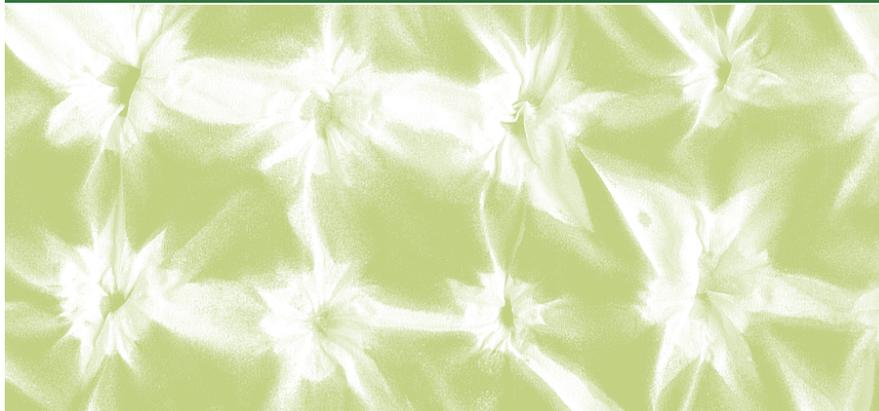


# maiwa - vat dye

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\$1.00

Directions for application of vat dyes on cellulose and silk.



Vat dyes are discharge dyes which enable the replacement of a background colour through various processes of application. Vat dyes can be used to replace a previously dyed, fairly dark ground colour without effecting the hand of the cloth. With fewer registration problems than direct printing, the relatively simple process of vat dyeing is a fantastic alternative for creating brightly coloured and detailed results. Not all dyes are dischargeable. Most fibre reactive dyes, many acid dyes and some direct dyes will produce good results. Be aware, even within their category, some colours will not discharge. This can produce interesting effects when one of the base colours remains fixed in the cloth and mixes with the vat dye forming a new blend. All projects should be tested prior to execution so that results, when necessary, are as expected.

Vat dyes can be thickened into a paste for greater control of application, and reduction of the halo which occurs when using a more liquid application. Thickeners for vat dyes include gum tragacanth or locust bean gum (P4 thickener) and should be mixed according to their individual directions and your needs.

\*\*\*\*\***Handling of Dyes and Chemicals**\*\*\*\*\*  
Handle chemicals with care. Wear rubber gloves and dust or vapour mask. Work in a well ventilated space. Keep out of reach of children. MSDS is available on request.

interesting effects can be achieved when a colour mix on the base fabric contains a colour which does not discharge.

Average conversion chart: 5g = 1tsp. / 15g = 1Tbsp. / 30g = 1oz. / 452g = 1lb. / 1kilo = 2.2lb. \*REMEMBER\* different colours have different volumes - so conversions from weight based measurements to volume based are approximate. Individual adjustments may need to be made. Test all projects.

## Recipe:

For approximately 1lb. of cloth:  
1 Tbsp. Lye (caustic soda)  
1 Tbsp. hydrosulphite OR  
thiourea dioxide (better for silk)  
1 -2 Tbsp. vat dye

Use Three or more gallons of water or enough to allow cloth to move freely in dye bath.

## Directions:

1. Dissolve Lye in a cup of warm water. Use a glass, ceramic or stainless steel container.
2. Dissolve hydrosulphite or thiourea dioxide by adding it to the above lye solution.
3. Dissolve dye separately in a small amount of warm water.
4. Stir the dye solution into 3 gallons of warm water (85 - 120 °F) .
5. Enter the cloth which is clean and wet or damp into the bath. Add pre-mixed lye/hydrosulphite or lye/thiourea solution and raise temperature up to about 120 - 160 °F . Some colours require slightly less or more heat to fully discharge. Avoid boiling as this may cause loss of colour or unevenness. Stir bath to ensure even dyeing. Approximate dyeing time is 10 - 30 min.
6. Remove cloth from bath when desired depth is reached. Wash in cold running water until the water runs amount of warm water. running water until the water runs clear. Follow with mild soap (ie. Synthrapol or Orvus paste) in warm water. Rise.

*experiment*

In batik, where lower temperature is required, dyeing time will be longer. Tie-dyeing may be done more quickly at a higher temperature. For techniques such as arashi shibori, the dye/ thiourea solution can be combined, heated to approx. 160 °F and poured over the pole wrapped silk.

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