



Introduction

For this assignment you'll be using the information you gained in the earlier colourwork tutorials and task to produce a new sample.

Part One

1. Using the information you have gained, find images of 3 or 4 Fair Isle patterns.
2. Note down the colours used and the placement of the colours. Which is the accent 'pop' colour? Which colours tone and blend softly? Which one/ones stand out?
3. Now photograph or print the images in black and white.
4. What do you notice? Make some brief notes of your findings.

Part Two

1. Select a new group of 4 yarns, bearing in mind your findings in the earlier tasks. See if you can select by eye a group that will give your colour scheme impact.
2. Now photograph these and save the image in black and white. How did you do? Were you able to pick out colours that have good contrast?
3. When choosing colours for Fair Isle, it's important to understand how to combine colours for maximum impact. In some cases you are looking for a subtle effect where the pattern is softly set against the background. Often in Fair Isle, one yarn will be a strong contrast. This will give a 'pop' of colour that gives the colour scheme vibrancy.

Part Three

1. Using the yarns you chose for Part Two, make a new sample in these colours using the chart from Task One.
2. Note down the colours used and the placement of the colours. Which is the accent 'pop' colour? Which colours tone and blend softly? Which one/ones stand out?
3. Now photograph or print the images in black and white.
4. What do you notice? Make some brief notes of your findings.

Conclusion

What you should see is that the colours you expect to stand out (often you may think that would be the deepest, dark colours) may not be the ones that do so. A pastel or neutral can equally fulfil the accent role in a colourway. This is because what we see in a Fair Isle colourway is not just the colours themselves but also the tonal value and colour saturation. Two strong colours, although completely different as colours (violet and orange for example) if they have the same tonal value, will have the effect of cancelling each other out when placed together in a design. The same can be true of mid-shades and neutrals/pastels.

Look back at what you've done so far and see if you can find evidence of this. Make notes of your findings.

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