

Batik

Batik is a Javanese word meaning wax painting. This refers to the hot melted wax used on the fabric to create designs. Batik is a "resist" form of dyeing as the wax prevents colour penetration.

With the Dylon range of dyes you can experiment with Batik easily and have fun creating your own designs.



MATERIALS

- Dylon Cold Water Dyes in assorted colours
- Dylon Cold Fix
- Salt
- Batik wax or candles
- Wax Heater
- Brushes/Tjanting Tool
- Rubber Gloves
- Material – light coloured and pre-washed
- Dye bath
- Iron
- Newspaper/blank paper
- Drawing pins
- Batik frame/4 strips of wood

METHOD

Preparing the Frame

Make the strips of wood into a rectangular shape. The rectangle should be slightly smaller than the piece of material. Place the frame on top of a layer of newspaper protected by a blank sheet of paper. Place your material over the frame and pin it to the battens to create a flat surface

Prepare the Wax

Heat the wax and when you think it is hot enough brush a little onto a sample of material. If the temperature is correct it will become translucent. If the wax is not hot enough it will break off when it sets, allowing the dye to penetrate that area. Ensure that the wax is at the correct temperature throughout you project.

Prepare the Dye

Following the instructions on the Dylon Cold Dye prepare the dye in the dye bath. The Dylon Cold Fix will ensure that the colour is permanent.

PROJECTS

Now that you have prepared your material, dye and wax you are ready for one of the projects below.

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PROJECT A: Random Pattern

1. When the wax is ready draw shapes onto your material using a brush or Tjanting Tool.

Experiment with thick and thin lines, shaded areas, make blobs or anything you choose, it is important to remember that the areas you paint with wax will remain the original colour.

2. When the wax is cold put the fabric into the dye bath and leave it for 60 minutes.

3. Take the material out and rinse until the water runs clear. Dry the fabric away from heat as this will melt the wax.

4. Put the material back on the frame. You now must decide which areas you wish to keep in the first dye colour. Paint these over with the wax and leave to cool.

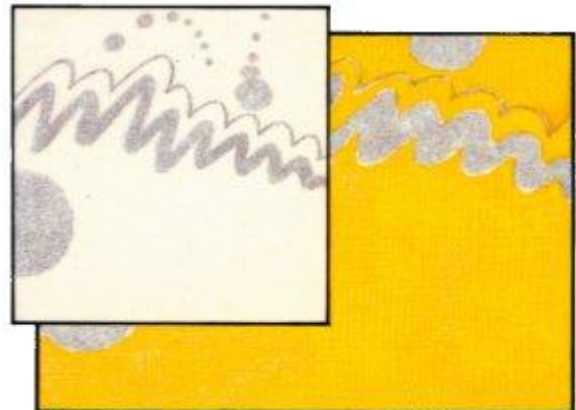
5. When the wax is cold you can immerse the material into the second dye bath for 60 minutes. Rinse off the excess dye until the water runs clear.

6. You can add further colours to your material by repeating Steps 4 and 5, but generally three colours are sufficient. Before adding the final colour go to Step 7.

7. Before putting your material into the final colour gently squeeze your material into a ball. This will crackle the wax allowing you to achieve the "crackle" characteristic of Batik.

8. Place the opened fabric into the final colour and leave for 60 minutes. Rinse off the excess dye until the water runs clear.

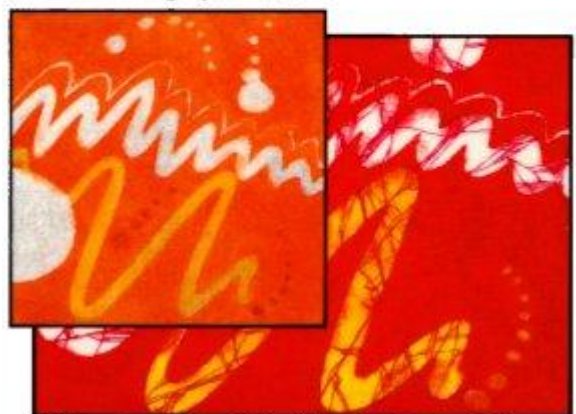
9. After your Batik has dried, place it between sheets of newspaper and iron the newspaper carefully. This removes the wax from your material. Change the papers frequently and continue ironing until the paper remains clean. Wash the fabric in a bowl of hot soapy water. Rinse thoroughly and leave to dry. Iron the material.



First waxing, dyed - Yellow



Second waxing, dyed - Red



Third waxing with crackle effect, dyed - Deep Red

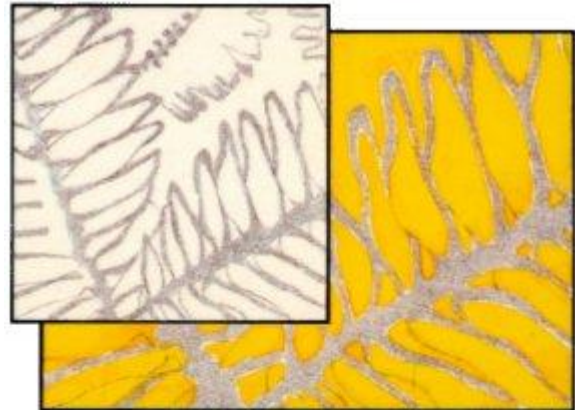
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PROJECT B: Patterns and Pictures

1. Using simple designs draw your pattern/picture onto the fabric using a soft pencil. Decide on the various colours you want on the design and where they should go. Limit the number of dye colours to three.
2. Paint the wax with a brush or Tjanting Tool on all the areas you wish to remain the original colour of the material.
3. When the wax is cold put the material into the dye bath and leave it for 60 minutes.
4. Take the material out and rinse until the water runs clear. Leave to dry away from heat.
5. Brush wax onto all the parts of your design where you wish to retain the first colour.
6. Leave the wax to go cold and then put into your second colour for 60 minutes.
7. Take the material out, rinse until the water runs clear. When dry wax the areas where you wish to retain the second colour.
8. When this is dry gently squeeze the material to obtain a crackle effect.
9. Put into the third dye and leave for 60 minutes. Rinse off the excess dye until the water runs clear.
10. After the Batik has dried, place it between sheets of newspaper and iron the newspaper carefully. This removes the wax from your material. Change the papers frequently and iron until the paper remains clean. Wash the fabric in a bowl of hot soapy water. Rinse thoroughly and leave to dry. Iron the material.



First waxing, dyed - Yellow



Second waxing, dyed - Light Green



Third waxing with crackle effect, dyed - Mid Blue

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