

SETTING UP A DYE TABLE AT HOME

Set up a table at least 2 yards long. Cover it with heavy plastic to protect the surface. Cover that with white butcher paper to provide a neutral background. Lay down clear plastic wrap – this could be painter’s plastic or a Saran-Wrap type of product. Unless you are painting a warp, there’s no need to replace the plastic each time you dye. Have some heavy clamps handy.

Mix your stock dyes according to the stock solutions you are using. Then, mix the custom dyes according to the formulas you are using.

Equipment:

Measuring cups – suggest you have at least 3- 250 ml size, and at least 3- 1000 ml size
Measuring spoons – at least 2 sets

***Empty plastic jars with tight lid – to put your mixed dyes in – at least 3

Syringes – 60 cc, 20 cc, 6 cc, 3 cc, and 1 ml. I suggest at least 3 of each. You can purchase these anywhere where livestock supplies are sold – Cal Ranch has 1cc, 20cc., etc. The 1 ml size is quite difficult to find, and I suggest you check with other dyers to find suppliers.

***Dye pots – depending on the amount of yarn you are dyeing, you will need pots that will accommodate the amount of water for the dye process. For an amount of 250 yards or less you can use plastic containers (Nancy’s Yogurt). For larger amounts, use kettles made of anything but aluminum. Must be able to take boiling water with out melting.

Small stirring sticks – I suggest popsicle sticks that you can buy in the crafts store. You can use these to mix your powdered dyes with water. Also gives you a pretty good idea what the color will look like.

***Rubber Gloves - You must use rubber gloves, unless you really like fuschia hands. Have a substantial quantity on hand.

A dust mask – use this when mixing your powdered dyes with water.

Plastic spoons – for mixing in your small dye pots. For larger pots, use more substantial items – wooden spoons.

Washing tubs – you can use anything you like, but it must be able to withstand pretty hot water. I use dishwashing tubs, Mary uses bleach bottles.

All items used in the dye process **MUST** be dedicated items. Do not use the same items in the dye process that you plan to use in food preparation. Dyes can be harmful if ingested. ***Indicates items you must bring to dye workshop. All others will be provided for the workshop. A fee of \$40.00 will cover the materials.