

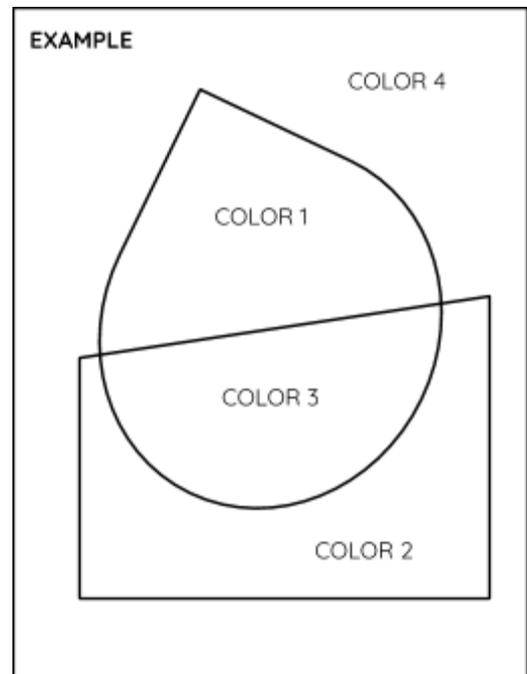
Color Theory Demo: Illusion of Transparency
Taught by Annika Earley

MATERIALS

- Any kind of paint (watercolor, acrylic, oil, gouache, etc.) in at least 3 colors
- Palette knife (or brush, or disposable knife, or anything that lets you mix paint)
- A mixing surface (glass or plastic palette, palette paper, plastic wrap stretched over cardboard, aluminum foil, whatever you have available to you!)
- Any brush
- Pencil and eraser
- Cup of water
- Rag or paper towel
- Paper that can take wet media

HOW TO

1. Draw outlines of two intersecting shapes. These can be as geometric and simple or as complex and detailed as you want, just make sure you have a good amount of overlap between the two shapes. Consider the composition of your drawing: do you make good use of your field, are you creating a sense of eye movement? Are all areas activated?
2. Mix two colors (one for each shape). Think about mixing colors that might produce exciting or unexpected results when mixed together. For example, bright pink and dark red will produce a fairly predictable pink-red color. A dull yellow-orange and a bright blue-green will produce a more complex mixture.
3. Fill in one shape with one color. Leave the part where the shapes intersect blank. Fill in the other shape in the same way.



4. Using your two colors, make a third color that reads as if your two shapes are transparent pieces of glass laid over one another (for example, a blue and a yellow piece of glass will create a green intersection). This is not always a 50% mixture as pigments vary in density/power. Fill in the intersection with your new mixture.
5. Mix a fourth color for the ground. Consider what ground color might make your transparency illusion more vibrant, or more emphasized.