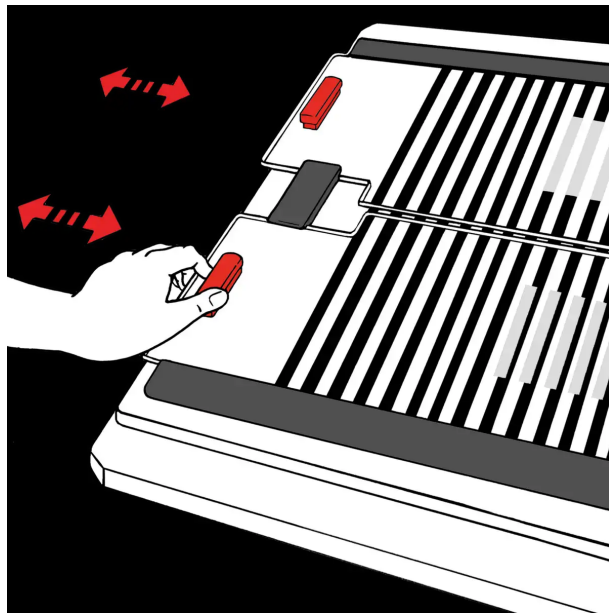


Shades of Grey

Are all grey strips equally bright?



Slide the grey strips so that they lie exactly on the upper row of black bars and exactly on the lower set of white bars.

Compare the brightness of the grey strips.

What do you notice when you place the grey stripes over only the black or white bars?

Surroundings have a big influence on our perception of colours, so that one and the same tone can appear significantly different. Generally it is the contrast which is enhanced: grey surrounded by black appears brighter than when surrounded by white. Sometimes (as in this case) the contrasts are equally matched and the grey surrounded by black appears darker. It is difficult to predict which of the effects is likely to occur, and it is not scientifically well understood yet.