

Band Combinations for Landsat 8

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Landsat 8 has been online for a couple of months now, and the images look incredible. While all of the bands from previous Landsat missions are still incorporated, there are a couple of new ones, such as the coastal blue band water penetration/aerosol detection and the cirrus cloud band for cloud masking and other applications. Here's a rundown of some common band combinations applied to Landsat 8, displayed as a red, green, blue (RGB):

Natural Color	4 3 2
False Color (urban)	7 6 4
Color Infrared (vegetation)	5 4 3
Agriculture	652
Atmospheric Penetration	7 6 5
Healthy Vegetation	5 6 2
Land/Water	5 6 4
Natural With Atmospheric Removal	7 5 3
Shortwave Infrared	7 5 4
Vegetation Analysis	6 5 4

Here's how the new bands from Landsat 8 line up with Landsat 7:

Landsat 7			Landsat 8		
Band Name	Bandwidth (µm)	Resolution (m)	Band Name	Bandwidth (µm)	Resolution (m)
			Band 1 Coastal	0.43 - 0.45	30
Band 1 Blue	0.45 - 0.52	30	Band 2 Blue	0.45 - 0.51	30
Band 2 Green	0.52 - 0.60	30	Band 3 Green	0.53 - 0.59	30