



Tie - Dyeing Kit

Handy Arts tie-dye kit will yield up to 15 T-shirts.

Kit Includes:

- 3 – 8oz bottles with red/yellow/blue dyes
- 1 – 4oz bottle for mixing secondary colors
- 1 pair gloves
- Rubber bands
- 1 packet of sodium carbonate/soda ash
(Dye activating compound)

What You Will Need To Supply:

- Place to let items being dyed set undisturbed overnight
- Bucket or tub (3-5 gallons) that can hold 2 gallons of water
- Clothes or items to be dyed
- Plastic garbage bags/sheets
- Liquid laundry soap
- Washer/Dryer
- Additional undyed twine or string (Optional)

HOW TO TIE-DYE

1. Pre-wash all materials to be dyed. 100% cotton works best. Cotton/Poly blends may not dye as well or as uniformly.
2. Before binding materials, wet and ring out excess water from the material. Guiding designs may be drawn at this time in pencil. Twist, fold, or bunch and bind with the supplied rubber bands or with undyed string/twine. A tighter binding results in more white spaces in the final product. **(See hints/tips section for more information)**
3. Pour packet of sodium carbonate into two gallons of **HOT** water and let the granules dissolve. This may take a couple of minutes and require some stirring.
4. Submerge the bundles in the sodium carbonate solution and let soak for 20 minutes.
5. While materials are soaking, add 8oz of warm water to each of the bottles of dye. (Fill bottle to the point before the neck starts) Mix secondary color in the provided 4oz bottle. This bottle can be reused. **(See hints/tips section for color guide)**
6. After the 20 minutes have passed, remove the bundles from the sodium carbonate solution and wring out excess water back into the same bucket it was soaking in. **Important:** If dyeing more than one item, take care not to get any dye into the activating solution when removing the next bundle. It is best to rinse your hands between dyeing each bundle to minimize the possibility.

7. Using the gloves provided, add dyes to the wet bundles. Color as desired, but be careful not to overload the materials with dyes. Also be aware, colors will blend together at the edges where the dyes meet to give you secondary colors as well.
8. Set bundle on plastic and cover with plastic overnight. **Do not let bundles touch each other.** This will cause sometimes unpleasant color transfer.
9. Reusing the gloves provided, rinse the bundles with warm water and remove bindings. Keep rinsing until water runs mostly clear. This can take up to 15 minutes per item. **(See hints/tips section for more information)**
10. Wash **immediately** (within 1 or 2 minutes of rinsing) in **hot** water and with liquid laundry soap. For best results, fill the washer to maximum load setting before adding the rinsed items. The longer you wait to wash, the greater the chance the dyes can bleed and dull your final product. Dry in dryer under normal cotton settings. Colors are now set and can be washed under normal conditions.

HINTS / TIPS

Binding/Dyeing

The tighter the binding and folding, the more white areas will be present in the final product.

After mixing the dyes with water, they should be used up within a few days.

Color Mixing Guide

Green	15% Blue - 85% Yellow
Orange	15% Red - 85% Yellow
Purple	33% Red – 66% Blue

Rinsing/Washing

If dying more than 2 or 3 shirts, rinse and wash in stages. If the shirts set after rinsing for more than a minute or so, the dyes may migrate and bleed together, dulling the final product.

If the dyes set in the shirts longer than overnight, it will not change the color intensity. Even if it is more than 48 hours before the shirts are washed, this should not cause excess bleeding of the colors.

Be sure to fill the washer with **HOT**, soapy water before adding the rinsed shirts. The best course of action is to start filling the machine – on maximum load setting with plenty of soap – while you are rinsing your 2 or 3 shirts together. This way a single shirt is not setting after rinsing until the next shirt is rinsed and will reduce the chance of color bleeding.

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