

Print & Play Dye Workshop Supply List (5 Day Class) QSDS

Fabric: Bring any combination of plain white or previously dyed fabrics. The vast majority should be plain white cotton fabric. I order my PFD cotton from Testfabrics – product #419 (link below). Amount determined by how fast you work – can be up to 20+ yards. You choose the size you want to work with. Some students like working with Fat Quarter-sized pieces (18"x22"). I prefer to work large and use 44" square pieces. You can always tear larger pieces down into smaller ones if need be.

[Testfabrics #419](#)

Other natural fiber fabrics will also accept the dye, so consider trying some silk, rayon, linen, or blends of natural fibers. Silk organza is also an option.

Precut your fabrics into the size(s) you would like to work with. Use a sharpie or gel pen to mark your fabrics. The easiest thing to do is write your name on small rectangles of Tyvek and stitch (or safety pin) them to the selvages of your fabrics. Mark your fabrics before soda soaking. Use the soda soak recipe below to prepare your fabrics. One word of caution: don't soda soak your silks too far in advance. Soak them approximately 1 week (or less) before class. Silks shouldn't sit with soda on them for long periods of time.

Soda Soak: 9T (or ½ cup plus 1T) soda ash (sodium carbonate) dissolved in 1 gallon warm water
Purchase Dye Activator from ProChem or Dharma Trading or look for soda ash where you would purchase pool supplies. Without cramming the bucket over full, soak fabrics for 15 minutes, wring and line dry. DO NOT PUT SODA SOAKED FABRIC IN YOUR DRYER!

About twenty clear 16oz. disposable cups. It is important that these cups are clear and have ridges. Smartly brand by Target is recommended: [Smartly 16oz Clear Cups](#) Also bring a thick sharpie for marking your cups.

Ten to twenty plastic spoons for mixing.

An old yogurt container (or similar) for rinse water and a clean spray bottle.

A small squeeze bottle – think hair dye applicator or similar

Brushes – one or two inexpensive 3" to 4" foam brushes.

One or two 4" to 8" foam paint rollers from the hardware store.

Silkscreens with 110 monofilament polyester mesh. Bringing one is OK. Bringing two or three is better. Size anywhere from 10" x 14" to 18" x 24". Blick Cord-Stretch or Speedball brand frames can be ordered from www.dickblick.com. Keep an eye out for sales and extra % off codes. To prepare the screen(s), please scrub the front and back of the mesh with Comet, Greased Lightning, original blue Dawn dish detergent or similar using a scrub brush before class. Rinse and allow to dry 24 hours and tape the screen frame with duct tape or Gorilla tape to prepare for use. Check google and youtube for instructions on how to tape a silkscreen.
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_9pGxQAavYs

A squeegee or scraper to spread the dye across the screen. Speedball Plastic Screen Printing Squeegee is a good option (also available at www.dickblick.com). A less expensive option is a 3M Auto Body Plastic Spreader. Old credit cards or gift cards will work although they are small.

A scrub brush to clean your silkscreens.

Printing surface: You will need a padded surface for printing. I use a flooring underlayment called Roberts Unison from Home Depot (link below). It is only sold in 25 ft. rolls – much more than you need, but it is an option for \$30. I cut a portion to fit my print table and tape it down with duct tape. It cleans up fairly easily. If you don't want to purchase this, you could use a thin polyester batting, approximately 3'x8', covered by white plastic. Bring duct tape to adhere your surface to the table.

<https://www.homedepot.com/p/Roberts-100-sq-ft-Unison-Premium-2-in-1-Underlayment-70-025/100541278>

A variety of found objects that are relatively flat (up to 1/4" thick) for laying under the screen. The most effective will include holes that act as a stencil. Some examples include: construction/snow fence, mesh from clementine boxes, sequin waste, sink mats and bathtub mats, purchased stencils, leaves, string, etc. Think creatively and let your imagination run wild!

One or two interesting metal or silicone objects that you can dip in soy wax. Examples would be wire whisks, silicone spatulas, donut/biscuit cutters, etc. (Check the kitchen section of the dollar store.)

Other textured objects for printing such as bubble wrap, leaves, corks, rubber bands, purchased stamps, etc. I will supply a few objects for use in class, so don't worry if you are having trouble locating print objects.

A partial roll of blue painter's tape.

Fabric scissors, scissors for cutting paper, an Xacto knife (I prefer a Slice® Precision Cutter #10416 as an alternative), a rotary cutter dedicated to cutting paper and a small rotary cutting mat.

A sheet or two of newspaper/newsprint and a sheet of two of regular paper (can be scrap). Some freezer paper and/or tyvek for cutting stencils.

Inspirational photos – bring a few photos of artworks that inspire you. Digital photos are fine – they will be used for reference.

A roll of inexpensive large size garbage bags or a roll of plastic sheeting (3 mil or higher) for batching. Plan according to how much fabric you are bringing. A container to hold your pieces while they batch (e.g. a plastic tub or bucket).

N95 mask to use while mixing chemicals.

Bring gloves and wear old clothes or bring an apron to cover you if desired. Bring an old dish towel or two to dry screens. Bring a nail brush to clean fingernails.

Mark all of your tools and supplies with your sharpie before class.

Class Fee: \$60 for dyes, chemicals and soy wax.

Optional:

Thermofax screens you may have.

A couple of pieces of cardboard (think top of a pizza box) and a small glue gun.

T-pins if you like to pin your fabric to the print table.

Travel iron and some newspaper.