



## Tip of the Month—May



### Colour Selection

Choosing the colour for your project can often be the hardest part – particularly with some yarns where there is a large variety of colours available. And of course it becomes even harder when you are making a project with several colours.

I attended a ‘Creative Colour’ workshop recently and discovered how useful a colour wheel can be. And the best thing is, it is not limited to fibre crafts, but is useful for all aspects of life. Below are some of the things that I learnt, that I thought you would find useful:

- Keep in your stash colours that you don't like, as well as colours that you do – it helps enhance the colours that you do like, and can often look good when combined with other colours (see below).
- Darker end of the scale (hue) – brings warmth and closeness. The light end of the scale (hue) – is cool and gives distance. Projects often need both to bring harmony.
- Using white with colours will help other colours stand out.
- Using black with colours will dull other colours.
- Using grey will enhance the other colours used.
- When using colours try to use 3 hues of colour – light, medium and dark. Light at the top and dark at the bottom, as this is easier on the eyes.
- When using the colour wheel to select colours, be clear on the objective:
  - If blending– select colours from the two wedges either side of the main colour.
  - If contrasting– select colours from directly across from the main colour.
  - If looking for a difference – select colours that create an equilateral triangle on the colour wheel (every fourth colour).
- Once you've selected the colours, order them from light to dark (the hues) and check that you have the three hues. You can of course use all the same hues, but having all three brings more depth to your project.
- Lastly – the emotional impact of colours:
  - Red – stimulates the sense, is passionate and aggressive.
  - Blue – imbues trust and is calming.
  - Yellow – brings energy.
  - Green – considered to be growing and good.
  - Brown – brings comfort.
  - Orange – warm and cozy.
  - Purple – brings mystery and a sense of regalness.

