

How to tie-dye soft and warm scarf with natural dyes

Materials needed:

- **Medium thick fabric from natural fibres (100 g) or a scarf (75% wool, 25% linen) (52 x 200 cm)**
- **2 wooden circle discs (Ø6.5 x 1 cm)**
- **Carpenter's clamp (~8 x 15 cm)**
- **Plant material: goldenrod leaves (~100 g) or logwood chips (25 g)**
- **Mordants: 5 g ferrous sulphate (FeSO₄)**
- **Water (H₂O)**

1. Folding and pressing

The fabric is folded so that there is equal space on all sides for the dye to enter the fabric. When a folded square of about 15 cm x 15 cm is obtained, place it between two circle discs. The discs are then tightly pressed together using a carpenter's clamp

2. Preparing a natural dye bath

Start with preparing a dye bath from goldenrod leaves or logwood chips. Bring about 6 l of water to heat, put the plant material in the water and heat it at ~80° C for at least 40 minutes. Once the extract is ready, remove the plant material from the bath.

3. Modifying colour with ferrous sulphate (FeSO₄) and dyeing

We recommend using ferrous sulphate (FeSO₄) to modify the colour to a greenish grey (goldenrod) or bluish black (logwood) to enhance the pattern. Dissolve 5 g of the mordant in a small amount of water, pour it to the dye bath, stir well and immerse the item for dyeing. Heat at 80° C for about 40 minutes and then leave to cool in the dye pot.

4. Rinsing and further care

First, rinse well the dyed piece under running water. Then remove the carpenter's clamp and discs. Unfold the fabric and rinse it again until the water is clean and then let it dry. For further care, use mild detergents, hand or machine wash at 30° C.