

Worksheet No. 3: Dye Recipes

INDIGO

Indigo can be dyed on its own or with the use of mordants; It can be overdyed with another color, but depending on what dyestuff you use, it might require mordant.

- Dye liquid needs to be alkaline (ph 9 or 10)
- Any oxygen must be removed
- Do not stir or agitate the vat
- Temperature of the water should be kept at 104F (40C)

Making the vat

1. Fill water, dissolve three tablespoons of sugar and two tablespoons of yeast; leave until solution begins to froth and bubble
2. Dissolve in another container 1-2 tablespoons of washing soda in some warm water, mix in two or three teaspoons of indigo powder; Mix well!
3. Stir paste into yeast solution, keep warm [do not exceed 120F (50C)]; let it stand for at least 48 hours for it to turn into "indigo white."

Dyeing

1. Gently place fabric in the vat (avoid introducing air, have it fully immersed)
2. Leave it in the vat
3. Remove fibers very gently, make sure that they do not drip into the vat
4. Plunge into a bowl of clear water to rinse it
5. Then expose it to oxygen