

Malik Lee

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Textiles

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The Wonders of turmeric

Tie-dyeing can be a fun project for children to learn about colors as well as the result of mixing colors. An exciting activity mostly done in the summertime due to the bright colors and easy to find kits on sites such as Target, Amazon, and Walmart. This essay will examine the history of natural dyes and the importance of color. Color can be the important factor in

Dye can be described as a substance used to add color to textiles with three classifications natural, synthetic and pigment. Synthetic dye is a manufactured substance that is sold in a wide range of colors being sold for a cheaper price than natural dyes used for printing, paint and food which can be found in colorful cereals or candy. Synthetic dyes come in different types such as acid, azoic, sulfur and direct which can be harmful on the environment due to the amount of water being used to produce on a garment along with effects such as eye and skin irritation because of its toxicity. Pigment is a production process performed on a used a garment to give a vintage look mostly on shirts. During the process activators are applied to the fabric to help absorb the color, then using a binder in order to stick the on the fabric. Natural dyes are dyes from materials found in nature for example plants, bugs, or minerals even food. Similar to synthetics natural dye uses an excess amount of water during the process to rinse off the dye but doesn't have any harmful effects making it the best form of dye to use.

Out of the many examples of natural dyes in my opinion turmeric is the most effective. Turmeric is a plant with root like stems used to produce a spice, popularized in Indian culture the plant was useful for medical purposes to help with heart health, cancer, infections, joint pain serving as an anti-inflammatory and antioxidant. For centuries turmeric has been used as a dye because of its bright yellow color, in India turmeric was giving out for young children to dye clothing during their festivals due to the color being associated with other reasons along with how bright and bold the color can be.

In today's fashion universe many stylist along with celebrities incorporate color in their wardrobe during seasons such as spring and summer. During the 2015 Met Gala Singer (Fashion Icon) Rihanna wore a bright yellow gown hand made by designer Guo Pei the long train dress



was fur trimmed included embroidery all over from the top to the bottom of the gown. Stylist such as Dex Robinson who styles NFL player as well as actors starts his vision with the use of color with garments to represent the blend and contrast of colors working his way from the foot up. The way Dex Rob (what he goes by) takes urban street transforming it into formal is what caught my attention and the way he incorporates sneakers into the outfit making it comfortable,

minimalistic, and effortless. Since yellow is my favorite color, I decided to proceed with the turmeric to achieve the perfect yellow.



Dyeing Portion



Materials: 2 spoons (1 metal, 1 plastic) elastic bands, Vinegar, Turmeric powder, and a white sweatshirt 2(60% cotton, 40% polyester)

Step 1

First, I prepared the sweatshirt by using the elastic bands to hold the garment in place while being in the pot. I spaced the bands out to create a pattern followed by a shoestring to hold the piece in a ball to fit in the pot. After I submerged the garment in the sink with hot water to loosen up the fabric as well as prepare the fabric to accept the dye.

Step 2

After preparing the shirt for the dyeing process I decided to begin boiling the turmeric adding a little water in the pot to create a soup texture using the metal spoon to stir the mixture. The mistake I've made was placing the vinegar in the pot with the turmeric, I was supposed to place it a separate pot with water. The vinegar helps the fabric take the dye like the water. At first, I used 1 cup of both the turmeric and vinegar but being that I used a large pot I just used the entire bottle.

Step 3

Once the pot came to a boil, I placed the garment inside of the pot using the red spoon to complete cover it with the turmeric and vinegar mixture little it sit in the pot closed for an hour with the flame on medium. When the hour was finished, I let the pot sit on the stove to cool down before taking the sweatshirt out. When the temperature became decent, I transferred the pot into the sink pouring out the mixture and using the warm water to rinse off the garment and cut off the elastic bands.



Step 4

After rinsing I began to use some detergent to wash the sweatshirt allowing some of the dye to bleed off the garment (which created a big mess) I've repeated this set 3 – 4 times just to make sure there was no more dye running.



Step 5

Lastly, after the rinsing process I hung the garment on the ledge of my balcony to air dry overnight instead of throwing it inside of a machine dryer. The sweatshirt turned out way better than I expect the vinegar to would've enjoyed find another and natural it too especially since I added the turmeric, I thought it ruined my creation. Overall, I completing this project eager to unused garment in my closet dye it.



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