

# G & S Dye and Accessories Limited

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DYES  
SCARVES  
NATURAL SILKS

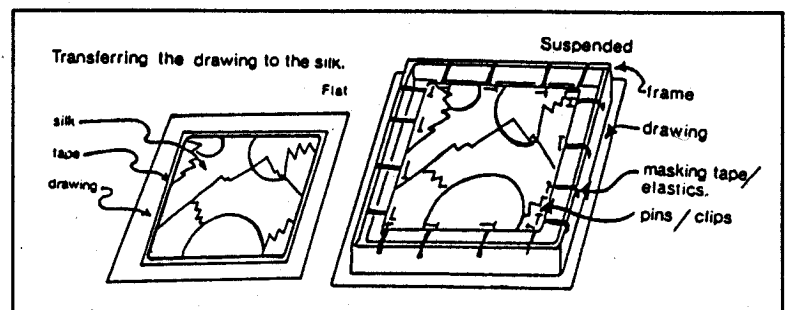
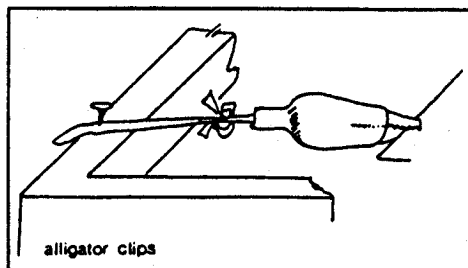
## HAND PAINTING ON SILK

### Supplies Needed:

1. A working surface, newsprint, paper towels, old newspapers for floor
2. Frame on which to stretch the silk
3. Masking tape or straight glass-headed pins or bulldog clips with elastics or alligator clips with elastic bands
4. Plastic containers for water
5. Ice cube trays or yogart containers or junior size baby food jars
6. Brushes, Q-tips, sponges, foam brushes
7. Applicator bottle with tip
8. Procion 'H' Water Based Dyes
9. G & S Water Based Resist
10. Silk fabric
11. Paper and pencil to create a design (optional)
12. A steaming vessel

### Procedure

1. Prepare the silk by washing to remove natural gums and sizings. This ensures even application of dyes for backgrounds and full penetration of the resist to form a boundary line for the colour.



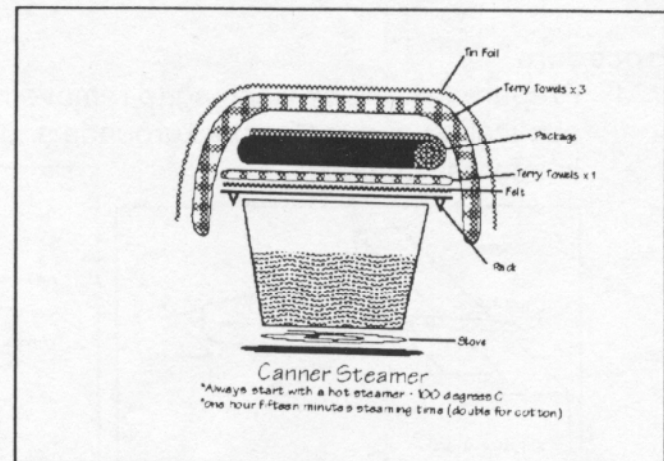
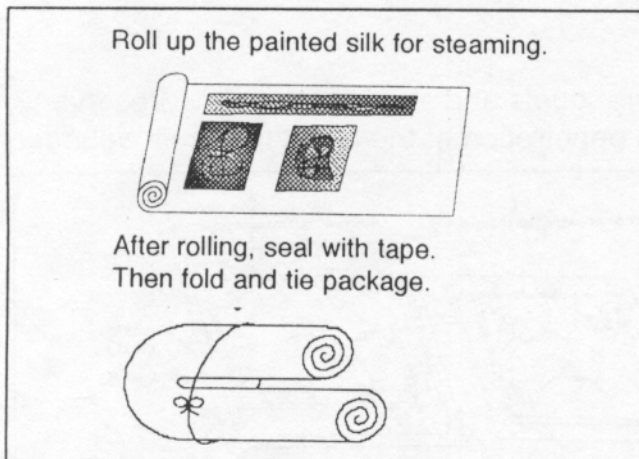
2. Attach silk to frame as shown.
3. To transfer your design to the silk, place silk on top of the desired pattern and trace with a vanishing ink marker or pencil.
4. G&S Resist is formulated in a thick form. In order to use the resist, water is added up to a ratio of 1:3, water to resist. An excess of that ratio may result in a line with excessive bleeding-out along the edges. To obtain coloured resist lines, dye is used instead of water.
5. Hold the applicator bottle in an upright position and squeeze with enough pressure to ensure penetration. Fill in any gaps in the resist line as all areas must be connected to prevent the dye from crossing the boundary. The dye will spread to the resist line. Allow resist to dry.
6. Apply the dyes with brushes or sponges in quick succession. If an area of dry dye meets an area of wet dye, dark wavy lines called 'waterlines' may result. The likelihood of this occurring can be greatly reduced by wetting the desired area with plain water prior to painting or misting with water after painting.

7. Salt adds another dimension to handpainting. Coarse salt, sea salt or table salt can be sprinkled on while the dye is still wet. It will pull the moisture from the surrounding area and create trailing patterns.
8. Allow the silk to dry completely while suspended on the frame.
9. Remove the silk from the frame and prepare for steaming.

### Fixation by Steaming

Steam is necessary for fixation of G & S Procion 'H' Dye. Dry heat will not work for the Procion "H" dye, nor will a steam iron. The dyes require an enclosed volume of steam to induce the chemical reaction necessary to bond the dye to the fibre. Steaming treatments are carried out at 100 degrees Celsius (212oF).

In the steam environment, the printed or dyed areas absorb moisture and form a concentrated dye bath from which the dyeing of the fibre takes place. The function of the resist or thickener is to localize the dye, both in production aspects and here in the fixation. It prevents bleeding. The steam should be free to move around and in abundant supply. When the steam is too moist there is a possibility of bleeding. Too long a steaming will also result in colour transferring through the newsprint. If the steam is too dry, the lack of moisture retards the dyes from setting properly. Slight air-contamination is not dangerous, however, a rush of cold air may create condensation which drips on the fabric.



### After Wash

Washout after steaming is necessary to remove any excess dye which has not chemically bonded. This does not deplete the colour intensity that was first applied, it is simply excess, and the first wash-out is very important.

Wash the steamed fabric in a container with continuous running cold water. Continually flush with fresh water until the fabric is rinsing clear. Bring the water temperature up to warm, add Lissapol ND Soap and wash by hand or in a washing machine. Run through a full cycle to complete the crucial after-wash. If the silk fabric contains a fair amount of light areas, use the Lissapol ND during the complete rinsing stage. This protects the fabric from loose particles of dyes.

Use a capful of white vinegar in the final rinse to condition the silk and to aid in ironing. Silk is best ironed wet with a warm iron.