



This paper will discuss, the history or process of dyeing the cotton with natural material, to create an Ombre look and its influence on one's mood. Through this process, we will explore the dyeing of cotton fabric with responsive colors and reactive colors of the least reactivity since they take more time for coloring. The fixation of dyeing implies the reaction of a receptive gathering of dye with a group of fibers, thus forming a strong solid bond with the fiber (Kiron, 2021). The salt utilized for this process makes appropriate pH in the dye bath, as the color fixing agent. Splendid tones have pleased humankind from ancient times until now. Colors were found by a primitive man using different plants' juices, blossoms, bark, leaves, and so on, and applying the substances to the fundamental fabric.

**Definitions:**

- Dyestuffs means a material yielding or utilized as a color.
- Mordant is a substance utilized in coloring to fix the coloring matter, particularly a metallic compound, as an oxide or hydroxide, that joins with the natural color and forms an insoluble color compound or like in the fiber(*Tie-Dye Thru the Ages-- a History of Tie-Dye.*, n.d.).
- Scouring means to remove dirt or grease from something by rubbing hard.
- Acid is a chemical compound taste capable of removing alkalis and blushing blue litmus paper, containing hydrogen that can be replaced by a metal or an electron from a base.
- Alkali soluble increases the bond of all colors to a temperature applied and basically no effect on dyes (“Influence of Process Parameters on Exhaustion, Fixation and Color Strength in Dyeing of Cellulose Fiber with Reactive Dye,” 2020).The color tends to change its tone in various salt amount and temperatures when Alkali is included. This is a significant stage, which is constrained by keeping up with legitimate pH by adding Alkali. The response between receptive

dye and cotton fiber can't be possible without any Alkali” (*Tie-Dye Thru the Ages-- a History of Tie-Dye.*, n.d.).

Hundreds of years before Christ's introduction to the world, Safflower was utilized as a color in Persia and the Far East. The Safflower threads (which are also utilized as an expensive seasoning. When dissolved effectively, it transforms water into a yellow color. The spice turmeric was squashed to a fine powder and dissolved in water so that cotton material would be colored a deep yellow. This color was also utilized in India since ancient times and was the start of the craft of dyeing from East to West. China has been making a type of tie-dyeing since the 6th century. They knew how to turn, and tie cotton so when the texture was dipped in various pieces the texture would retain its color. The only individuals that were permitted to wear the dyed color pieces of clothing were Priests and the wealthy (Kiron, 2021).

My favorite is pink. When I wear pink, I feel more feminine, and it brightens my mood. It also gives me a sense of ease and a girly feeling. My leather moto jacket is my favorite garment. I brought it last year. My moto jacket is black with metal zippers on the front and the sleeves. It is just one of those things I think everyone should have in their closet, just like a little black dress. The way I see it, if you have a black motor jacket then you can pair it with almost anything. It is like having a staple piece in your closet. Some days I dress the way I feel, but most of the time, I try not to dress the way I feel because no one needs to know when I am having a bad day. She So Flies (Tawana Morris) is a beauty and fashion influencer on Instagram. I admire her style. Tawana Morris is chic, and feminine and she is the same height as me. She also has petite sizes for shorter women. She is stylish and inspires my choices because she is just so girly.

**My natural dyeing process went as follows:** I gathered my materials for this ombre dyeing project.



**Ingredients:** 3 tps. White vinegar, 1 ½ cup of Iodized salt, 3 quarter cups of ground Turmeric, red cabbage and 12 cups of water. Measuring cup, measuring spoon, plastic gloves, rubber band, cotton white tee shirt, two metal pots, strainer, wooden spoon, tongues, and a knife.



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- 1. First step** I cut the red cabbage with the knife in large pieces and place into a pot. Then fill the pot with water making sure submerge all the cabbage in the water. Now bring it to a boil, as the deep purple color begins simmering from the cabbage. Add 1 ½ cup of Iodized salt and stir thoroughly. I then was able to see the color extraction, about 20 minutes later. Now set it aside, let it cool for about 30 mins. (Leave the dye materials in the pot on the stove).



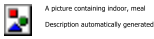
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- 2. Second Step** then, I prepare the ingredients for the Turmeric dyeing, while the cabbage was simmering. Place the gloves on and mix the 3 quarter cups of ground Turmeric and 12 cups of water into a large metal pot. Because I was only dyeing one tee shirt so, I estimated using about 12 cups of water will cover the top half of the shirt.



A person mixing food in a pot  
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3. **Third Step**, now I bring this solution to a boil. Add the White Vinegar and stir with the wooden spoon. The Vinegar would give it a brighter color. I then let the solution simmer for one hour, by just turning off the heat. Let cool for one hour. I allowed the color to reveal completely before adding the tee shirt to the solution.
4. **Fourth Step**, I then take the rubber band and rap around the tee shirt to create an ombre affect. Wet the tee shirt before dipping it into the dye solutions. Dip the base of the tee shirt in the purple dye, while making sure to submerge the cloth well. Now watch the color absorb the fabric by checking the fabric periodically. Then rinse in cold water, until the rinse is clear, after the desired color of the tee shirt has been achieved.



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- 5. Finally,** I dip the top half of the tee shirt in the Turmeric solution, while using the tongues. I took the tee shirt out of the dye and rinse it out until the water runs clear. Now I can see (checking the fabric periodically) that these natural ingredients made the colors are visible as the tee shirt was hung to dry overnight beautiful for that ombre look. (Wash the tee shirt in a mild detergent before wearing).





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It appears in the video that the natural dyeing of the colors was more vibrant than mine, because of the technique and ingredients used in this process. In step one, I added 1 ½ cup of Iodized salt and stir thoroughly. I think if I had added more salt to the red cabbage solution then, perhaps it would have come out with a rich purple color. In retrospect, I think if I had added some beets to the cabbage and brought it to a boil, then it would have a deeper color. I would also perhaps be able to see the color incorporated into the fabric sooner. I would have also allowed the cabbage set to aside, let it cool for about an hour. Nevertheless, although the purple color didn't come out as dark as I wanted it, I am pleased with how the tee shirt colors came out for my first try. I am excited to see how the ombre color interacted with each other moderately near the rubber band.

The Turmeric resulted in an intense canary yellow color and brought out my natural skin tones. It also reminded me of the Canary bird or a flower.

In conclusion, I learned that when dyeing you must have a lot of patience and planning along with organizing ingredients is most important. Also starting with several types of materials will allow you to archive various rich or dynamic colors. It seems that after the tee shirt was rinsed and dried the colors were one shade lighter. However, the area of the attached rubber band was, remained white or light. I would like to try adding the Turmeric and Alkali to my cotton material next time, to determine whether the fabric would be two shades lighter or darker. While taking a look at color in my life, it was generally amusing to experiment with various parts of the project and the history of colors we wear. While thinking about that, it is fun, and educational to imagine how the dyed colors would unfold or wonder if amazing dynamic colors would result, as they did in ancient times or not.

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