

# Elements of Art: Color

Color can be an incredibly expressive element of art. Color is used to project a mood or tone, create depth and focus, and emphasize light. There are three characteristics of color:

**Hue:** the name of a color (red, green, blue, etc.)

**Value:** the brightness of a color (dark or light)

**Intensity:** the strength of a color (saturated or dull)

After reading the example, look at two different artworks, noting the artist's use of hue, value, and intensity.

<b>Title and artist</b>	<b>The Sunny Room</b> by Édouard Vuillard		
<b>List the hues</b>	Yellow, yellow green, blue green, violet, red		
<b>Describe the values</b>	The values are mostly light, except the seated figure, which is very dark.		
<b>Describe the intensity</b>	The values are mostly vivid, except for parts of the wall and the side of the bed, which are cast in shadow.		
<b>How does the color affect the way you view the piece?</b>	The light, bright colors (mostly yellow) clearly portray the subject matter, since he was painting a sunny room. The darkness of the human figure makes it stand out against the sunny background.		