

# Package ‘colorRamps’

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**Type** Package

**Title** Builds Color Tables

**Version** 2.3.4

**Date** 2024-03-05

**Description** Builds gradient color maps.

**License** GPL

**NeedsCompilation** no

**Author** Tim Keitt [aut] (ORCID: <<https://orcid.org/0000-0002-4587-1083>>),  
CRAN Team [ctb] (corrections since 2022),  
Gregory Jefferis [ctb, cre] (ORCID:  
<<https://orcid.org/0000-0002-0587-9355>>)

**Maintainer** Gregory Jefferis <[jefferis@gmail.com](mailto:jefferis@gmail.com)>

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colorRamps-package      *Builds color maps*

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## Description

This (v2) is a rewrite of the colorRamps package. It now contains two function `table.ramp` and `rgb.tables` that allow easy construction of color palettes. This version contains two new palettes similar to the Matlab default palette (`matlab.like` and `matlab.like2`).

I built colorRamps because I needed to use a particular palette and got tired of sourcing in my code into every session. Now I can install and forget. Despite using R for years, I had not noticed the alternative `colorRamp` which may suit your needs. If you want really attractive palettes, get the RColorBrewer package from CRAN. For certain applications the RColorBrewer palettes do not work for me, hence this package.

## Details

Package: colorRamps  
Type: Package  
Version: 2.0  
Date: 2007-09-09  
License: GPL

Most functions take a single argument `n` that specifies the number of colors to generate.

## Author(s)

Tim Keitt

Maintainer: Tim Keitt <tkeitt@gmail.com>

## References

Keitt, T. H. (2008) Coherent ecological dynamics induced by large scale disturbance. *Nature* 454:331-334

## Examples

```
filled.contour(volcano, col = ygobb(21), asp = 1)
```

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blue2red	<i>Returns a gradient color map</i>
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### Description

blue2red makes a color map that runs from blue -> cyan -> yellow -> red. blue2green makes a color map that runs from blue -> magenta -> yellow -> green. green2red makes a color map that runs from green -> cyan -> magenta -> red

### Usage

```
blue2red(n)
blue2green(n)
green2red(n)
```

### Arguments

n                    number of colors

### Details

These are double-ramp maps with a sharp transition from cooler colors to warmer colors at the midpoint. With proper scaling, this will highlight the mean, median, etc.

### Value

A colormap

### Author(s)

Tim Keitt <tknitt@gmail.com>

### References

Keitt, T. H. (2008) Coherent ecological dynamics induced by large scale disturbance. *Nature* 454:331-334

### See Also

[rgb](#)

### Examples

```
image(matrix(1:400, 20), col = blue2red(400))
image(matrix(1:400, 20), col = blue2green(400))
image(matrix(1:400, 20), col = green2red(400))
```

---

`blue2yellow`*Returns a gradient color map*

---

### Description

`blue2yellow` makes a blue to yellow gradient color map

### Usage

```
blue2yellow(n)
cyan2yellow(n)
magenta2green(n)
```

### Arguments

`n`                    number of colors

### Details

These are single gradient maps that smoothly transition from cooler to warmer colors. See [blue2red](#) for double gradient maps.

### Value

A color map

### Author(s)

Tim Keitt <[tkeitt@gmail.com](mailto:tkeitt@gmail.com)>

### References

Keitt, T. H. (2008) Coherent ecological dynamics induced by large scale disturbance. *Nature* 454:331-334

### See Also

[rgb](#)

### Examples

```
image(matrix(1:400, 20), col = blue2yellow(400))
```

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`matlab.like`*Generate color palettes similar to the matlab default*

---

**Description**

Generates matlab-like color palettes

**Usage**

```
matlab.like(n)
matlab.like2(n)
blue2green2red(n)
```

**Arguments**

`n`                    number of colors

**Details**

`blue2green2red` is simply an alias for `matlab.like2`.

**Value**

a color palette

**Author(s)**

Timothy H. Keitt

**References**

Keitt, T. H. (2008) Coherent ecological dynamics induced by large scale disturbance. *Nature* 454:331-334

**Examples**

```
image(matrix(1:400, 20), col = blue2yellow(400))
```

---

primary.colors      *generates expanded sets of primary colors*

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### Description

Combines red, green and blue values to create primary colors

### Usage

```
primary.colors(n, steps = 3, no.white = TRUE)
```

### Arguments

n	number of colors to generate (optional)
steps	number of rgb intensity levels
no.white	boolean indicating whether to return white

### Details

The standard R palette only provides 8 colors after which colors are recycled. If you need a few more colors that are readily distinguished in multivariate plots, this function can help.

### Value

An R color palette

### Author(s)

Timothy H. Keitt

### References

Keitt, T. H. (2008) Coherent ecological dynamics induced by large scale disturbance. *Nature* 454:331-334

### Examples

```
x <- matrix(rnorm(100), 10)
x <- sapply(1:10, function(i, x) cumsum(x[,i]), x=x)
par(mfrow = c(1, 2))
matplot(1:10, x, type = 'l', lty = 1, lwd = 3)
matplot(1:10, x, type = 'l', lty = 1, lwd = 3, col = primary.colors(10))
```

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rgb.tables	<i>constructs color palettes with sharp breaks</i>
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### Description

rgb.tables wraps table.ramp and simply passes values supplied in the red, green and blue arguments. table.ramp makes a color ramp with a flat top.

### Usage

```
rgb.tables(n, red = c(0.75, 0.25, 1), green = c(0.5, 0.25, 1), blue =  
c(0.25, 0.25, 1))  
table.ramp(n, mid = 0.5, sill = 0.5, base = 1, height = 1)
```

### Arguments

n	number of colors to generate
red	a length 3 vector with values mid, sill and base
green	same as red
blue	same as red
mid	table center on (0, 1)
sill	width of table top on (0, 1)
base	width of table base on (0, 1)
height	sill height on (0, 1)

### Value

rgb.tables returns a color palette. table.ramp returns a simple vector of values.

### Author(s)

Timothy H. Keitt

### References

Keitt, T. H. (2008) Coherent ecological dynamics induced by large scale disturbance. *Nature* 454:331-334

### See Also

[colorRamp](#)

### Examples

```
table.ramp(10)  
rgb.tables(10)
```

---

ygobb

*Returns a gradient color map*

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### Description

ygobb makes a color map that runs from yellow -> green -> olive -> blue -> black.

### Usage

```
ygobb(n)
```

### Arguments

n                    number of colors

### Details

I am still working on this one.

### Value

A colormap

### Author(s)

Tim Keitt <tkeitt@gmail.com>

### References

Keitt, T. H. (2008) Coherent ecological dynamics induced by large scale disturbance. *Nature* 454:331-334

### See Also

[rgb](#)

### Examples

```
image(matrix(1:400, 20), col = ygobb(400))
```

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