



# Colors: The Story of Dyes and Pigments

By *Bernard Guineau, Francois Delemare*

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From the painted caves at Lascaux, 40,000 years old, to the medieval cloth industry to today's computerized chemistry, this engaging book surveys the history of dyes and pigments-in a work as rich, varied, and colorful as a box of crayons.

160 illustrations, 135 in full color,

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**Colors: The Story of Dyes and Pigments By Bernard Guineau, Francois Delemare Bibliography**

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## **Editorial Review**

### **Amazon.com Review**

In our overstimulated, color-saturated society it is easy to forget the impact of color in the dull world before cheap dyes and plastics. *Colors* is a delightful little book, highly illustrated and packed with intriguing information. It traces the history of dyes and pigments from cave paintings to modern textiles. The book's four sections cover the uses of color in ancient times; its development and refinement in the Middle Ages; the explosion of supply and demand after the Renaissance; and the triumph of industrial chemistry in synthesizing and inventing colors. Production processes often paralleled those of alchemy, giving an almost magical quality to colors. Dyes were expensive in medieval Europe and could increase the price of a cloth tenfold; thus color was used to indicate social status, with aristocrats in bright robes standing out against the drab mob. Since antiquity, writers have compiled technical manuals on dyeing and pigment manufacture, often using more ancient texts, so that a great many antique recipes and techniques have been preserved. We learn, for example, how Indian yellow was made from a concentrated extract of the urine of cows fed exclusively on mango leaves (which was not healthy for the cows). Every page of the book has interesting tidbits of information, such as the derivation of blue jeans (from *bleu de Genes*, Genoa blue, a form of indigo). Clearly written and well-designed, *Colors* reminds us of the powerful ways color permeates our lives. --John Stevenson

### **Language Notes**

Text: English (translation)

Original Language: French

## **Users Review**

### **From reader reviews:**

#### **Dana Hanley:**

Do you one among people who can't read pleasurable if the sentence chained in the straightway, hold on guys that aren't like that. This Colors: The Story of Dyes and Pigments book is readable by you who hate those straight word style. You will find the data here are arrange for enjoyable studying experience without leaving possibly decrease the knowledge that want to provide to you. The writer involving Colors: The Story of Dyes and Pigments content conveys the thought easily to understand by many individuals. The printed and e-book are not different in the written content but it just different in the form of it. So , do you even now thinking Colors: The Story of Dyes and Pigments is not loveable to be your top list reading book?

#### **Warren Zeigler:**

Spent a free time for you to be fun activity to perform! A lot of people spent their spare time with their family, or all their friends. Usually they undertaking activity like watching television, likely to beach, or picnic from the park. They actually doing same task every week. Do you feel it? Do you want to something different to fill your current free time/ holiday? Could possibly be reading a book could be option to fill your no cost time/ holiday. The first thing that you ask may be what kinds of guide that you should read. If you want to try out look for book, may be the book untitled Colors: The Story of Dyes and Pigments can be very

good book to read. May be it may be best activity to you.

**Steven Hackett:**

The reason why? Because this Colors: The Story of Dyes and Pigments is an unordinary book that the inside of the guide waiting for you to snap the item but latter it will surprise you with the secret the idea inside. Reading this book alongside it was fantastic author who also write the book in such wonderful way makes the content within easier to understand, entertaining approach but still convey the meaning thoroughly. So , it is good for you for not hesitating having this anymore or you going to regret it. This amazing book will give you a lot of positive aspects than the other book have such as help improving your skill and your critical thinking means. So , still want to hold off having that book? If I were being you I will go to the e-book store hurriedly.

**Jeffrey Martinez:**

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