

Contrast & Accessibility Reference

Color Theory for Pattern Design

About This Document

This reference accompanies the article: Color Theory for Pattern Design

Read the full article at: <https://svgeneration.com/docs/color-theory-pattern-design>

Article Summary

How to choose harmonious colour palettes, manage contrast, and create patterns that work in any context.

WCAG Contrast in Patterns

WCAG 2.2 requires a 4.5:1 contrast ratio for text over backgrounds. When patterns serve as text backgrounds, ensure the most similar region of the pattern (the lightest or darkest point) still meets contrast requirements. Test by placing real text over the pattern and measuring contrast at the worst-case tile position. Tools: Chrome DevTools accessibility panel, WebAIM Contrast Checker.

Colour Temperature & Mood

Warm colours (red, orange, yellow) feel energetic, urgent, and warm. Cool colours (blue, teal, purple) feel calm, trustworthy, and professional. Pattern backgrounds strongly influence page mood use warm palettes for creative/marketing pages and cool palettes for technical/productivity tools. Neutral palettes (grey, off-white) let content take centre stage.

Free Resources

Visit SVGeneration.com for 600 free SVG background patterns. No attribution required.

License: Modified MIT License. Use freely in personal and commercial projects.