Monochromatic Colors Schemes

Monochromatic color scheme is based on variations of one particular color. For example, adding white to red creates pink, adding black to red creates maroon, adding gray to red gets a more dusty pink like Blushing Bride. Then, you could have a monochromatic color scheme of pink, red, and maroon. You can use any color to create a monochromatic color scheme.

Why Think about Monochromatic Colors?

Monochromatic Colors create harmony to a card or project. Using light and dark variations of one color create perfect harmony.

Color Terms and What They Mean

- **Color or Hue:** a particular color – we typically say blue, red, green, etc.
- **Value:** simply put, it's the lightness and darkness of a color
    - **Shade:** add black to a color creates darker **shades** *(think of a shade tree – it makes things darker)*
    - **Tint:** add white to a color creates lighter **tints** *(think of tinting paint and adding white to make it lighter)*
    - **Tone:** add gray to a color creates muted **tones** *(think of a how gray changes the tone to a dustier color)*

Warm vs. Cool

When you add neutrals to your cards, think about warm vs. cool – Very Vanilla is a warm color and Basic White is a cool color. They are neutral but staying with the warm and cool tones for each will make card making easier for you.

- **Warm Colors**: reminds you of the heat, sunshine, and fire - oranges, reds, yellows – Warm colors represent cozy, passion, playfulness
- **Cool Colors:** reminds you of snow, ice, water and clouds in the sky - blues, greens, and purples – Cool colors represent calm, soothing, refreshed

Add Texture to Break Up Monochromatic Colors

Monochromatic is great but do you worry about TOO much of one color? Think about adding texture to a color to help break up the colors. It's easier on the eyes and who doesn't love texture on a card. Use an embossing folder or stamp a background image or sponge color on the edges to break it up.