

# BATIK USING 'MX' DYES

## FABRICS

Procion MX can be used on all 100% NATURAL fabrics: Cotton, Linen, Silk, Rayon, Hemp, and Wool.

## SUPPLIES

- Batik wax or a mixture of 2:1 Beeswax and Paraffin wax
- Pins, tacks or clips to hold fabric taught
- Vessels large enough to accommodate fabric
- Table or frame on which to stretch fabric
- Natural fibre brush or tjanting tool
- Garbage bag or plastic drop sheets
- Measuring cup and spoons
- Electric frying pan
- Stirring Stick
- [G&S TNA Soap \(generic Synthrapol\)](#)
- Pressing iron
- Hot water
- Gloves

## INGREDIENTS

The amount of [Procion 'MX' Dye](#) and chemicals required, depend on the nature of the fabric as well as the shade of colour required. Generally the thicker or heavier the fabric, the more the dye that would be required to achieve a particular shade.

The procedure outlined below is for 3 yards of 36" light cotton

material (1 lb.) dyed medium strength colour.

### ***A - Immersion Method***

25 gm of [Procion `MX' Dye](#) (50gm for black or navy)

2-3 Cups Salt

4 Tbs. (60 gm) [Sodium Carbonate](#)

### ***B - Direct Method***

4 tsp. of [Procion `MX' Dye](#) (6 tsp. for black or navy)

3 tsp. of [Urea](#)

2 Tbs. of salt (3 for reds)

1 Tbs. of [Sodium Carbonate](#)

## **WAXING PROCEDURE**

- 1) Wash fabric in hot water and 0.5oz TNA Soap, rinse, dry and iron
- 2) Stretch fabric taut on table or frame using tacks or pins.
- 3) Plan design and draw on fabric areas to be waxed at first waxing.
- 4) Heat wax in an electric frying pan at 225 - 350oF. Do not let the wax smoke!
- 5) Apply wax with brush or tjanting tool and leave to cool for about an hour. To produce a finish with more clearly defined areas, leave overnight or place in refrigerator for an hour.

## **DYEING INSTRUCTIONS - IMMERSION**

- 1) Dissolve dye and salt in 2 litres of hot tap water.
- 2) Add 5-6 litres of cool water.
- 3) Stir as much as possible for 15 minutes.
- 4) Fully dissolve Sodium Carbonate in hot water and add to the dye bath.
- 5) Stir for at least 30 minutes more.
- 6) Take fabric out and rinse under warm water till clear
- 7) Allow the fabric to dry. Do not use the dryer.
- 8) To add next colour, apply more wax to dry fabric and then dye again with another colour.

## **DYEING INSTRUCTIONS - DIRECT**

- 1) Dissolve the required amounts of dye salt and urea in one cup (250 mL) of hot tap water. This solution will last two days but the colour is strongest in the first four hours.
- 2) Test for desired colour on a piece of cloth before adding the carbonate to solution.
- 3) Paint dyes to desired areas with brush.
- 4) Allow fabric to dry.
- 5) Apply more wax to dry fabric and then dye again with other colours.
- 6) On the last application cover fabric or bag the fabric. Leave 24-48 hours at room temperature.
- 7) After setting, rinse in cold water until the water runs clear. Then follow with a rinse in hot water.
- 8) Allow the fabric to dry. Again, do not use a dryer.
- 9) You may also steam the fabric immediately for 30 minutes instead of bagging . See steaming instructional sheet.

## **PROCEDURE FOR WAX REMOVAL**

- 1) Place fabric between sheets of paper towels that are placed over a bed of newspapers (never iron directly on the fabric)
- 2) Set iron on cotton and iron slowly over the paper towels covering the batik. The wax will rest and be absorbed into the towels beneath. Change the paper towels and iron until as much wax as possible has been absorbed.
- 3) Have the Batik dry cleaned to remove the remaining wax