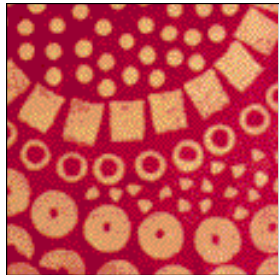


# Batik the easy way

DYLON®

## Effects achieved with Dylon Easy Batik



### Block Printing Technique

Pour a little Easy Batik liquid into a saucer. Dip a sponge into the liquid and dab onto a printing block. Press the block firmly onto fabric, re-applying Easy Batik to the printing block for each print.

When printing is completed, allow to dry for at least 4 hours or overnight, iron, and dye flat, as in the instructions opposite, rinse thoroughly and then wash and iron.

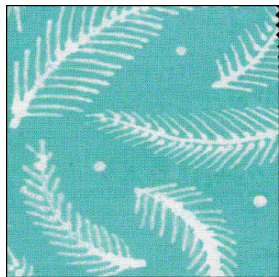
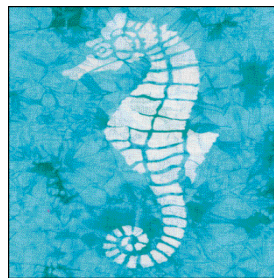
### Stenciling Technique

Design and cut your own stencil from thin card, tape the stencil in place on the fabric and, with a stencil brush, stipple Easy Batik onto the fabric.

Remove the stencil, and add some hand-painted detail to the design with a fine brush and Easy Batik.

Dry and iron. Tie-dye or dye flat as required.

Rinse thoroughly, then wash and iron



### Trailing Technique

Using a small plastic container with a fine nozzle, trail Easy Batik onto fabric to form a design. Allow to dry for a minimum of 4 hours, iron and dye (either flat or tied).

Re-apply Easy Batik to add to design if required, dry and iron, dye second colour.

### Alternative Technique

Apply Easy Batik using chosen technique. When dry and ironed to set, tape the fabric securely to a plastic-covered board, dampen slightly and paint with diluted Fabric Paints. Allow to dry, iron to set the Fabric Paint. This method allows several different colours to be applied at once and to bleed into each other.



## What you will need

Dylon Easy Batik  
Dylon Cold Water Dye/  
Dylon Cold Dye Fix  
Salt  
Measuring jug  
Rubber gloves  
Plastic bowl  
Iron

Absorbent paper  
*Equipment for chosen application method*  
Brushes / Sponge /  
Stencil / Printing Blocks /  
Plastic bottle with fine nozzle (ie. Gutta Tube) etc.



## Easy Batik Method

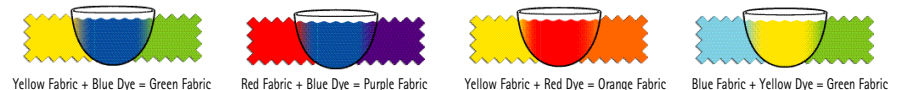
*Easy Batik can also be used with Dylon Pure Colour Craft Dye. If using Dylon Pure Colour Craft Dye please follow the instructions in each pack.*

*100% cotton fabric is recommended - Dylon Cold Water Dyes work best on natural fabrics (lighter shades are obtained on Polyester/cotton mixes; pure or 100% synthetic fabrics cannot be dyed with Dylon Cold Water Dyes). The fabric must be pre-washed to remove any dressing before being dyed or painted.*

1. Apply Dylon Easy Batik, leave for a minimum of 4 hours to dry thoroughly, then iron to set.
2. Prepare the dye bath according to the instructions, weighing the fabric first to work out the quantity of dye required. Dye should be used as soon as possible after mixing; if it is kept it will lose some of its vibrancy and colourfastness.
3. Wearing rubber gloves, prepare the first colour of dye solution, following instructions with each pack.
4. For 'plain' dyeing (rather than tie-dyeing) with Easy Batik, the dye vessel must be sufficiently large to allow the fabric to lie flat without overlapping or creasing. Do not pre-wet the fabric, but lay it in with the Easy Batik design face up, lift and re-lay several times during the first few minutes of the dyeing process so that the fabric absorbs the dye evenly. Leave in the dye bath for 30 minutes only (longer immersion may reduce the resist qualities of Easy Batik).
5. A smaller, deeper vessel may be used for tie-dyed samples, as the fabric will not be laid out flat.
6. Wash your finished design in usual detergent. Rinse thoroughly and allow to drip dry.

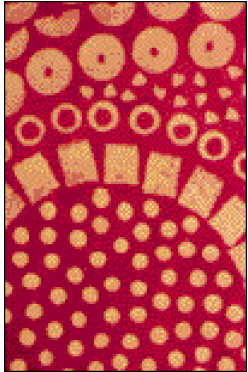
## Colour Mixing Rules

Easy Batik is a great way to create pattern and colour on natural fabrics. Best results are obtained on 100% cotton fabric. Remember the colour mixing rules if you are dyeing coloured fabrics or using more than one colour of dye.



