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## **Procion® Fiber Reactive Dye**

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**Tie Dyeing Method** for cellulose fibers: cotton, rayon, linen, silk, tencel, hemp

### **Safety !!!**

All dyes and chemicals should be handled with care. Avoid breathing the dye powder. The use of a NIOSH-MSHA approved mask and rubber gloves are highly recommended. Equipment used in dyeing should never be returned to kitchen use. Read all warnings on dyes and chemicals. **KEEP ALL DYES AND CHEMICALS OUT OF THE REACH OF CHILDREN.**

**Always test dyes before attempting an important project !!**

### **Supplies**

- 100% cotton, linen, rayon, tencel, hemp, or silk fabric
- Procion® MX dye
- urea
- soda ash
- Synthrapol™ soap
- Calgon (optional: for hard water use 1 T. per gallon)

### **Equipment**

- plastic buckets for soaking
- measuring spoons
- small jars for mixing
- stirring utensils (plastic or wood)
- rubber gloves
- dust mask
- applicators
- plastic wrap

## Procedure

1. Wash fiber to remove sizing and dirt.
2. Mix a solution of 1 cup soda ash to a gallon of water to presoak your fabric.  
Be sure to mix enough solution so you do not crowd your fabric.  
Soak for 2 hours or overnight. ( you may reduce soak time to 20 minutes, but an overnight soak will give best color development )
3. Remove fabric: wring out excess liquid. Do NOT rinse.
4. Mix dye solution as follows:  
to: ½ cup warm (not hot) water  
add: 2 tsp. dye (for bright colors; for pastels: use less dye, more dye for dark colors )  
1 Tablespoon urea  
1/8 tsp. Calgon ( if using hard water )  
mix thoroughly to be certain dye is completely dissolved  
( this mixture is usable for approximately two days )
5. Fold, pleat, twist, bunch or squish fabric: tie tightly with string.
6. Apply dye solution by squirting, painting or dipping.
7. Let material sit on newspaper for an hour or so to soak up excess liquid.
8. Carefully wrap in plastic and let sit for at least 2 days ( 3-4 days is best ) to allow dye to set. Be sure plastic is completely sealed.
9. Open carefully and lay material on newspaper to dry. Allow fabric to sit at least 24 hours before washing to insure maximum color.
10. Rinse under running lukewarm water. Transfer immediately to warm water with 1 teaspoon per gallon of Synthrapol™ soap ( 2-3 tablespoons per washer load ). Wash for ten minutes and rinse. Repeat if necessary.  
Dry in dryer after rinse water runs clear.

## Special Notes

- dyes may be thickened for greater control: ask about using sodium alginate for thickening
- deep, intense colors may require double the amount of dye and more rinsing
- reds may require more rinsing than other colors
- some lighter colors ( ecru, peach, ice blue, etc. ) work best at a light to medium shade

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