

Owen Jones' Color Tips
from
The Grammar of Ornament – London 1856

- ◆ Primary colors work best in small amounts/areas, balanced by Secondary and Tertiary colors in larger amounts/areas.
- ◆ Blue retires, Yellow advances and Red is intermediate.
- ◆ When two tones of the same colour are used together, the lighter will appear lighter and the darker will appear darker.
- ◆ Colors on white grounds will appear darker and vice-versa for dark grounds.
- ◆ When colored objects are used on a contrasting ground they should be set apart by an edging of a lighter shade of the colour used. E.g. Red flowers on a green ground should be outlined in a lighter shade of red.
- ◆ Colors on a gold ground should be edged with a darker color.
- ◆ Metallic objects on a colored ground should be outlined in black.
- ◆ Colors on any colour ground can be edged in black, white or gold.
- ◆ Work from the least used color to the most and finish all work in that color before going onto the next.
- ◆ When lightening a color use white, except green, use yellow.