Your final selection will be the one that best matches the overall appearance of your skin tone.

**Match hair**

Place hair color samples on your hair to select the color that matches the overall appearance of your hair. You may wish to match the highlights or the shadows of your hair as well.

**Match eyes**

Hold eye colors under your eyes to find the best match to the predominant color. If a second color is visible in your eyes, you may wish to match this, also.

**Choose a red**

Select a related or accent red that seems related to your skin tone. The related red may be found below your skin tone on the Personal Coloring-Home Furnishings Chart. Remember that the red should be related, so if your hair, eyes, and skin tone are light, your related red should be a lighter value.

**Study your selected colors as a group**

The combined colors should appear harmonious and be a recognizable expression of your personal coloring. Revise, if necessary.

Mask, actual size. (Cut two 1½" windows in a 3" square of paper.)
Directions for Making Color Aid

If using fabric, apply masking tape or double-stick tape to the underside of each fabric sample as a backing, placing the tape along a thread of the weave. Trim off fabric on both sides of the tape.

Mounting

If you used masking tape, apply rubber cement to color aid #1 composite stick and attach colors in the order shown. If you used double-stick tape, attach colors in the order shown.

Join the edges as closely as possible. Avoid overlapping.

If more than one color is used for eyes or hair, cut each color narrower so that together the color will occupy approximately the same amount of space a single color would occupy.

Trim excess on each side of stick. For your personal colors, put the trimmed excess at the top of additional sticks.

Use the longer cutaway sections as the top sections of sticks #2, #3, #4, and #5.
Composite Coloring

On stick #1, your personal colors are grouped as a composite (see illustration on page 1). To determine your personal colors, read “Directions for Matching Personal Colors” on page 2.

Select wardrobe colors that belong to the hue families found in your personal coloring.

At the top of stick #2, place a second sample of your hair color. At the top of stick #3, place a second sample of your eye color. At the top of stick #4, place a second sample of your skin tone. At the top of stick #5, place a second sample of your related red.

As you find additional colors of the same hue as each of your personal colors, add these to the appropriate stick. Look for colors in the same hue families that are lighter, darker, more intense, less intense.

Wardrobe colors that belong to hue families not included in your personal coloring:

For sticks #6 and #7, select two color families not found in your personal coloring, colors that enhance your personal colors. It’s suggested that you select some colors from the hue family that contrasts most with your skin tone as described on page 10 of Choosing Colors to Wear. Select lighter, darker, more intense, less intense versions of the colors.