

THE *LIVRO DE COMO SE FAZEM AS CORES*: CONTENTS AND CONTEXTS

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This paper is concerned with the *Livro de como se fazem as cores*, a late medieval Portuguese compilation with forty five recipes (mainly) for preparing colours. This compilation was written in Portuguese language but using Hebraic characters, which makes this text an example of Iberian *aljamia* writing. This paper reviews the structure and contents of the compilation, stressing the application of the recipes on different mechanical arts, the relation to alchemical writings, the changes in technical vocabulary along the different recipes and the process of adding new recipes for the same colours. It concludes with a discussion of the recent developments made on the study of this text, particularly in what concerns the data provided from a Linguistic approach and the data provided from comparing it with other late medieval technical compilations.