commoditized tourist craftwork. We have now moved on to a greater level of understanding of this culturally precious, aesthetically delightful, and most deeply cherished of curiosities.

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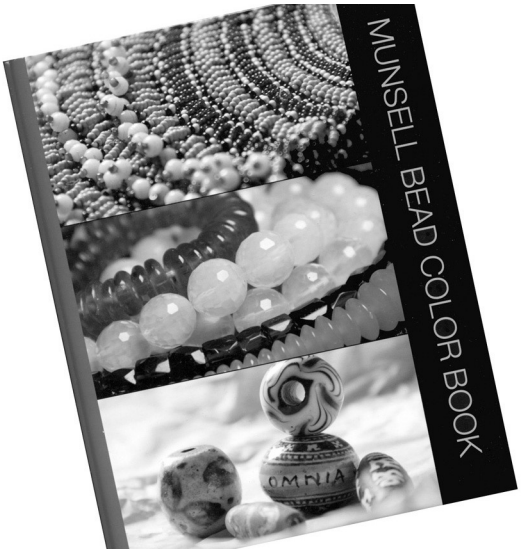
Munsell Bead Color Book.

Munsell Color. X-rite, 4300 44th Street, Grand Rapids, MI 49512. 2012. Ring binder, 5 pp., 5 color chip pages. Item no. M50145B. $157.00 (hard cover).

A.H. Munsell (1858-1918) was a painter and professor of art who is best known for having devised and developed the color notation system that bears his name. After his death, his son and other interested experts further developed and refined the system, and a number of publications are available under the Munsell name, including the *Munsell Soil Color Chart* which is used by geologists, archaeologists, and others. Other charts, dealing with rock, food, and plant colors have been printed, and the latest of these is the *Munsell Bead Color Book*, created in response to the needs of the many researchers in the world of bead studies.



The full *Munsell Book of Color* book costs US$945, so this smaller book represents a considerable saving in both dollars and bulk. Prepared with the assistance of the Society of Bead Researchers and its officers Alice Scherer, Karlis Karklins, and Laurie Burgess, it comes as a colorful ring binder measuring 8 by 6.5 in., with five loose-leaf pages of explanatory text and diagrams in black and white plus five pages of color chips with their names and codes on five facing pages. There are 176 glossy color chips which represent the colors that have thus far been recorded by North American archaeologists. The colors are arranged in spectral order, starting with the reds and ending with neutral values (white, gray, and black). When denoting colors, the Munsell code should be included after the name as some names apply to two Munsell color chips.

The color names are not drawn from the Inter-Society Color Council–National Bureau of Standards system as stated on p. 4, but from the 1950 *Descriptive Color Names Dictionary* produced by the Container Corporation of America, Chicago. The color chip pages have a circular hole 10 mm in diameter below each chip, a useful feature that facilitates the determination of the color of beads incorporated into beadwork or some other fabric. There are guidelines regarding the best light to view the beads, notes on cleaning dirty or patinated beads, and information about how to determine whether the glass is opaque, translucent, or transparent.

The introductory pages end with an explanation, including two diagrams, of the Munsell notation system: hue (color, listed in the order of spectrum colors), value (depth of color), and chroma (Greek for color and a measure of color purity). The inside front cover has a color image of the chroma scale of values above a color wheel of the hues which may make it easier for a beginner to understand the Munsell color system.

The *Munsell Bead Color Book* will prove useful to all who need to accurately record bead colors, whether they are archaeologists, ethnologists, museologists, or collectors. Munsell Color and the Society of Bead Researchers are to be congratulated on their initiative in creating this useful research tool and making it available to a worldwide audience.

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