Best Color Picker App for iPhone and Android in 2026

We tested 5 color picker apps in 2026. Here's why Color Picker Camera: HEX RGB stands out for designers needing accurate HEX and RGB codes.

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Why Every Designer Needs a Great Color Picker App

Whether you're a UI/UX designer capturing brand colors from the real world, an interior decorator trying to match paint swatches, or a developer who needs precise HEX codes for a CSS stylesheet, a reliable color picker app is no longer a luxury -- it's a necessity. The ability to point your phone camera at any surface and instantly get an accurate HEX, RGB, or HSL value has transformed how creative professionals work.

In 2026, the App Store and Google Play are packed with color picker tools. But not all of them are created equal. Some are riddled with ads, others lack the export features professionals need, and many simply don't deliver accurate readings in real-world lighting conditions. We tested five of the most popular color picker apps on both iPhone and Android to help you find the right one.

Ready to try the best? Download Color Picker Camera: HEX RGB free on iPhone (App Store) or Android (Google Play) and start picking colors instantly.

The 5 Color Picker Apps We Tested

For this comparison, we evaluated each app across five key criteria: accuracy of color detection, breadth of color format support (HEX, RGB, HSL, CMYK), palette management

features, export options, and overall user experience. Here's how they stacked up.

1. Color Picker Camera: HEX RGB -- Our Top Pick

This app does exactly what its name promises, and it does it exceptionally well. The live camera mode locks onto colors with impressive precision, even under mixed indoor lighting. Tap any point on the viewfinder and you immediately see the HEX code, RGB values, HSL breakdown, and CMYK percentages -- all at once, without having to switch between tabs.

What sets it apart from competitors is the combination of RAL paint matching (a standard used in construction, automotive, and industrial design) with a clean, distraction-free interface. There are no ads, no popups asking for reviews, and no unnecessary permissions. The app is 24.9 MB, works completely offline, and collects zero personal data.

The palette builder lets you organize colors into named collections, export them as text or JSON, and generate color harmonies including complementary, triadic, and analogous combinations. For developers, being able to copy a HEX code with a single tap and paste it straight into Figma or a CSS file is a genuine time-saver. The photo gallery extraction feature means you can pull colors from any image already saved on your device -- not just the live camera feed.

Color history is automatically logged so you never lose a color you sampled earlier in the day. The backup and restore feature means you won't lose your saved palettes if you switch devices.

Available free on iOS and Android. No ads, no in-app purchases, no account required.

2. Palette Cam

Palette Cam has a beautiful UI and does a decent job of extracting dominant colors from photos. However, its live camera detection lags noticeably on older devices, and it only exports to limited formats. The free version shows banner ads at the bottom of the screen, which is distracting when you're trying to compare subtle color differences. HEX output is solid, but there's no CMYK support -- a dealbreaker for print designers.

3. Color Grab

Color Grab is a long-standing favorite among Android users. It supports a wide range of color models and has good camera accuracy. However, the interface feels dated and navigation between the palette manager and the live picker requires too many taps. There's no RAL matching, and the iOS version lags behind the Android release in features. Export options are limited compared to what professionals need.

4. Colorize! Color Name Picker

Colorize! excels at identifying color names -- it tells you that a particular shade is "Dusty Rose" or "Midnight Slate" rather than just outputting numeric codes. This is useful for mood board work, but professional designers and developers almost always need the precise HEX or RGB value. The app doesn't support palette exports and lacks CMYK output entirely.

5. Adobe Capture

Adobe Capture is a powerhouse if you're already deep in the Adobe ecosystem. Its color extraction from photos is excellent, and it integrates directly with Adobe Libraries, Illustrator, and Photoshop. The tradeoff: it requires an Adobe account, uses a subscription model for full features, and is significantly heavier than the other apps on this list. For someone who doesn't use Creative Cloud, it's overkill.

Head-to-Head Feature Comparison

- **Live camera picking:** Color Picker Camera, Color Grab, Adobe Capture
- **HEX + RGB + HSL + CMYK all at once:** Color Picker Camera only
- **RAL paint matching:** Color Picker Camera only
- **Color harmonies (complementary, triadic, analogous):** Color Picker Camera, Adobe Capture
- **JSON palette export:** Color Picker Camera only
- **100% offline, no account:** Color Picker Camera, Color Grab
- **No ads (free tier):** Color Picker Camera only
- **Photo gallery extraction:** Color Picker Camera, Adobe Capture, Palette Cam

Who Should Use Color Picker Camera: HEX RGB?

UI/UX and Graphic Designers: The one-tap HEX copy, color harmony generator, and JSON export make it a perfect companion for Figma, Sketch, or any design tool. Being able to sample a color from a physical inspiration piece and immediately get usable CSS values is a workflow accelerator.

Interior Designers and Homeowners: The RAL paint matching feature is a genuine differentiator. Instead of bringing paint chips to a store and guessing, you can photograph a surface, get the RAL code, and walk into any paint retailer with a precise specification. The palette builder lets you keep organized color stories for different rooms or projects.

Developers: The zero-friction HEX copy flow means less time switching between apps. The palette export to JSON makes it straightforward to bring your color system into a codebase. And because the app works offline and requires no account, it fits naturally into privacy-conscious development workflows.

Verdict

In a market where most color picker apps either show ads, require subscriptions, or lack professional-grade features, Color Picker Camera: HEX RGB is a standout. It combines real-time camera accuracy, a full suite of color models (HEX, RGB, HSL, CMYK), RAL matching, palette management, and export tools -- all for free, with no ads and no account required. For any designer, developer, or creative professional who works across digital and physical materials, it's the app we'd recommend without hesitation.

Download Color Picker Camera: HEX RGB free today -- available on iPhone and iPad (App Store) and Android (Google Play). No ads. No account. Just colors.

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