

TYIN'AND DYEIN' – HOW TO TIE-DYE

Try your hand at the art of tie-dyeing. You can create your own colorful tie-dyed t-shirts or other articles of clothing! (e.g. pillowcases, cotton shopping bags, etc.)

Basically, you gather, fold, and tie your t-shirt (or other item) with rubber bands or string and soak it in fabric dye.

Supply List

- Item to dye (t-shirt, pants, socks, pillowcase) make sure at least 60% cotton
 - Rubber bands or string to tie up the item
 - Large pot or bucket used to mix the dye, it should be able to hold 3 to 5 gallons (And should be old to you don't care about staining)
 - Squirt or spray bottles – can be used to apply some brands of dye.
 - Long-handled utensil – old spoon, bbq tongs, etc., to stir the dye
 - Salt – used with RIT dye to help make darker colors more vibrant
 - Newspaper or plastic garbage bag to protect your work area
 - Rags, paper towels, cleanser-for quick clean up
 - Somewhere the items can drip dry (and not stain)

Instructions

1. Before you dye your item, you should wash it to remove any sizing from the manufacturer, or anything else that may have gotten on it.
2. Decide what sort of design you want your finished project to have.
3. Lay your shirt out flat first and then fold and tie as desired.
4. Cover your work area so the dye doesn't stain it.
5. Prepare your dye as directed by the manufacturer. While preparing the dye, you should wear rubber gloves to protect your hands from staining and the hot water.
6. Start dyeing! It is usually best to start with the lightest color if you are using more than one color. Rinse in cold water or wait between colors as directed by the manufacturer. Make sure to follow all directions carefully when it comes to dyeing and rinsing your items. Some dyes require you to rinse immediately and others require you to let the item sit for at least 24 hours.
7. When dyeing is complete, make sure to clean all containers immediately with hot water and soap or cleanser.
8. Hang or lay out to dry (as per instructions).

Be careful washing your tie-dyed items! Most should always be washed in cold water. The first few times they are washed they might bleed, so wash them alone.

9. **Remember there is no right or wrong way to tie dye, just have fun!**