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NEMA STANDARDS PUBLICATION

WD 1

GENERAL COLOR REQUIREMENTS FOR WIRING DEVICES

NATIONAL ELECTRICAL MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION

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NEMA Standards Publication WD 1-1999

General Color Requirements for Wiring Devices

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Foreword

The purpose of this standard is to provide information on general color requirements for wiring devices.

In the preparation of this Standards Publication input of users and other interested parties has been sought and evaluated. Inquiries, comments, and proposed or recommended revisions should be submitted to the concerned NEMA product Subdivision by contacting the:

Vice President, Engineering
National Electrical Manufacturers Association
1300 N. 17th Street
Rosslyn, Virginia 22209

WD 1-1999 revises and supersedes NEMA Standards Publication WD 1-1983 (R 1989).

The Standards Publication was developed by the NEMA Wiring Device Section. At the time it was approved, the Section was composed of the following members:

AMP Incorporated
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania

Arrow Hart Wiring Devices
Syracuse, New York

Bryant Electric, Inc.
Milford, Connecticut

Daniel Woodhead Company
Northbrook, Illinois

Eagle Electric Manufacturing Company, Inc.
Long Island City, NY

Ericson Manufacturing Company
Willoughby, Ohio

GE Wiring Devices
Cleveland, Ohio

Hubbell Incorporated—Wiring Device Kellems Division
Bridgeport, Connecticut

Leviton Manufacturing Company, Inc.
Little Neck, New York

Lutron Electronics Company, Inc.
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Marinco/Marine Industries Company
Napa, California

Pass & Seymour/Legrand
Syracuse, New York

Steel City
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Technology Research Corporation
Clearwater, Florida

The Genlyte Group
Garland, Texas

The WattStopper, Inc.
Santa Clara, California

The Wiremold Company
West Hartford, Connecticut

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Section 1
GENERAL

1.1 SCOPE

This standard publication contains color references for AC switches, plugs and cord connectors, receptacles, and other related wiring devices.

This standard does not cover dimensional requirements affecting wiring device interchangeability. These are found in NEMA Standards Publication No. ANSI/NEMA WD 6-1997.

1.2 REFERENCES

The following standards and publications are referenced in this standard publication.

American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM)
100 Barr Harbor Drive
West Conshohocken, PA 19428

D1535-97 *Standard Practice for Specifying Color by the Munsell System*

Munsell Color
GrettagMacbeth LLC
617 Little Britain Road
New Windsor, NY 12553

Munsell Book of Color, Glossy Finish Edition, 1976 ed.

National Electrical Manufacturers Association (NEMA)
1300 N. 17th Street
Rosslyn, VA 22209

ANSI/NEMA WD 6-1997 *Wiring Devices—Dimensional Specifications*

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Section 2
COLORS OF MOLDED COMPOUNDS

The following colors of molded compounds of wiring devices are defined by the following Munsell notations:

Color	Munsell Notation
Ivory	4.6Y 7.82/2.4
White	N9/
Gray	N6/
Brown	1.6YR 1.24/1.1
Red	6R 3.55/13.75
Yellow	6.25Y8/12
Black	N1/
Orange	10R5/16

The Munsell designation guide values are for reference only. Wiring device color matches to guide values may differ due to reasons such as: molding compound variations, color tolerance variations, or specific wiring device manufacturer's preference for color selections.

The Munsell Notation identifies color in terms of three attributes: hue, value, and chroma.

The hue (H) notation of a color indicates its relation to a visually equally spaced scale of 100 hues.

The value (V) notation indicates the lightness or darkness of a color in relation to a neutral gray scale, which extends from absolute black to absolute white.

The chroma (C) notation indicates the degree of departure of a given hue from a neutral gray or the same value. The scale of chroma extends from 0 for a neutral gray out to /12, /14 or further, depending upon the strength (saturation) of the sample to be evaluated.

The complete Munsell Notation for a chromatic color is written symbolically: Hv/C. The complete notation for a sample of ivory color for example, is 5Y8/2, while the notation for a neutral color is written NV/. The notation of black color is N1/.

American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) *Standard Method of Specifying Color by the Munsell System D 1535* provides description of the Munsell Notations (see Section 1). For detailed description and understanding of the Munsell Color System, refer to the Munsell Book of Color (see Section 1).

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