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## Specifying Colour in Architecture: How Materials, Lighting & Spatial Context Shape Perception

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### 1. What are the three key variables that influence colour perception?

Light source (spectrum and intensity), surface properties (absorption and reflection), and the observer (eye and brain processing).

### 2. How does colour temperature affect the perception of colour?

Warm light enhances reds and yellows, while cool light enhances blues and greys, potentially altering how colours and undertones are perceived.

### 3. How does surface texture influence colour perception?

Surface texture affects how light is reflected, with smooth surfaces producing more even reflections and textured surfaces scattering light, which can make colours appear softer or darker.

### 4. What is a colour space and name two examples?

A colour space is a defined system for describing and organising colours that enables consistent communication and reproduction across different media. Examples include RGB, CMYK and CIE Lab\*.

### 5. What are the advantages of using CIE Lab\* for colour comparison?

It is a device-independent, perceptually based colour space that allows numerical differences to more closely correspond to perceived visual differences.

### 6. What is Colour Rendering Index (CRI)?

Colour Rendering Index (CRI) measures how accurately a light source renders colours compared to natural daylight.