

Materials List & More Information for Enrolled Students:

“This fun, fast-paced day workshop is a great way to get you started dyeing and to add personality to your wardrobe and home. These baths are also reusable, so you can continue playing and dyeing on your own after the workshop ends. The class is structured so I will demo, then you’ll have your own work time, and we’ll come back together to see each person’s experimentation and creativity, so I encourage you to get all the materials and work along with me through each day and week. However, since you are working from home, it is okay to actively observe (watch, take notes, ask questions) for reference for future work on your own.”

We will work with dipping in 4 different dye baths:

Cold Water Pro MX Dye, mix in small buckets

Hot Water Acid Dye, cook in cook pot on stove or hotplate

Cold Water Pre-reduced Indigo, mix in bucket

Hot Water Thiox, cook in cook pot on stove or hotplate

All dyes and chemicals are available at Earth Guild in Asheville, NC, at www.dharmatrading.com (California), and at www.prochemicalanddye.com (Massachusetts). I recommend buying smaller quantities to try, like 2-8 ounce jars of dye powder; you won’t need more than that. You can get vinegar at the grocery store, and while soda ash (sodium carbonate) is available from the dye suppliers, you can also find it in larger quantities (labeled as PH-Up) in the pool care/ hot tub care section of home improvement store. Both vinegar and soda ash are dye ACTIVATORS needed to make the dye bond with the fabric, so be sure to get them- they are NECESSARY to the dyeing process. Thiox is additionally NECESSARY for the Indigo dyebath.

Silk and Cotton:

For acid dyes, we will use silk fabrics. For Indigo, we will use silk, cotton, and other natural fiber fabrics. You can dig around for scraps, old fabrics, boring t-shirts, as well as buy scarf and apparel blanks to print. You can even experiment with folding and dyeing notecards and paper.

Let’s use what you have!

If you get them, you will easily dye at least 6-12 silk scarves in this workshop. Fabrics and blanks labeled PFD (Prepared for Dyeing) won’t need to be prewashed, but if you purchase fabric like muslin or other yardage from the fabric store, I recommend prewashing it with Synthrapol (or generic equivalent) Prosapol to remove dirt, sizing, glues, etc that can inhibit the dye process. If you want to dye pre-worn items, they should be clean but do not require an extra washing.

MATERIALS

General:

Notebook and Pen

Pencil

Apron and Gloves (I like long dishwashing gloves, not disposable)

Scissors or thread snips

Spritzer bottle of water or nearby faucet

Dyes and Chemicals:

Pro MX Fiber Reactive Dye: 1-2 primary colors (blue, red, yellow)

Sabrapset/Lanset Acid Dyes: 1-2 colors you like (black, brown, purple, teal, etc.)

Pre-reduced Indigo, 1 packet

Thiox (Thiourea dioxide), about 4 ounces

Synthrapol (or generic Prosapol), detergent for working with dyes, about 4 ounces
White Vinegar, at least 1 quart
Soda Ash (sodium carbonate), at least 8 ounces

Dyebaths:

Use old utensils, spoons, cups, buckets, bowls and cook pots, or **thrift-shop for them**, but NEVER INTERMIX your food-prep kitchenware with dye prep tools.

Small cup for mixing (like yogurt cup)

Spoons for mixing

Stirring stick

MX dyebath: small buckets or plastic cups (like dairy containers)

Acid dyebath: cook in cookpot on stove or hotplate

Pre-Reduced Indigo dyebath: 2-3-5 gallon bucket

Shibori Mechanics: What you will use to resist the dyes:

Tying and Stitching:

Roll of string, twine, yarn, etc.

Spool or cones of thread, great to use up old thread

At least 1 hand sewing needle- I like long, sharp, thin, with big eye for easier threading

Optional- needle threader

Clamping:

Spring clamps (recommend a variety bag at home improvement store)

C-clamps- a few if you have them

Clothespins- a few if you have them

Office Binder Clamps- a few if you have them

Thin wooden, scrap cardboard, metal shapes: blocks, washers, lids, that will get clamped

Arashi (Storm) Pole Wrapping:

At least 1 empty wine bottle (recommend straight sides, not tapered) or other tall, straight-sided bottle

“Synergy” brand kombucha bottles (in the produce section of the grocery store) work well, any bottles that are tall with straight sides

PVC pipe is great too, get about 4-6 inches in diameter by about 2 feet long

Roll of string, twine, yarn, etc.

Masking tape or scotch tape

Optional recommended resource books

(I like but you don't need for class):

“Shibori: The Inventive Art of Japanese Shaped Resist Dyeing” Yoshiko Iwamoto Wada et al

“Shibori on Silk” Karren Brito

“Memory on Cloth: Shibori Now” Yoshiko Iwamoto Wada