

Evaluating the accuracy of shade matching with the classical shade tab arrangement and arrangement based on value-An *in vitro* study

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Accurate shade matching is a very important requirement of successful restorative and prosthodontic dental practice and the ideal tooth material should match the color of the tooth being restored. According to the Munsell System, color is a three dimensional quality specified by values of three variables-hue, value & chroma.

Visual color determination shows variation depending on the dentist's skill, perception & experience, lighting conditions & the type of shade guide used. The standard allocation of the VITA tabs in the most commonly used Vitapan Classical shade guide is based on four hues (A to D) of increasing chroma and decreasing lightness.

Human vision is more sensitive to changes in lightness than in perceived color (hue). Hence, it is frequently suggested that color determination could be more successful when tabs are arranged according to lightness.

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