



## Start With a Limited Palette

Want to try a new brand of paint without a great expense? For centuries painters have used a “limited” palette. These colors contain the three primary artist colors – red, yellow and blue – plus black and white. The practice of limiting the color palette teaches how to mix colors, and also helps the beginning painter achieve a unified image more easily than using a wider variety of colors. This makes it easier to see relationships of color in a painting while it provides a good learning experience for the artist.

You’ve probably noticed when shopping for paint that there are many choices available. You can’t buy them all so how do you choose which colors that will benefit you the most? What if you could begin with a small number of paints – only five (5) – and easily create enough colors for most all designs? Then, as you work with these colors that you mixed, you will realize which colors you use most often and can add them to your palette one or two at a time. Eventually, you will find a group of colors that will give you the results you want for the type of painting you do.

You can jump-start this learning process with our basic color mixes. These mixes are complete with accurate mixing recipes so you can create the exact color you want every time. This list covers the spectrum and consists of “popular” color names you will most likely recognize. Our minimal amount of colors needed to create these blends include bright, intense, medium values of red, yellow, and blue; a pure white for tinting and, instead of black for shading, we picked Burnt Umber, an earth color, to add a natural warmth to your new color.

The first brand for which we created Limited Palette Blends was Genesis® Artist Colors. As the World’s Only Heat-Set Oil this medium cannot be mixed with any other brand of paints. It is a unique product in the industry. Therefore, to have enough colors to test it properly might require more than you are willing to invest in a new product you have never used. What if it isn’t what you expected? This is where a limited palette can be very valuable. With just five jars of paint you can create many popular artist colors by just following the mixing recipes - more than enough to do most any design.

To find the five colors chosen for a limited palette in a brand:

Search on **Brand: Color Name**

Choose **Genesis** from the brands list

Type in Color Name: **(ltd)**

Check **Search by Keyword**

Choose **Yes** if you want to search your inventory

Click **Search**

The TCS On-Line Network offers mixes using only limited palette colors as alternate choice (ALT) on several popular colors. Whenever a color has a limited palette alternative, we follow the color name or mix with (ltdm) This tells you that the color has a Limited Palette Alternative Mix.

These alternate choices are listed in the Full TCS Screen by clicking on the “ALT” button. Try this:

The color in the design is Winsor & Newton Burnt Sienna. You would like to use Genesis Heat-Set Oils. Search on: Brand/Color Name

Choose the brand Winsor & Newton, type “Burnt Sienna” in Color Name and submit.

Click on the TCS Number beside Burnt Sienna to bring up the Full TCS Screen.

The Genesis equivalent to Winsor & Newton Burnt Sienna is a mix: Burnt Sienna + Red Oxide 1:T (ltdm) This means there is also a limited palette alternative mix available.

To the far right of the Genesis Brand, you will see a button marked “ALT” indicating an alternate choice is available: in this case a mix to create the desired color using a limited palette.

Click the ALT button and a Pop-Up window will appear that shows:

The TCS Number

The original color name or mix

An alternate choice to this color name. In this case: Genesis Red + Burnt Umber + Genesis Yellow 1:1:1 (1 part of each color) will create a mix that matches Winsor & Newton Burnt Sienna. Note: The ALT color choices will always be in the brand where they are listed.

To create a list of all the colors that have a Limited Palette Alternative in a brand follow these steps:

Search on: Brand/Color Name and Mix Choose the brand you want for the limited palette (Genesis)

Type in the first Color Name:

(ltd) will give the list of colors needed to create a limited palette.

(ltdm) will give you the list of colors you can create by mixing these colors.

(ltd will give you both the limited palette colors needed and all the colors you can create.

\*note you only type in one (

Then click Submit to see the full list of TCS #'s for the search you chose. If the brand you chose has no Limited Palette Alternatives, no colors will display in the search results.

Click on any TCS Number to bring up the Full TCS Screen.

There you will see listed other brands with the popular color names you recognize.

To the far right of the Genesis brand, you will see a button marked “ALT” indicating there is an alternate choice available.

Click that ALT button and a Pop-Up window will appear that shows:

The TCS Number

The original color or mix

An alternate mix using only the limited color palette paints.

Tip: If this window is NOT full screen, you can click the Restore button to expand it to full screen size. (Restore is on the Title bar, upper right corner of screen, square box next to the red X close button.)

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