

## Colour the document defines, not the device

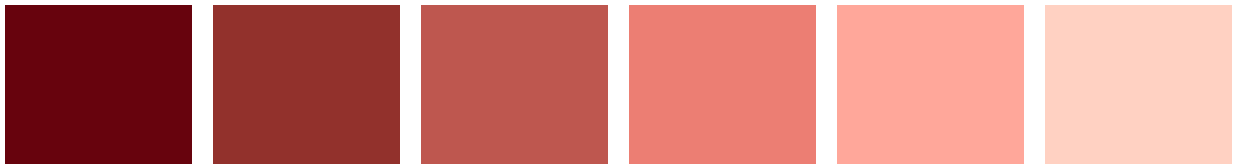
The first two rows hold the same six sets of three numbers. The second row names a colour space the file carries the profile for, so what those numbers mean travels with the file.



Three numbers said as they are, left to whatever shows them



The same three numbers, read through the sRGB profile the file carries



One colour at six lightnesses, said as L\*a\*b\*: only the first number changes



Six colours at one lightness: only the other two change



A rule stroked in the same space, by the stroking operators

The first two rows look alike on a screen that is already sRGB, and that is the point: the difference is not what they look like here. It is that the second row still names these colours on a press, on another screen, and in ten years, because the file says what it means.