

LEGO[®] Color Organization: Family Theory

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1 Family Groups

In an effort to refine the process of categorizing and sorting a LEGO[®] collection, Nathan Masters has devised a general-purpose color grouping system. His approach seeks to provide a dynamic framework for colors both old and new in the form of groups that summarize multiple properties simultaneously.

A selection of 70 widely-used colors are organized into six groupings called families:







































































- Legacy
- Transparent
- Natural
- Lucid
- Pastel
- Novel

The family names help distinguish why certain colors are grouped together and are less strict for the integration of new colors. The groups also provide a rough distribution for piece-per-color occurrence, with higher amounts of parts available in the *Legacy* colors and a decreasing amount of parts available for each family moving right; the *Novel* family being so named for relatively few parts produced in those colors.

These six family groups in particular are designed to strike a balance through the extensive color options available, family sizes are closer than simply grouping similar colors. Intensity also plays a role in these groups, helping distinguish the washed-out *Pastel* pieces from the vibrant *Lucid* hues. Colors in the *Natural* family are usually well-suited to projects intended to model real life, yet the group is diverse enough to include the dark "Earth" colors alongside the muted "Sand" tones.

The table on the next page lists abbreviated names for each member of the color families. A sample box with the assigned hexadecimal color is included alongside each entry. The hex values used are a mix of official LEGO[®] color codes (Source 1) and Nathan's personal representation.

2 Colors in Families

Legacy	Transparent	Natural	Lucid	Pastel	Novel
Black 	TRdark 	SDred 	Coral 	SPblue 	Copper 
DKgrey 	TRclear 	SDpurple 	Violet 	MEDblue 	PLgrey 
LTgrey 	UVblue 	SDblue 	OJ 	Lavender 	PLsilver 
White 	TRLTblue 	SDgreen 	LMgreen 	Pink 	DLsilver 
Red 	TRblue 	SDorange 	APPgreen 	PARApink 	CRMsilver 
Yellow 	TRpurple 	DKorange 	Teal 	Flesh 	PLgold 
Blue 	TRpink 	DKred 	SKYblue 	SPyellow 	DLgold 
Green 	TRred 	DKpurple 	Azure 	SPgreen 	CRMgold 
Tan 	UVorange 	DKblue 	Indigo 	Aqua 	CRMblue 
Brown 	TRorange 	DKgreen 	Lilac 		Glow 
Orange 	TRYellow 	DKbrown 	DKpink 		
	UVgreen 	DKtan 	Magenta 		
	TRLTgreen 	OVgreen 			
	TRgreen 	DKteal 			
11 members	14 members	14 members	12 members	9 members	10 members

Note that the often-contested Dark Grey and Light Grey members are listed only once and placed within the *Legacy* family. This table follows Nathan's personal preference and sorting practices, but he suggests that the distinction could be adopted by placing the old versions of the greys in *Legacy* and the updated greys in the *Natural* family. Brown has been treated similarly.

LEGO® has produced far more than 70 individual colors through the years; this family breakdown attempts to cover almost all major pieces with colors available in official products released after plastic mixes became fairly consistent. In the interest of simplicity and accessibility to the general LEGO® community, some large groups of uncommon colors are excluded:

- Fabuland variants
- Modulux system
- Loosely unofficial colors, like very light grey
- Single-instance colors found in watches, pens, Clickits, etc

3 Naming Key

<i>Abbreviation</i>	<i>Full Convention</i>
DK	Dark color
LT	Light color
TR	Transparent color
TRLT	Transparent Light color
UV	Ultraviolet color (aka Neon)
OV	Olive (Green only)
SD	Sand color
LM	Lime (Green)
APP	Apple (Green)
SP	Spring color
PARA	Paradisa (Pink)
PL	Pearl color (metallic)
DL	Drum-lacquered (metallic)
CRM	Chrome finish

4 Additional Notes

<i>Listing</i>	<i>Clarification</i>
SDorange	Commonly known as Nougat
DKcolor	Sometimes called Earth colors
OJ	"Orange Juice" yellow-orange color
SPblue	Light Royal Blue, recent
MEDblue	Not as light as other spring colors, older
Glow	Glow in the Dark

5 Sources

1. <http://www.peeron.com/inv/colors>
2. https://www.overleaf.com/learn/latex/Using_colours_in_LaTeX
3. <https://texblog.org/2011/04/19/highlight-table-rowscolumns-with-color/>
4. <https://www.overleaf.com/project/5dd721997bc92700010c35c0>
5. <https://htmlcolorcodes.com/>