



# hp Tie Dye

## WHAT YOU NEED

**WHITE T-SHIRT**

**RUBBER GLOVES**

**A WIDE, SHALLOW BOX**

**WIRE OVEN RACK**

**SQUIRTY BOTTLES**

(THE AMOUNT DEPENDS  
ON HOW MANY COLOURS  
YOU ARE USING)

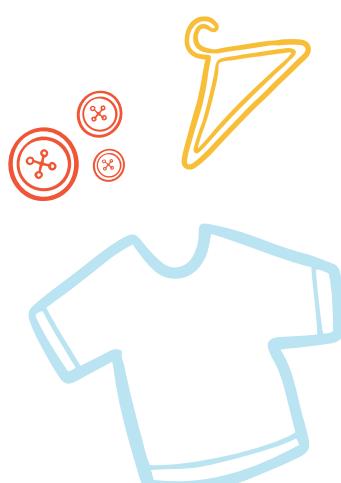
**COLOURED DYE**

**ELASTIC BANDS**

**SPRAY BOTTLE**

**NEWSPAPER**

(TO PROTECT YOUR  
WORK SURFACE)



MAKE SURE YOU HAVE ALL OF THE MATERIALS READY  
SO YOU CAN FOLLOW ALONG WITH TARA WHALLEY  
AS SHE CREATES BEAUTIFUL TIE-DYED PIECES!

## TIPS BEFORE GETTING STARTED

- Pre-wash your 100% natural garment before doing this activity. This could be cotton, linen or silk (you can check by finding the tag sewn in the side seam or label). The dyes used in this workshop will only secure to natural fibres, but there are dyes that work with synthetic fibres too if needed.
- New clothes often have some chemicals on them when they are made, so make sure you are using a detergent when washing so the dye can lock into the fibres.
- Tie dye is all about folding, scrunching and wrapping up fabric tightly so colour can't get all the way through. There are endless ways you can do this to create different and exciting patterns, but in this workshop we are doing the **SPIRAL** and **SCRUNCHING** techniques!
- Some colours create nice colours when they mix, like yellow and blue will make green! But orange and blue make brown. You can test on a piece of paper first to see how your colours might mix together, or do your best to keep your colours separate so they don't muddy.
- When washing your tie-dye t-shirts, wash them on their own so the colours don't bleed onto other clothing.

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## SPIRAL TECHNIQUE

### 1 Lay your t-shirt flat and pinch and twist the middle of the shirt

You can help guide the t-shirt as you twist to help to make sure the whole t-shirt is twisted all the way around. The best part is, it doesn't have to be perfect to create an amazing pattern! Once your t-shirt is twisted, secure it in place with elastic bands. If your t-shirt has dried out, just spray on some more water - this will ensure your colour can travel across the shirt.

### 2 Prepare your dye bottles by mixing 2 cups of hot water with 2 tbs of dye.

### 3 COLOUR APPLICATION

- Place wrapped up t-shirt on top of the grid/rack on a shallow box.
- Put your gloves on.
- The elastic band wedges will be your guide - if your colours cross over they will mix.
- Flip your t-shirt over and apply colour to the reverse side.

### 4 Let your t-shirt sit for 30 minutes and prepare the fixative in a squirt bottle by mixing 2 cups of hot water with 2 tbsp of fixative. Alternatively, leave for 2 hours - overnight wrapped in plastic to allow for maximum colour retention.

### 5 Run cold water over the t-shirt until the water runs clear to get rid of any surface dye. Now you are done and can remove the elastic bands to reveal your design!



## SCRUNCH TECHNIQUE

- 1** Lay your t-shirt flat, dampen the fabric and scrunch your t-shirt. Once your t-shirt is all scrunched up, secure it in place with elastic bands. If your t-shirt has dried out, just spray on some more water - this will ensure your colour can travel across the shirt.
- 2** Prepare your dye bottles by mixing 2 cups of hot water with 2 tbs of dye.
- 3 COLOUR APPLICATION**
  - Place wrapped up t-shirt on top of the grid/rack on a shallow box.
  - Put on your gloves.
  - Apply colour generously and leave some areas of white.
  - Flip it over and apply colour to the reverse side.
- 4** Let your t-shirt sit for 30 minutes and prepare the fixative on a squirt bottle by mixing 2 cups of hot water with 2 tbsp of fixative. This will prevent the colour from bleeding into the white areas Alternatively, leave for 2 hours - overnight wrapped in plastic to allow for maximum colour retention.
- 5** Run cold water over the t-shirt until the water runs clear to get rid of any surface dye. Now you are done and can remove the elastic bands to reveal your design!

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