

Dyeing Starter Kit

What's In The Box

2 x 100gm Hanks Wingham Merino Superwash Yarn

1 x 100gm Wingham Polwarth and Nylon Superwash Blend Wool (80/20)

5 x 20gm Dye Pots

1 Pair Vinyl Gloves, Latex Free

You'll Also Need

1 Dye pot, large enough to lay your fibres in and which can be heated - Stainless steel, aluminium or enamel. Plastic for microwave dyeing.

1 Dye Mixing Pot

1 Stirrer

Apron

White vinegar (optional)

We recommend having dedicated utensils and pots that you will use for dyeing, as staining may occur.

"Superwash" Yarn

Superwash fibres have been treated to minimise the risk of felting during dyeing and washing. It's tempting to prod and poke while dyeing, but it's much better to leave the dyes to do their work on their own where possible. While Superwash fibres are much easier to work with it's always good practise to minimise movement and rapid changes

Where To Begin

If this is your first time dyeing your own fibre then it's a good idea to collect all the things you'll need and then give the instructions a read through. This means you'll be familiar with the process as you go along and everything will be to hand.

Your dyes are suitable for all wools and part of the fun is trying out different types of yarn and wool to create your own range of fibres. Check out winghamwoolwork.co.uk for a wide range of wools and if you have any queries just drop us a line.

Safety

Basic safety precautions should always be taken when dyeing

- Always work in a well ventilated area.
- Avoid inhalation, ingestion and direct skin contact.
- If swallowed rinse mouth and drink plenty of water. Do not induce vomiting. If in eyes flush with water for 15mins and seek medical advice.
- Keep out of reach of children.

Microwave Dyeing

- Rinse your fibre/yarn in warm water. Make sure it's completely saturated then squeeze out excess water.
- Decide how much dye you'll need and, in a separate container, dissolve it in hot water. *10gms of dye powder will dye 100gm of yarn to full strength*
- Place your fibre in a shallow microwave safe container and spread it evenly over the base of the container. Pour the dye into the container so that it saturates the yarn. For multi-coloured dyeing pour dye solutions over fibre in your pattern and work it through.
- Allowing for the steam to escape, cover the container and cook on high for 5 mins. *Times may vary between appliances*
- Remove from microwave and carefully turn the fibre over with some kitchen tongs, add more dye if necessary to any white areas, return to microwave, cover and cook again on high for 5 mins.
- Remove from microwave and allow to cool completely. By letting it sit until its cold, this allows all the dye to be exhausted into the fibre. Rinse with warm water to remove any unfixed dye. If an excessive amount of dye washes out you have either used too much dye or haven't dyed it for long enough.

Stove Dyeing

- Rinse your fibre/yarn in warm water. Make sure it's completely saturated then squeeze out excess water.
- Fill your dyepot with enough warm water that it will cover the fibre. *Don't add the yarn yet.*
- Decide how much dye you'll need and, in a separate container, dissolve it in hot water. *10gms of dye powder will dye 100gm of yarn to full strength*
- Add this to the dyepot (make sure it is completely dissolved).
- Place your fibre into the dyepot, turning gently to distribute dye evenly. On a low heat bring the dyebath slowly to just below the boil, turning the fibre regularly to avoid unevenness. *This is most important in the first 5 to 10 mins.*
- Maintain temperature for at least 30 mins. The dye will eventually exhaust onto the fibre. During this time check that it is completely submerged & give it a gentle stir.
- A teaspoon of white vinegar can be added at the end of your dyeing to help the last of the dye to exhaust onto the fibre.
- Remove from the heat and allow to cool completely. Letting it sit until cold allows all the dye to be exhausted into the fibre. Rinse with warm water to remove any unfixed dye. If an excessive amount of dye washes out you have either used too much dye or haven't dyed it for long enough.