

# Country Classics<sup>TM</sup>

Please read directions carefully before starting

*This is a professional dye for Wool, Silk, and other protein fibers with a "No-Hassle" procedure. Everything you need is in the jar.*

*Country Classics<sup>TM</sup> works great for immersion dyeing and rainbow dyeing. 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.

## Immersion Dyeing

**1. Wet out the fiber** by measuring ½ tsp (2.5 ml) of Synthrapol (or 2 tsp (10 ml) liquid dishwashing liquid soap) in 2½ gallons (10 liters) of warm 110F (44C) water, for each pound (454 gm) of fiber. Soak for at least 30 minutes.

**2. Prepare the dye bath.** Your dye pot should be stainless steel or unchipped enamel. Measure the desired amount of water from the chart below.

	1 ounce fiber/yarn	4 ounces fiber/yarn	8 ounces fiber/yarn	1 pound fiber/yarn	2 pounds fiber/yarn
Room temperature 75° to 95°F (24° to 35°C) water	3½ cups (875 ml)	3½ quarts (3½ liters)	1¼ gallons (5 liters)	2½ gallons (10 liters)	5 gallons (20 liters)

**3. Dissolve the dye powder.** Measure the desired amount of dye powder from the chart below into a 1 cup (250 ml) Pyrex measure. Add approximately ¼ cup (60 ml) of boiling water and stir to make a lump free paste. Then add water to make 1 full cup (250ml) of dye solution. Stir thoroughly and add it to the dye bath.

	1 ounce fiber/yarn	4 ounces fiber/yarn	8 ounces fiber/yarn	1 pound fiber/yarn	2 pounds fiber/yarn
Dye powder	½ + 1/8 tsp (2.6 gm)	2 ½ tsp (10.6 gm)	5 tsp (21.3 gm)	10 tsp (42.5 gm)	the whole jar

**4. Add the fiber.** Carefully add the wetted out fiber. Gradually heat the dye bath to a boil (make sure you only raise the temperature to 185F (85C) for silk). Gently simmer the fiber for 30 minutes, stirring continually and gently to get even color results. If, after 30 minutes you have color left in the dye bath, then add 2 Tbl (30 ml) of white distilled vinegar for every 4 ounces (114 gm) of fiber. Simmer for another 10 minutes then turn the heat off and let the dye bath cool to room temperature.

**5. Rinse and dry the fiber.** Once the dye bath has cooled down then remove the fiber and rinse it a couple of times in lukewarm water. Squeeze out any excess water and air dry. You can discard the dye bath down the drain with no harmful effects to sewer or septic systems.

## **Rainbow Dyeing**

**1. Wet out the fiber** by measuring ½ tsp (2.5 ml) of Synthrapol (or 2 tsp (10 ml) of liquid dishwashing liquid soap) in 2½ gallons (10 liters) of warm 110F (44°C) water, for each pound (454 gm) of fiber. Soak for at least 30 minutes.

**2. Make the dye paint.** Decide if you want a pale, medium or dark value. Measure the desired amount of dye powder from the chart below into a 1 cup (250 ml) Pyrex measure. Add approximately ¼ cup (60 ml) of boiling water and stir to make a lump free paste. Then add water to make 1 full cup (250ml) of dye paint. Stir thoroughly and set aside until cool.

	Pale	Medium	Dark	Black
Dye powder	~1/2 tsp (2.5 gm)	~2 ½ tsp (10 gm)	~5 tsp (20 gm)	~7 tsp (30 gm)

~ = approximately

**3. Apply the dye paint.** Now comes the fun part. While wearing rubber gloves, squeeze out excess soak solution from the fiber. Lay fiber (yarn or fleece) on a length of plastic wrap. Apply the dye paint with a sponge brush, squeeze bottle, or syringe, or by dipping the fiber into the dye paint. Work the dye paint into the yarn or fleece with your gloved fingers to insure thorough saturation.

It is handy to have a bucket of clear water next to your working area to rinse your hands between color changes. Obtain a fluid color gradation by overlapping one or two colors to produce a third color. Be careful not to apply so much dye that color drips from the fiber, as colors run together during the steam set process. Wrap the fiber with the plastic wrap, leaving the ends open. If you are dyeing silk, put this wrapped bundle aside for 30 minutes. This 30 minute rest yields darker colors because the dye penetration improves.

**4. Set the dye.** Place the plastic wrapped fiber on a stainless steel leaved vegetable steamer. Place the steamer in a stainless steel, enamel, or Pyrex pot with water in the bottom. Water should not touch the bottom of the vegetable steamer basket. Place the pot on a burner and cover. Steam for 30 minutes, measuring the time after the water begins to boil. After 30 minutes, turn the heat off and allow the fiber to cool to room temperature. Once it is cool, remove the fiber and rinse thoroughly in warm water. Squeeze out any excess water and let it air dry.

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