



Research on Colour Words

Berlin and Kay (1969) 'Basic Color Terms, their Universality and Evolution'

There are 11 basic colour terms in English:



red, orange, yellow, green, blue, purple, pink, brown, grey, black and white.
Languages evolved from having only 2 basic colour terms, and gradually added more over time until they reached a maximum of 11 basic terms.

An edited version of "Some apparent uniformities between languages in colour-naming" by **Robin Allott. 1974** summarises Berlin and Kay as follows: