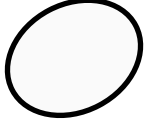


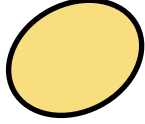
# Handy Words for Skin Tones

I went looking on the Internet for a list of adjectives to describe skin tones. I was thoroughly defeated. So I put this together, trying to avoid those with the worst connotations (although see note). These aren't ethnicity or sociology terms, but descriptive words. The color splotches aren't intended as definitive (actual skin is beautifully textured and marbled, with lots of color differentiation) but as sort of bookmarks to get us non-art-students in the right vicinity.

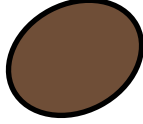
alabaster



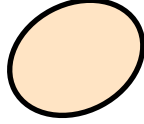
amber



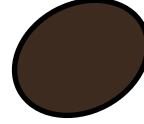
bay



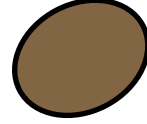
bisque



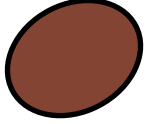
bistre



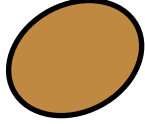
bronze



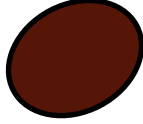
burnt sienna



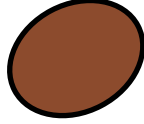
butterscotch



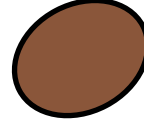
chestnut



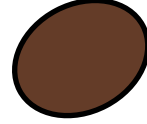
chocolate\*



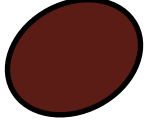
cinnamon



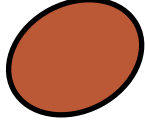
cocoa\*



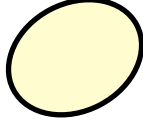
coffee\*



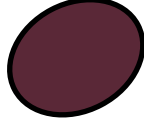
copper



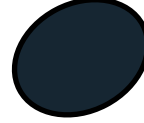
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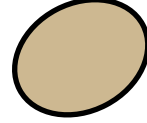
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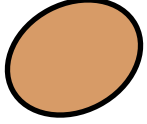
ebony



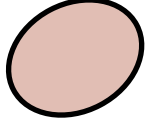
ecru



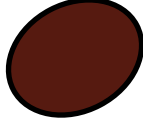
fawn



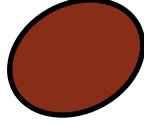
ginger



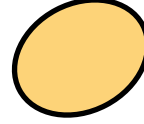
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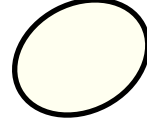
henna



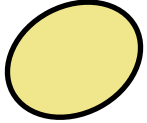
honey



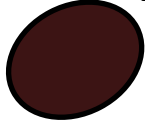
ivory



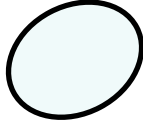
khaki



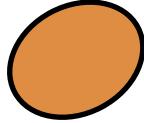
mahogany



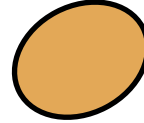
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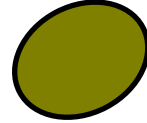
modoré



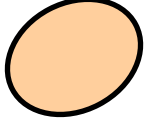
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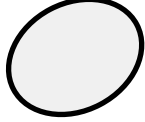
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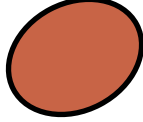
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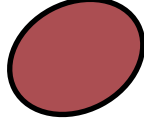
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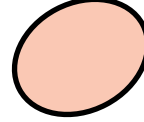
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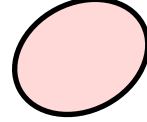
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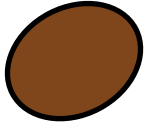
rose



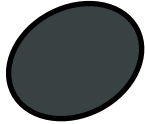
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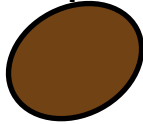
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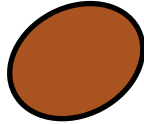
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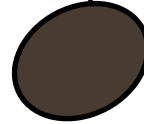
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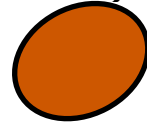
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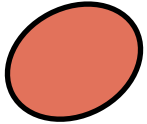
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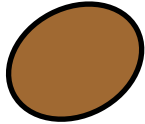
tawny



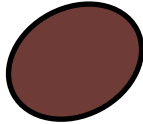
terra-cotta



toffee



umber



\* "I get really tired of seeing African-descended characters described in terms of the goods that drove, and still drive, the slave trade — coffee, chocolate, brown sugar. There's some weird psychosocial baggage attached to that."

— N. K. Jemisin