COLOURS

ELEMENTS OF COMPOSITION IN PHOTOGRAPHY

The colours in an image and how they are arranged can make or break a shot.

Bright colours can add vibrancy, energy and interest – however its in the wrong position they can distract viewers away from focal points.

Colours also greatly impact 'mood'.

Blues and greens can have a calming soothing impact.

Reds and yellows can convey vibrancy and energy.

RED

Red is intense. Especially against a dark background.

Red is a universal warning colour and is therefore hard to ignore.

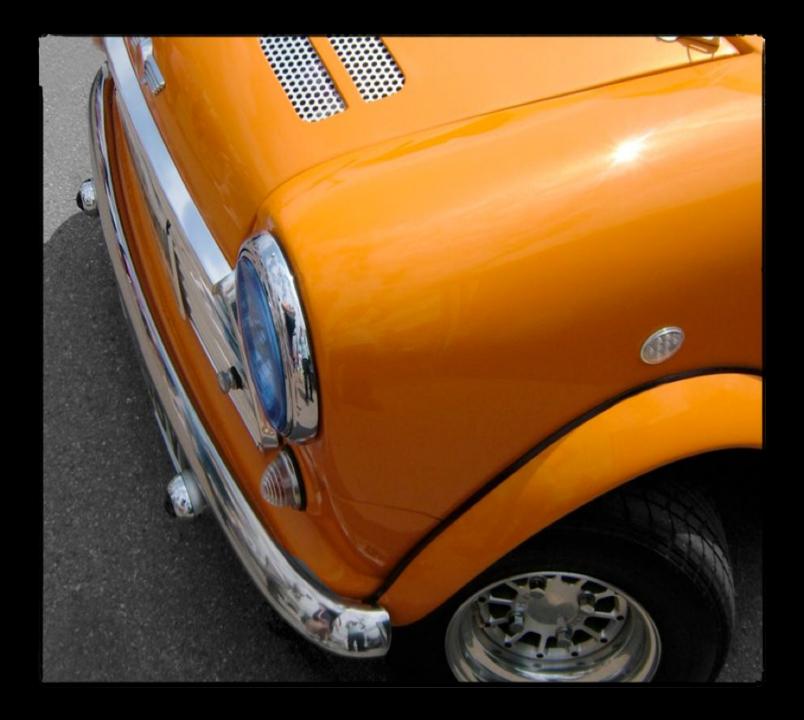A little bit of Red goes a long way.

ORANGE

Orange is a secondary colour - formed by mixing Red and Yellow.

Primary colours have a limited range of tones while a secondary colour, like Orange, would have a broader range of tones.

This photograph was taken just before sunset on a day in late Autumn. There is everything from the dark Red tree in the foreground to the Yellow one centre-right. This gives accent to the Oranges which add so much warmth to this image.

The bare trees scattered throughout the frame are medium-Grey. Grey is the most neutral of all colours which compliments any other colour.

YELLOW

The yellow of the Aspen trees in this photograph is a bit toward the Yellow-Orange end of the spectrum.
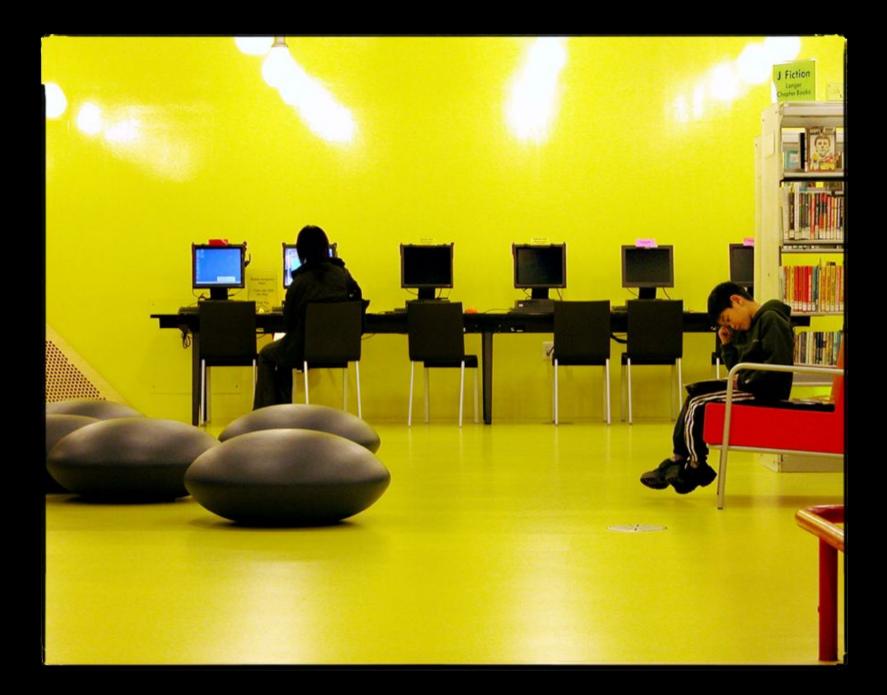
Finding yellow in nature is tough, except in flowers.

Yellow is the brightest colour. It screams for our attention. This is why warning signs are frequently painted this colour.

Yellow and Yellow-Orange are the dominant colours of Autumn. They have a strong appeal to our emotions.

Psychologically, Yellow is a colour that represents happiness.

GREEN

Green is a secondary colour - formed by mixing Yellow and Blue.

Just like Orange, Green can have a wide range of tones.

Of course, Green is the predominant colour of vegetation and as such is dominant in many landscape photographs

BLUE

The sky is Blue, and the water is Blue as it gets it colour by reflecting the sky.

Blue is the colour which defines our planet. In fact, from space, Earth is seen as a Blue planet.

Blue gives a feeling of restfulness and passivity.

PURPLE

Purple is a secondary colour - formed by mixing Blue and Red.

Purple is not a colour found often in nature.

Purple is a colour traditionally associated with nobility and it gives a feeling of elegance and warmth.