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INKODYE
A short introduction

PREPARED VAT DYE
Inkodye is a true vat dye, the most permanent type of dye. It will withstand strong soap, boiling water rubbing, dry cleaning, common bleaches or strong indirect sunlight for a long time. It does not stiffen the fabric. Inkodye is ideally suited to the home dyer who desires an easy-to-use dye. 'The techniques are not difficult. However as the procedures are specialized it is important that directions be followed carefully.

TYPE OF FABRIC
Inkodye will dye untreated cotton, linen, viscose rayon, or raw silk. Best results are obtained on white or light colored fabric. Always test a fabric to determine its suitability for dyeing.

COLOR RANGE
Inkodye are vat dyes in a leuco form. In this state they do not exhibit their final color. Only when the dyes are developed and are regenerated on the fabric will the final colors appear. When intermixing colors follow the same rules as in blending pigments: e.g.: blue plus yellows produces green, orange plus blue produces gray, etc. Inkodyes are transparent — blue over yellow produces green. Because the final color cannot he seen until development, it is sometimes helpful to check color blends during the mixing process by developing a test sample with a hot iron.

APPLICATION
As it comes from the bottle, it is a thin paste of the right consistency for screen printing, block printing or painting, Inkodye is suited for application by screen printing, stenciling, brushing, dipping, block printing, rolling, splattering or spraying. Store in a cool place, away from strong light.

MODIFIER
Light value colors (pastels) are produced by extending Inkodye colors with Inkodye clear extender or with water. Blending with Clear extender will maintain the consistency, blending with water will thin the consistency. Use our Sodium Alginate Thickener to thicken, if desired. Do all blending away from strong light.

CLEAN-UP
Clean up equipment with water.

DEVELOPMENT
Development (fixation of the dye onto the fabric) is accomplished by exposure to sunlight, ironing with a hot iron, steaming or baking.

SUNLIGHT — Expose the dyed fabric to warm direct sunlight; the colors will develop in 1/2 hour or less. Sunlight through a window will be somewhat slower.

HOT IRON — Development by ironing may be done while the dye is still slightly damp on the fabric or after it has dried. If the dye has dried the use of a steam iron will hasten the process. Adjust the iron to a "cotton" setting and iron the fabric very, very slowly. Do not rush. As long as fuming continues, development is taking place. Use adequate ventilation as the fumes, while not toxic, are somewhat disagreeable. Development by hot iron is not recommended for raw silk.

BAKING OR STEAMING — Development may also he accomplished by baking at 280° F or by steaming in a pressure cooker or autoclave for 20 minutes at a minimum of 3 pounds pressure.

WASHING OUT
After the dye is developed remove the residual chemicals by washing the fabric in warm water with Synthrapol.

APPLICATION METHODS
Screen Printing — Use any type of water-resisting stencil. For average stencils use a 10XX mesh fabric. Hold the squeegee blade at a 45° angle and use a moderately slow but firm stroke. Make 2 to 4 strokes as needed depending upon the requirements of the fabric. With 2 or more colors, develop each color as it is printed; or allow a color to dry before printing another color and then develop all the colors together at the end.

Tie Dyeing — The design is made by bunching and tying portions of the fabric so that they will not absorb the dye. Dilute some Inkodye with 2 to 5 parts water. 2 parts will produce a strong vivid color; use more water for pastel colors. A 4-ounce jar of Inkodye diluted with 8 ounces of water will dye a shirt. 16 oz. of dye diluted with 2 pints of water will dye a dress. Pour the diluted dye into a tiny. Use rubber gloves to prevent discoloration of your hands. Immerse tied fabric in the dye solution turning until all areas are wet. Remove the fabric and gently press out excess dye, and then spread in sunlight to develop. Turn and rearrange the fabric every few minutes. Do not strive for complete development of every area as the differences in degree of development create intricate tone and color variations. After development, first rinse the fabric in running water, while removing the ties and then hot wash with Synthrapol.

Batik— Inko works well in batik. Use wax or Inkodye resist, a paste made from the cassava plant. Paint on the Indodye. In the end, develop in sunlight and rinse and wash.

Painting — Painting with Inkodye in a direct spontaneous fashion resembles watercolor techniques. Spread the fabric in direct sunlight. The colors and the painting as a whole will develop as the work progresses. White areas are simply left untouched Color may be isolated, overlaid or blended. Very soft blending of color may be achieved by painting wet in wet or by dampening the fabric slightly before painting. Dry brush strokes and variations of bristle create texture. The process may be carried out with or without a resist.

Block Printing — Blocks such as the wood block, linoleum block, potato and Styrofoam block can be made by cutting and carving. Also blocks may be formed by gluing stuff to a block. Materials like string, leaves or grasses may he glued to a block with white glue. Anything that has a textured surface can he used for a printing block. Use Inkodye as supplied, or extend with Inkodye Clear for colors of lighter value. To print place a piece of felt slightly larger than the block in a shallow tray. Using a brush saturate the felt with dye. Now press the block onto the felt and then onto the fabric. Develop and wash out as described above.

For more detailed instructions, ask about our instruction books.

Store in a cool, dry, dark place. (with lot's of spiders).