

WHY THIS IS IMPORTANT

An important aspect of color for both low vision and colorblind users is **sufficient contrast between foreground (text or graphics) and the background**. Maximum contrast is black versus white, but this combination can be considered too overwhelming (it may cause glare). Other colors can be used - such as navy, dark green, or maroon for darks, and pastels for lights - to lessen the contrast.

However, some **modern designs are so "subtle"** that the contrast can actually be insufficient for some readers. Examples include contrasting light grey versus middle grey, middle pastels versus darks, or white versus light cyan (blue-green). If you plan to use a subtle color palette, it is recommended that you use a color analyzer to ensure there is sufficient contrast.

In most online color analyzer tests, you enter in the hexadecimal color code for the foreground (text) and background colors, and the tester generates a numeric result. Usually a low number or ratio indicates too little contrast.

Free color contrast analyzers available online

- <https://developer.paciellogroup.com/resources/contrastanalyser/>
- <https://webaim.org/resources/contrastchecker/>