

Warp Painting on Silk & Wool

Use this method to hand paint on Silk and Wool warps. Always do test samples before working on a large project.

- ✘ Wear rubber gloves, apron or old clothes.
- ✘ All utensils used for dyeing should not be used for food preparation.

Supplies

PRO MX Reactive Dye	Synthrapol
Citric Acid Crystals or white distilled vinegar	Urea
PRO Print Paste Mix SH - OPTIONAL	clear household ammonia

Additional Supplies Needed

Ammonia
 White distilled vinegar

Procedure

1. Make the Acid Soak Solution. Choose one of the methods below. Measure the water from the chart below into a large plastic bucket. Dissolve the Citric Acid Crystals or white distilled vinegar in the water. Add the Synthrapol and stir thoroughly.

Method #1 - Citric Acid Crystals	Method #2 - White Distilled Vinegar
½ gallon (2 liters) 95°F (35°C) water	1 quart (1 liter) 95°F (35°C) water
8 tsp (40 gm) Citric Acid Crystals	1 quart (1 liter) white distilled vinegar
1 tsp (10 ml) Synthrapol	1 tsp (10 ml) Synthrapol

2. Prepare the warp. Stretch the warp on a table covered with plastic. While wearing rubber gloves, dip a large clean sponge or foam brush into the acid soak solution and liberally apply it to the warp. DO NOT rinse the warp. You can dye paint the warp while it's damp from the acid soak solution or let it dry before painting. This acid soak solution can be kept for a couple of weeks at room temperature in a closed container and can be reused to soak more yarn.

3. Prepare the Print Paste. (This step is optional. If you do not want to thicken your dye, move on to Step 4.) Measure 5½ Tbl (55 gm) PRO Print Paste Mix SH into a dry container. Measure 1 cup (250 ml) of warm 110°F (44°C) water into another container. Add the measured PRO Print Paste Mix to the water while stirring rapidly. Continue stirring until you obtain a smooth paste. Let the paste stand 1 hour or overnight for smoothest results. Unused paste should be kept in a closed container. Store the prepared print paste without dye up to six months. Discard if you detect an ammonia smell.

4. Make the Urea Water. Measure 13 Tbl + 1½ tsp (150 gm) of Urea in 1½ quart (1½ liter) HOT 120°F (49°C) water. Allow to cool to room temperature before using. Discard if you detect an ammonia smell.

5. Make Dye Paint. The Dye Paint thickness described below is a guideline. Experiment until you get the thickness that suits your application needs. Dye Paint is ready to use on the presoaked warp. Discard dye paint after 3 to 4 days. If the warp does not absorb the dye quickly, add 3 to 4 drops of Synthrapol to the dye paint.

Thin Paint

Thoroughly dissolve desired amount of dye powder, from the chart below, with just enough Urea Water to make a lump free paste (approximately ¼ cup, or 60 ml.) Thicken with prepared Print Paste, usually 1 to 2 tsp, then add Urea Water to make 1 cup (250 ml). Stir until thoroughly mixed.

Watery Paint

Thoroughly dissolve desired amount of dye powder, from the chart below, with just enough Urea Water to make a lump free paste (approximately ¼ cup, or 60 ml.) Then add Urea Water to make 1 cup (250 ml). Stir until thoroughly mixed.

	Pale	Medium	Dark	Black
Dye powder	½ tsp (1 gm)	2 tsp (5 gm)	4 tsp (10 gm)	8 tsp (20 gm)

6. Fix the dye. Allow the warp to "cure" by covering it with plastic for a minimum of 24 hours. Room temperature must be above 70°F (22°C). The warmer the "cure" temperature, the darker the final color.

7. Rinse the warp thoroughly in a bucket of room temperature 75° to 95°F (24° to 35°C) water. Change the rinse water 3 to 4 times. Then wash with very HOT 140°F (60°C) water adding ½ tsp. (2.5 ml) Synthrapol per pound (454 gm) of yarn. Rinse the warp well. If your warp is silk, then stretch it to dry. If the warp is wool, continue through steps 8 and 9.

8. Make the After Soak for Wool. (This is not necessary for silk) Mix 2 Tbl (30 ml) of ammonia in one gallon (4 liters) of room temperature 75° to 95°F (24° to 35°C) water. While wearing rubber gloves, swish your wool around in the ammonia water for 3 to 5 minutes. Rinse in room temperature 75° to 95°F (24° to 35°C) water.

9. Neutralize the Wool. Mix 11 tsp (55 ml) of white distilled vinegar in 1 gallon (4 liters) of room temperature 75° to 95°F (24° to 35°C) water. Wearing rubber gloves, swish the wool around in this vinegar water as the final rinse. Squeeze out the excess water and air dry.