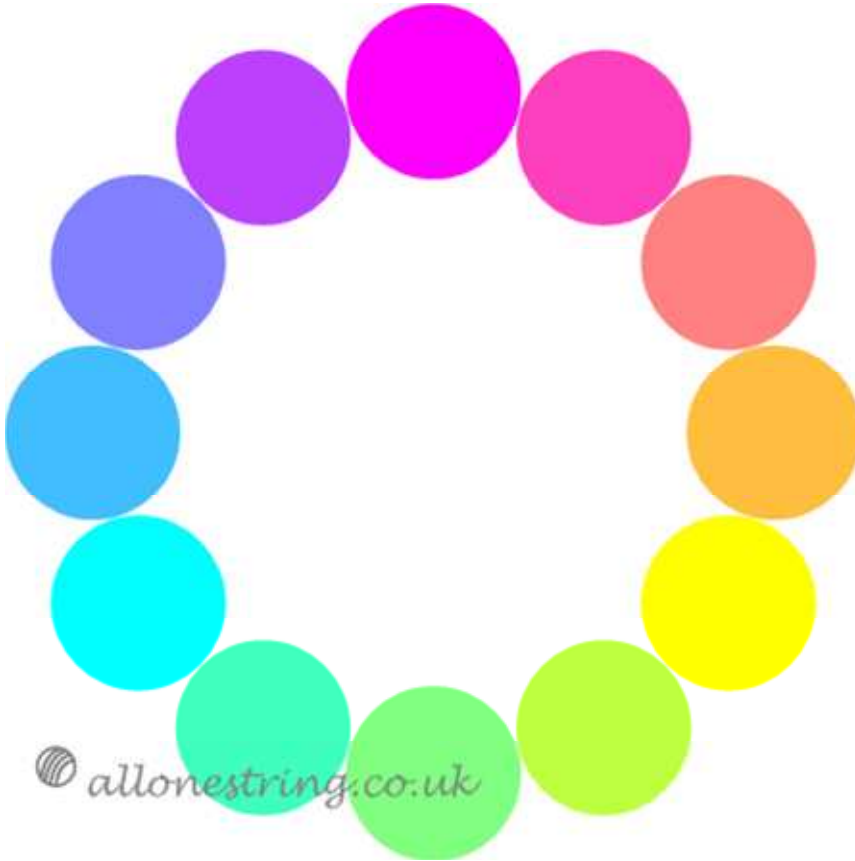




Colourwheels

Colourwheels are a fun way of dyeing lots of colours that go with each other.



Here's a colourwheel using my best electronic versions of fuchsia (red MX-8B), lemon yellow (yellow MX-B) and turquoise (turquoise MX-B) as the primaries. These are good dyes to start dyeing with as they are pure dyes (not mixtures), are readily available (sometimes as a set), and combine to make bright secondary colours.

Clearly this picture doesn't show what dyed fabric looks like, but it shows the secondary colours changing from primary to primary.

