

DYLON INFORMATION SHEET

THE COMPOSITION AND STRUCTURE OF DYLON DYES

Dylon produces four ranges of dyes:

Dylon Colourfast Dye (Hand and Machine sizes)

Dylon Cold Water Dye and Dylon Multi-Purpose Dye.

Dylon Colourfast Dye

This product consists of mixtures of reactive Azo and triphenylmethane dyes, sodium carbonate and sodium chloride. Additional common salt is added prior to the dyeing process.

The reactive groups present are either pyrimidine or vinyl sulphone. The sodium carbonate is the alkali required to neutralise the acid produced in the reaction between the dye and the cellulose.

Common salt is added because it causes cellulose to swell, increasing its absorbency and uptake of dye. Salt helps "push" dye onto fabric.

Dylon Cold Water Dye

Cold Water dye consists of mixtures of reactive Azo dyes and sodium chloride. Sodium carbonate is required and available separately (known as "Cold Fix") and the addition of salt is again required.

The reactive group present is dichlorotriazine, which is more reactive than pyrimidine or vinyl sulphone. Cold Water Dye is, therefore, used at lower temperatures than Dylon Colourfast Dye.

Dylon Multi-Purpose Dye

This is a mixture of three types of dye; Direct, Acid and Disperse. Direct dyes dye cellulosic (cotton, linen, viscose) fibres, Acid dyes dye wool, silk and nylon and Disperse dyes dye some synthetic polymers e.g. plastic buttons.

None of these dyes react with the fibre, their substantivity relies on weak ionic or molecular attractions. They have, therefore, relatively poor washfastness.

In the dyeing of cellulosic fibres such as cotton, additions of common salt to the dyeing are helpful to fix the dye to the fibre, and also help to exhaust the dyebath of dye for purposes of economy and to reduce the coloured effluent problem.

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