

# Josef Albers: Colorful Compositions

## Supplies

Colored paper

Glue or tape

## Instructions

1. Chose two pieces of paper in different colors and cut them into large squares (9 x 9 if they are 9 x 12 pieces of paper).
2. Cut some of the other pieces of paper into a variety of smaller shapes (squares, circles, triangles). Some of them should be approximately 6 x 6 and some approximately 3 x 3.
3. Put the two large squares side by side and attach them to each other using tape. This is the background.
4. Experiment by placing cut shapes on the two different areas of the background. Notice how the colors look different against different backgrounds.

### Combinations to try:

- If you place a red shape on a yellow background and a similar red shape on a black background, does the red look the same against both backgrounds, or does one look more orange?
- Notice how brilliant a red shape looks against a white background. Now put a similar red shape on a purple background. Does it look as vibrant?
- Put a gray shape on a white background and a similar gray shape on a black background. What do you notice?

