

DYE CONCENTRATES: this allows you to use a liquid for dyeing instead of powders.

Mix warm water and urea, then add dye powder. Do not dissolve dyes in water over 95°F (35°C).

1 cup (240 ml) water

2-4 TBS (30-60 ml) urea

2 TBS (30 ml) powdered dye

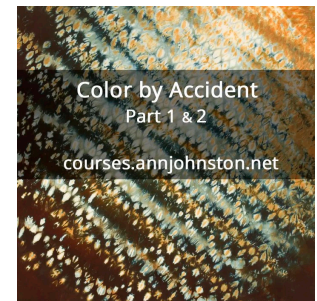
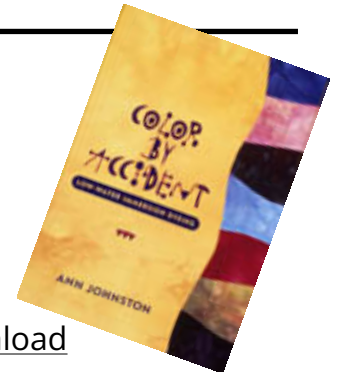
SODA ASH SOLUTION RECIPE: this the fixative for the dyes.

Dissolve in hot water. Use at room temperature.

1 gallon (3.8 liters) water

9 TBS (135 ml) soda ash.

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The Basic Method

For one yard, about 1 meter (average width and weight)

Prepare dye concentrates and soda solution AS FOR DYE PAINTING AND PRINTING. Then mix fabric, water, and dye as below, then wash.

Step 1: Wrinkle fabric as desired in the container and then wet with about 1 cup (240 ml) warm water

OR Wet fabric in lukewarm water, wring and wrinkle as desired, place in container. The amount of soda solution can vary.

Step 2: Mix concentrates with plain warm water to color and value desired, about 1 cup (240 ml) of liquid altogether, for each yard or meter of fabric. Use about half dye concentrate for darkest colors and about 1 TBS for light values, or any amount in between for all values. Pour over fabric. Squish and agitate as desired. More agitation, more even color.

Step 3: After 5-15 minutes, pour soda solution over fabric. Use about 1 cup (240 ml) per meter of fabric. Mix to distribute the soda throughout the fabric. More mixing produces more even color.

Step 4: Let the dye work for one hour minimum. I like to avoid getting air bubble marks by turning it over during the first 15 minutes, and pressing fabric under dye. Again the amount of agitation and the kinds of wrinkles will determine the final results.

Step 5: Rinse lukewarm to remove soda, then wash **hot**, 140° F (60°C) with detergent and rinse. Dark colors need to be washed more to remove all unfixed dye. Test color fastness by ironing wet on white cotton.