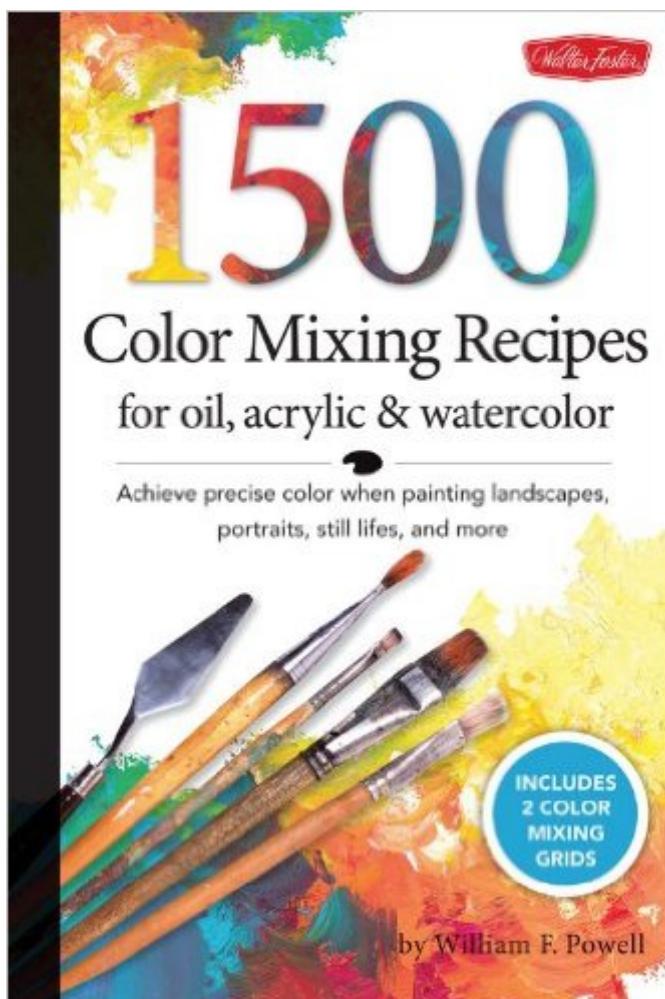


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# 1,500 Color Mixing Recipes For Oil, Acrylic & Watercolor: Achieve Precise Color When Painting Landscapes, Portraits, Still Lifes, And More



## Synopsis

Just when you thought there was no hope of ever finding a comprehensive color-mixing resource for oil, acrylic, and watercolor artists, along comes the 1,500 Color Mixing Recipes for Oil, Acrylic & Watercolor, a collection of Walter Foster's bestselling Color Mixing Recipes books, including Color Mixing Recipes for Oil and Acrylic, Color Mixing Recipes for Portraits, Color Mixing Recipes for Watercolor, and the most recent addition, Color Mixing Recipes for Landscapes. This incredible collection comes in a user-friendly concealed spiral-bound format that is tabbed for quick and easy reference. Aspiring artists will also find two removable color mixing grids--one for oil or acrylic, and one for watercolor.

## Book Information

Series: Color Mixing Recipes

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Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 starsÂ  See all reviewsÂ  (135 customer reviews)

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## Customer Reviews

I had bought the single landscape book and was glad the publisher decided to combine all the books. What a savings! Since I do oils, now I can use this book for water color and acrylics if I choose. It's a great reference for portrait painting (detailing facial highlighting and skin tones) as well as still life, land and seascapes. This book has very detailed recipes for color mixtures and 2 re-usable grid pages to measure the paint need for each recipe. There's no guess work, it's been done for you. It has cut my mixing and guessing to 1/2 the time and I don't waste paint. I ordered two, one for myself and one for my instructor.

As a life-long black and white photographer just now getting into drawing and painting--color for art

is an intimidating hurdle, like a new language. This book has relieved me of those fears. It is great as a reference I'm sure, and certainly that is what most will probably use it for. But for this beginner it has been pure joy to look at the colors and see what has gone into making them. It has removed the mystery and paranoia of putting colors together. It is enjoyable to just flip through the pages. It is well-organized, very well presented, a definite work of quality. I don't know if this is "the" book for experienced painters, as I'm so new to this. But I can heartily recommend it to the beginners like myself who are just discovering the wonders of color, but need help in the process of making color work. Thanks to the author for this book! And it seems to be printed very well, too.

Art is an ambivalent subject from its creation to its appreciation. Still, every fine artist needs to understand the basics of their medium and the first section of 1500 Color Mixing Recipes covers just that for the artist who uses paint, whether oil, acrylic or water. I sculpt more than paint; however, I use color in almost everything I do and this book is a fantastic find. The author and publisher understand the circumstances under which the artist works and have designed the book so that it can lie open while you work because of its spiral binding and stain-resistant, high-gloss card stock. (Like a good cook book that won't be soiled when used on the counter.) The book is divided into several sections for each group of colors they assume the artist might need, e.g. landscaping, and portraits but this is only an aid and you might find the colors in one group could be just the colors you want in another so the convenience is not restrictive. It begins with the basics of color theory with illustrations. Finally, the book provides recipes for each of the 1,500 colors, specifying the exact artist colors and amounts needed for a certain result. And it includes a plastic grid for you to keep track of your own formulas. Obviously, the recipes can only be an approximation since, for example, burnt sienna will vary depending on the manufacturer and quality. Still, having 1,500 color swatches to look at is a gold mine. It's a college course in a book at a great price and should be a companion piece to 101 Textures in Oil & Acrylic which I've also reviewed.

The book gives you a general idea of how to mix a color, particularly if you are a beginner. The book is difficult because they use oil paint names and if you are an acrylic painter you have to do a conversion to the nearest acrylic name. The paints do not come out of the tubes as assumed by the book (in their photos) so it is not that easy to get the right quantities. The book is probably helpful for someone starting out but may leave something to be desired for the more experienced artist.

After using this book a lot and trying out the recipes, I have come back here to change my review.

Many of the recipes do not give you the color the book illustrates you should get. It is severely flawed. I don't know if the recipes are wrong, or if the color printed is a bad print. But, the colors are WAY off, especially the greens and the darker colors in the oil paint section. It is also missing some very basic oil paint colors for mixing. I would return it if I could.

I first bought the color mixing recipes for portraits and landscapes. So this incorporates those two but has a great deal more. I do not use it as a recipe book with measured out paint as suggested, but rather coming up with the color I am thinking of. Somtimes we get into a rut using the same ole color. This book has helped me learn the mixing color for a little more life in my paintings and I believe my paintings have improved because of it.

I tried three recipes so far and the resulting color mix did not match the colors in the book at all. They were way off. One case called for 5 units of one color and 2 units of another and 9 units of white. It matched better with no white and much more than the 2 units of the second color called for in the recipe.

I like this book very much. I see some people posted that the recipes are not correct, but in my opinion, they get me close enough. My goal is to be able to know what to mix to get the right color, without having to always look it up. The layout of the book is very good and I especially like the beginning references. I've been painting my whole life (and I'm pretty old), and I never knew mixing the primary colors with their complement would make gray!

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