# Teachers' Notes and Classroom Assignments

## How Easy Batik works



Easy Batik is a ready-to-use substitute for hot wax to produce a crackle-free dye resist, a quick and simple way of creating batik-style effects on fabrics. Apply Easy Batik by freehand painting, stencilling, trailing, sponging or block printing. Allow to dry for a minimum of 4 hours, then cover treated fabric with a clean cloth before ironing.

Areas where Dylon Easy Batik has been applied will retain the original colour after dyeing. Unlike wax, the resist does not have to be removed from the fabric after dyeing.

A resist dyeing technique originating in Asia and Africa makes use of a starch paste to resist the dye, and is one of the oldest methods used to decorate textiles. The Yoruba people of West Africa have long been famous for their resist patterned ADIRE-ELEKO cloth, using a paste made mainly from cassava root flour mixed with water, and painted onto the cloth with a brush, feather or through a stencil. In China and Japan wooden blocks were used to apply a rice flour paste resist before the use of stencils.

## Expand students' creative ideas

Keep a design folder of illustrations as inspiration for patterns i.e. magazines, photographs, sketches, cuttings. These illustrations may be taken from natural forms, wallpaper or textile designs, fashion fabrics etc.

Using your design folder for ideas, choose from one or more of the techniques for applying Dylon Easy Batik to produce a number of patterns on small pieces of fabric.

### Flour Paste Method

Make up your own resist paste, following the recipe in Dyeing Tips. Pin your fabric onto a frame, apply the paste with a brush, and allow it to dry thoroughly. (This will probably take at least 24 hours). The paste will crack as it dries. Remove fabric from the frame. Make up a dye bath according to the instructions. Wearing rubber gloves, immerse the fabric in the dye bath, lift and relay several times during the first few minutes of the dyeing process. Take care not to crush the areas covered with paste as this will reduce the resist effect. Remove fabric from the dye after 30 minutes, rinse and wash with detergent to remove the paste and excess dye. Dry and iron.

Try painting, sponging, trailing and stencilling. Compare the ease of use and the results with Dylon Easy Batik. Trim and label your samples and keep them with your samples of Dylon Easy Batik designs.



## Assignment 1

KEY STAGE 3 (1a, 1c, 2a, 2b, 2c, 4a)

An interior designer needs a special textile to use for cushion covers and a sofa throw for a sitting room, and likes the effects produced with resist techniques. When choosing your designs and techniques, consider methods appropriate for small or large pieces of fabric, and whether the options should include contrasting colours for the cushions and the throw. These articles are 'one-off' pieces, not intended to be mass-produced. An original design is required to make a special impact in the room. Does this justify the use of hand-made textiles? Why wouldn't a commercially printed textile be appropriate?



Draw designs for the cushions and throw, showing the fastenings to be used for the cushions (zips, ties, Velcro, buttons) and the colours. Will the sofa throw be hemmed or would you finish the edges with a different trim? Make up one of the cushion covers using Dylon Easy Batik and Dylon Cold Water Dyes or Dylon Fabric Paints. Use labelled sample fabrics to make a display board showing the other colour and design options for the sofa throw and the other cushions.

## Assignment 2

KEY STAGE 3 (1a, 2a, 2b, 4a)



A fashion designer is looking for some inspiring textiles for his new collection. His work aims to appeal to young people, he uses only natural fabrics for his garments, and he wants something original to use for appliqué, trims and accessories.

Using your design sketches and illustrations as a starting point, decide which you think would be the most appropriate design. Select an Easy Batik technique and make up a length of fabric. Draw a pattern for a padded fabric case for a pair of sunglasses, incorporating in your design a method for attaching it to a belt or bag. Make up the case from wadding and your length of fabric decorated using Easy Batik. Make up a display board with fabric swatches of alternative colours and designs to show to the designer. His garments are not mass-produced, so he will not require a large quantity of fabric. However, if similar garments were to be made for mass production, what alternative method of producing a similar design could be used? Why would a hand-made textile be appropriate for designer use and not for mass production?

## Dyeing Tips

**Applying resist:** You will find it easier to apply the design if the fabric is taped onto a flat, plastic-covered board or surface, or pinned onto a frame, to keep it taut.

**Flour Paste:** Mix plain white flour with water to form a paste, adding the water gradually and mixing well to remove any lumps. The consistency should be that of salad cream. Add 3-4 drops of glycerine. This paste may be heated in a bowl over a saucepan of water and used hot, or cold (warm paste is more easily absorbed, giving a better resist effect). Then follow the method for immersion dyeing.