

INKO DYE RESIST

Inkodye Resist is used in the hand dyeing of fabric in a manner similar to the way other resists and waxes are used. Inkodye Resist is made from the root of the casaba plant and is actually very similar to the casaba resist sometimes still used in Indonesia for Batik. Inkodye Resist will, depending upon the thickness of its application, prevent or inhibit the dyeing of fabric in the areas onto which it is applied. Like wax, it is applied to the fabric to prevent areas of the fabric from dyeing or in the case of previously dyed areas, from being overdyed.

It can be used instead of wax to simulate the Batik process and in the tie-dye process to achieve "negative" effects, (areas or designs without color).

The major differences between using Inkodye Resist and wax is that Inkodye Resist is water soluble and therefore can not be submerged in a dye bath but rather the dye must be applied with a brush or squeeze bottle. On the other hand Inkodye Resist just washes out with soap and water unlike wax which is difficult to remove.

The Inkodye Resist can be applied with a brush, squeeze bottles, block printing and any similar method. It can be silk screened using a 6xx or 8xx mesh silk/polyester. Application by silk screen and

block printing is usually limited to one layer because as the resist wrinkles the fabric as it dries and both of these methods require smooth surfaces. Alternate layers of resist and dye can be applied but each layer should dry before the next is applied. Inkodye Resist can be thinned with plain water but a thin application does not resist the dye as well as a thick application.

A variety of interesting effects can result from the use of Inkodye Resist.

- Soft edges and mottled effects result from thin or non-uniform applications which allow limited amounts of dye to penetrate through to the fabric.
- Fine hair line patterns as in Batik are produced by applying the resist and when it is dry, stretching the fabric a small area at a time to form cracks in the resist. Subsequent applications of dye will penetrate the cracks to produce fine lines.
- Repeating designs are produced by silk screening or block printing on the Inkodye Resist.

At the end of the process, the Inkodye Resist is removed with water, hot water doing the job faster than cold water. A little mild liquid soap also helps.



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