

WOAD DYEING SHIBORI STYLE WITH SALLY MILLS

PREPARATION DAY

We learnt various ways to prepare material for dyeing

Simple Method: Scrunch up a piece of fabric and tie it with string, elastic bands, raffia or put in an orange net. The ball should be as tight as you can get it to prevent the dye from reaching some parts of the fabric.



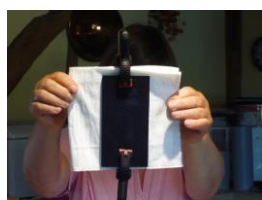
Pinch Method: Pinch out a piece of the fabric and tie it up. How you tie it makes a different pattern. Do quite a few over the material. Spacing it equally makes a better pattern. The more fabric you pinch out the larger the white bands will be. You could also draw a circle on the fabric (drawing around the rim of a glass or something else). Sew round the item and draw the thread in as tightly as possible or sew across the circle and then tie up the stitching.

Doughnut: Take a piece of material (about 16in x 16in) and lay three overhanging lengths of thick thread or cotton across the bottom of the material. Roll the material up around the thread. Form the rolled up material into a circle and pull the two threads gathering up the material as tightly as possible making a doughnut shape. You can also pull out some material out of the doughnut which will dye and leave a margin at the bottom.



Drainpipe: Take a piece of material large enough to wrap around a drainpipe. The drainpipe should have a hole at the top to tie some string into. Wrap the tied string around the drainpipe in straight lines. Do not wrap the string diagonally. Once you have tied the string tightly around the drainpipe, push the string and material to the end where the string is tied.

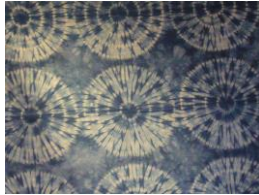
Concertina: Take a piece of material and fold it into a small fold one way then turn to fold another giving a concertina effect. Tie off with threads at regular intervals and then tie them tightly.



Clamping: Take a piece of fabric and fold it in squares, or oblongs or triangles. Put two pieces of flat wood or heavy duty plastic on either side of the folded fabric and clip the two together using clips, pegs or clamps. The middle of the fabric will remain white and anything else will dye blue.

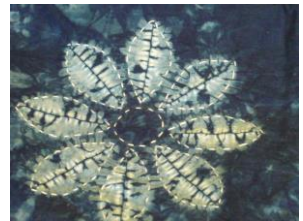
Folded Fabric: Take a piece of fabric and fold it (concertina or how you wish). Put pegs, bulldog clips, paper clips or any other clip along the edges of the fabric as a resist. The fabric will remain white where the clips are placed and in the shape of the clip.

Wood, Driftwood or Lavender Stalks: Soak new wood items thoroughly overnight before the dyeing day so that the dye goes right through the wood. Driftwood has been in the sea and should therefore not need such a long soak.



Stitch Resist: The Larch pattern is a series of circles, which can be drawn on the fabric with a compass. There are other patterns such as a flower pattern, semi circles or triangles.

For the Larch pattern stitch first fold the circle in half, and then stitch around the edge (using nylon or a strong thread) and pull the stitching as tightly as possible and secure the thread. For the flower pattern, stitch across the middle and round the edges of the leaves (again these can be folded in half to cut down on the sewing). For the semi-circles or triangles, stitch along the lines.



Knots: Take a long piece of fabric and tie it into a series of knots.