

DYE INK RECIPE

- Yields 1 half gallon of goop to use for any color or dye type.
- DYE INK works on light colored fabric only, remember, the dye is transparent.
- Match the correct type of dye with the material you're printing on:
 - Cellulose Fiber Fabrics: cotton, linen, hemp, etc. - **Fiber reactive (procion) dye, natural dyes**
 - Protein Fiber Fabrics: silk, wool, cashmere - **Acid dye, natural dyes**

MATERIALS

GOOP (dye-ink medium)

- 32 oz / 4 cups of hot-ish water
- 4 tbs spoons Urea beads
- 8 - 10 tb spoons powdered sodium alginate
- Large deli or tupperware container/s

DYE MIXTURE

- 2oz / 4 tbs of water
- Small mixing cup/s
- 1-4 tsp your choice of dye - fiber reactive, acid, natural, leather etc.
- Soda ash - FOR FIBER REACTIVE DYE ONLY: exactly = to amount of dye used.
- Small/medium deli or mixing container/s

INSTRUCTIONS

Follow the instructions below to create two separate mixtures, the sodium alginate "goop" and the dye solution. Do not combine the two mixtures until you are ready to print.

MAKING THE GOOP

1. Create the urea water.

Dissolve the 4 tbs of urea beads into the quart of warm water and stir thoroughly until the beads have completely dissolved.

2. Pour urea water into a blender and slowly add the sodium alginate. Start by blending in 2 tbs, blend until smooth. Add the remaining sodium alginate in 2 tbs increments until all the desired sodium alginate has been added. With each increment added check the consistency to make sure it's not too thick and definitely not too thin, blend until smooth ensuring there are no clumps.

The end result should feel like a very thick, gel consistency. Be sure that the goop is thick enough, otherwise the dye will bleed and your prints won't be crisp. If you are concerned it's too thin, add more sodium alginate.

3. Transfer blended goop into a tupperware container and refrigerate for 2-6 hours before use. Un-dyed goop can last up to 6+ months in the refrigerator.

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INSTRUCTIONS

MAKING THE DYE MIXTURE

1. Measure out 2oz of water into a small mixing container. Adding in your desired amount of dye into the water: **2 tsp dye for a light hue, 3-4 tsp dye for a nicely saturated hue. Mix thoroughly.**

If you're mixing a custom color, it may be hard to determine the final result so test a bit on scrap material. Make the color darker than intended by adding the proper amount of dye to anticipate a fair amount of wash out. Take note of the exact measurement of dye used.

2. FIBER REACTIVE DYE - Measure out and mix in soda ash.

It's very important that your soda ash measurement is exactly equal to the amount of dye used. Add this to your dye solution, mix very thoroughly, the end result should be somewhat slurry-like and no soda ash clumps remain at the bottom.

Once mixed into the dye, the soda ash dye fixative has a shelf life of 24 hours MAX, therefore you can only print with the dyed goop within a 24 hr period, otherwise it will not set into the material.

Step 5. Combine goop and dye mixture.

Portion out a 1-2 cups of goop into a separate mixing container. Pour the dye mixture into the goop. Typically I use 2 oz of dye mixture to every 1 - 1 1/2 cups but only mix enough Dye-Ink you anticipate on using for your specific project.

STIR THOROUGHLY, keep stirring so the clumps turn smooth. Do not stop stirring until the mixture goes back to regular goo consistency. If you think it's not looking right, keep stirring until it does. Trust me!

Remember you can only use this for a short period of time any extra should be thrown out.

PRINTING WITH DYED GOOP

This ink behaves differently than most screen printing ink, employ these tips for best results:

1. Use with 110 - 230 mesh. Best results with lower mesh counts.
2. Use a press - you want the ability to check and go over the print, making sure you are fully saturating the fabric with dye. This may take a number of print passes.
3. Use a small squeegee to concentrate the pressure. This shouldn't effect the print quality because you are working on saturation and pressing the ink into the material, not having it lay on top.
4. The print will and should look darker more saturated than intended - anticipate a lot to washout!
5. Fiber Reactive and Leather Dye-ink air dries, no heat setting necessary, unless you are printing with acid dye. You must steam set the fabric for acid dye to adhere.
6. Be sure to refrigerate all goop when not in use, both dyed and non-dyed.