



These dyes are instant-set, to be used on silks. To set them, you simply let them dry. I let them dry completely, then rinse in water, to remove excess dyes. Color is most vibrant on silks. Use an iron at silk setting to press any wrinkles from the dyeing techniques.

Set-up: Gloves, Pipettes, plastic or glass containers, pipettes, ziplock bags:

I do recommend using gloves, as these dyes are concentrated. Use plastic or glass containers for mixing your dyes. For storage of leftover dyes mixed with water, it is best to use glass. For dyeing small pieces, you can dye in zip-loc bags. Do not use metal containers or utensils .

COLOR MIXING: Start by putting a little water in a container, then add dye, using pipettes. Pipettes will help you both measure and prevent spillage. Add more water once you have the desired color. This dye is concentrated. Standard ratio is 3 parts water to 1 part dye. \*  
I take a scrap of fabric, wet it and dip it in the dye container, to check the color. Leave it in for a few minutes, then check the color. Of course, more water will make the colors lighter, and more dye will make the colors darker. Also, the longer you leave it in the dye container, the darker the colors. Note that blue looks purple in the bottle, but once it is brought out of the water, air makes it turn blue.

Colors: You can easily mix the dyes together to create numerous shades.

Rose + Yellow = Orange

Yellow + Blue = Green

Blue + Rose = Violet

Rose + Green + Yellow = Brown

Black can be added to any of the resulting colors to make the color darker

\* NOTE: Simply add more water for lighter weight fabrics &/or lighter values.

Bubble Pack or Dry cleaning Bags:

This is a fantastic technique that picks up the pattern of the plastic.

1. Lay the plastic, bubble side up. If using dry cleaning bags, slit it, then wrinkle
2. Lay silk, right side down on the plastic
3. With a large foam brush, brush the fabric with water. This merges the plastic and silk together, and the pre-wetting prevents streaking.
4. Mix colorhue, typically 3 parts water to 1 part dye, and stir. Add more dye to make brighter colors.
5. Using a foam brush, brush on the dye.
6. Let dry for at least one hour before removing from the plastic. It's ok to leave longer.
7. Dry, then press, using a low heat setting.

# Colorhue dye Techniques

For brighter colors, add more dye concentrate, for lighter colors, add more water.

## **Pleating**

1. At the ironing board, pleat your fabric into 1" pleats.
2. Using rubber bands, wrap the fabric. Wherever the bands are, the fabric will remain white. For another look, you can also use clothespins.
3. Using foam brushes, push the dye into the areas between the rubber bands. Using 3 colors usually works best, more gets too busy.

## **Marbles**

1. Lay out plastic over your table.
2. Place marbles in fabric, and tie in place with rubber bands.
3. Brush on the dye using foam brushes.

**Evenly Dyeing – Note** for deeper colors, add more dye, and just enough water to cover the fabric evenly. Stir so dyes, so color is absorbed evenly. The longer you leave the fabric in, the darker it will be. If leaving for over an hour, stir every 15 minutes to keep the color even.

- 1, Prepare fabric by pre-wetting,. Simply place in a large container of water, and stir. Take it out of the water, placing in an empty container.
2. In a container of water, pour dye. Stir to evenly distribute dye.
- 3 Place the wet silk in the dye water and stir until all dye is absorbed. The longer the silk stays in the dyebath, the darker it will be. Hang to dry.

## **Uneven Dyeing**

Scrunch your silk, and tie with rubber bands or clothespins. Dip in dye, or place in a zip lock bag. Squeeze out dye, dry and repeat for second color.

**Spritz it!** Cover your area with white plastic. Dilute the dye with water, and pour into a spray bottle. Scrunch up your fabric, for an uneven color and spray! Repeat with other colors.

**Soy Wax!** Apply hot wax with either brushes or stamps. Once the wax has cooled you simply dilute the dyes to the value you want, and brush on. You can apply layers of color, for deeper tones.

Wax can be reapplied once the dye has dried. Effects such as crackling are achieved by brushing the wax on, then letting it dry. Crunch the fabric, then smooth it out. Remove loose particles of wax. Brush on the dye. Remove wax by placing fabric between layers of paper and ironing. Any remaining wax can be rinsed out, using a mild detergent such as Woolite.

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