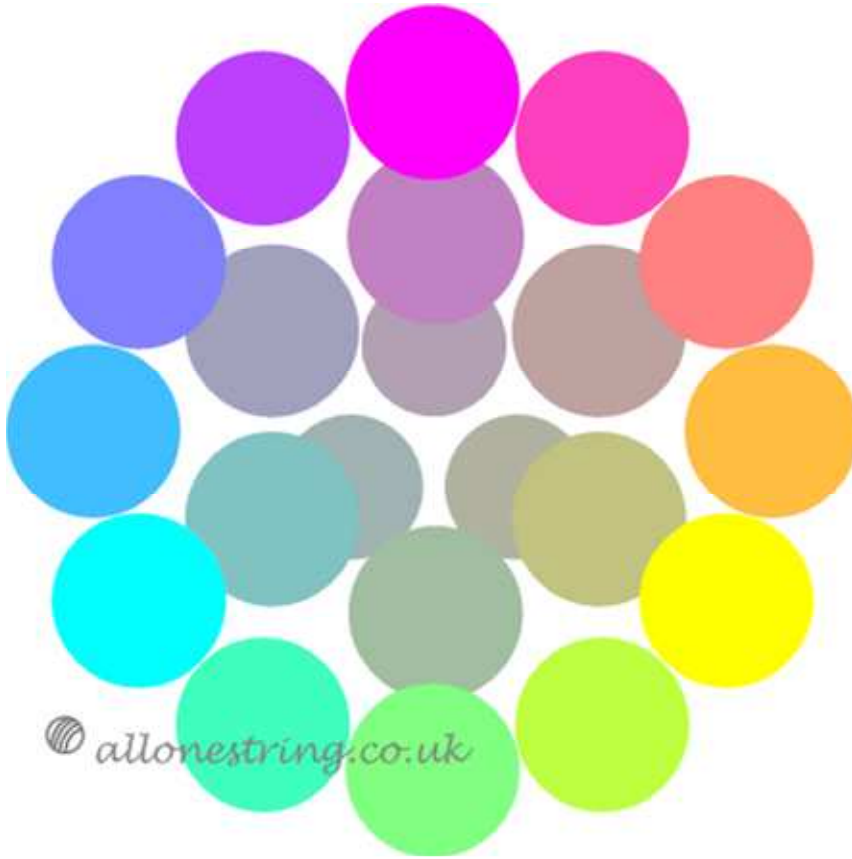
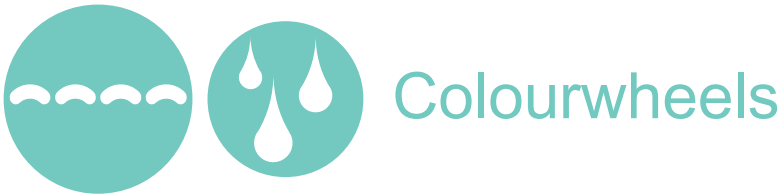
You can get some wonderful colours by mixing the original colour wheel leftovers. I usually mix together the dyes from opposite pots, the 12 o'clock pot with the 6 o'clock one, and so on. I call this first generation of mixes browns as they are a mixture of the three primaries.

Here's some computer-generated browns. The fabric versions from this process are much paler.

Then I get some really pale greys by mixing together the dye from opposite pots again.

Here's some computer-generated greys. The fabric versions from this process are much, much paler.





Of course, the brilliant thing about using the leftover dyes to make new colours is that all the colours – the colourwheel, browns and greys - go together. This is very useful for producing neutrals that go with the main colours in your quilt.

Here's all those colours together.



Of course if you use different primaries you get different secondaries, browns and greys. Here's one using scarlet, lemon and medium blue as the primaries. Remember that the colours wouldn't be exactly like this with real dyes.



Colourwheels

dyeing colourwheels

When you dye a colourwheel, you start with the three primaries red, yellow and blue, then mix several or many colours between each two: some oranges between red and yellow, some greens between yellow and blue, and some purples between blue and red.

I use the instructions for colourwheels from the book "Dyeing to Quilt" by Joyce Mori and Cynthia Myerberg. There's a nice recipe as it takes into account that yellow is weaker than the other two primaries so you need more of it when mixing it with them.



The "Dyeing to Quilt" colourwheel has 12 steps. This one has 18, but uses the same method. I think that the primaries are scarlet, lemon yellow and medium blue.



Here's the fabric from a 12 step colourwheel. The primaries are burgundy, golden yellow and turquoise.



Colourwheels

quilts from colourwheels



Wax crayon

2002

The browns and greys are on the back



Colourwheels

quilts from colourwheels



New York Quirky

2003

The browns and greys are on the back



Colourwheels

quilts from colourwheels



untitled

2004

For more on these designs and settings follow





Colourwheels

quilts from colourwheels



prickly

2005