1116-03-2676 **James Dustin Chandler** (chandlerj@goldmail.etsu.edu), **Cecilia Ashlie Dorado*** (dorado@goldmail.etsu.edu) and **Teresa W Haynes** (haynes@etsu.edu).

Neighborhood-restricted $[\geq 3]$*-Chromatic Colorings.*

A (closed) neighborhood-restricted $[\geq 3]$-coloring of a graph G is an assignment of colors to the vertices of G such that at least three colors are assigned in any closed neighborhood, that is, for every vertex v in G, the vertex v and its neighbors are in at least three different color classes. The $[\geq 3]$-*chromatic number* is defined as the minimum number of colors in any $[\geq 3]$-coloring of G. We study the $[\geq 3]$-chromatic number for several classes of graphs and establish bounds for certain families of graphs.

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