

Rit Dye Instructions

WASHING MACHINE

Use this technique for maximum convenience and especially for large items.

- 1 Fill machine with enough hot water for fabric to move freely. Refer to the chart below for the right amount of dye to add. Pre-dissolve powder in 2 cups of hot water. Add pre-dissolved powder or liquid to hot dye bath.
- 2 Wet fabric in hot water. Uncrumple and add to dye bath.
- 3 Set machine for extended wash cycle. Fabric should be in dye bath for at least 30 minutes before rinse begins. (You can reset your washing machine before the rinse cycle begins for extended wash cycle.)
- 4 Rinse in cold water until water runs clear. Wash deep shades in warm water with mild detergent and rinse thoroughly in cool water.
- 5 Dry item in dryer or hang to dry.
- 6 Clean washing machine using highest water level with hot water, detergent and 1 cup chlorine bleach using complete wash cycle. Clean lint traps. Plastic or rubber machine parts may be tinted but will not stain laundry.

Choose the Right Amount of RIT Dye:

Size of Machine Load (Water Level)	Approx. Dry Weight of Fabric	RIT Powder Packages	RIT Liquid Bottles
SMALL (Low) Gloves, lingerie, tights, socks, scarves, t-shirt, blouse, shirt, vest, pillow cover, placemats, doilies, sheer curtains	100-400gm.	1/2 to 1	1/4 to 1/2
MEDIUM 1 (Medium) Jeans, pants, dress, skirt, uniform, sweatshirt, tablecloth, dust ruffle, canvas tote bag	400-600gm.	1 to 2	1/2 to 1
MEDIUM 2 (Medium) Jogging suit, sweater, robe, denim jacket, curtains/draperies, area rug or bath mat (not rubber-backed), 4 hand towels plus washcloths, sheet plus 2 pillowcases, 1 twin bedspread	600gm-1.2kg.	2 to 3	1 to 1 1/2
LARGE (High) Bedspread, chair slipcover, 2 double sheets plus 4 pillowcases, throw rug (not rubber-backed), blanket	1.2kg – 2.4kg.	4	2

STOVETOP TECHNIQUE

This technique delivers the best colour results when dyeing with black or other dark colours.

- 1 Fill pot with enough hot water for fabric to move freely. Remember: Use 1 package of RIT powder or 1/2 bottle of RIT liquid dye and 11 litres of hot water for each half kilo of fabric. Pre-dissolve powder in 2 cups of hot water. Add pre-dissolved powder or liquid to dye bath. Stir to mix.
- 2 Wet fabric in hot water. Uncrumple and add to dye bath.
- 3 Bring dye bath to simmer. Stir constantly (back and forth, up and down) at least 30 minutes.

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- 4 Rinse in warm water, then gradually cooler water until water runs clear. Wash item in warm water with mild detergent and rinse thoroughly in cool water.
- 5 Dry item in dryer or hang to dry.
- 6 Clean containers immediately with chlorine bleach. Scrub with chlorine-based powder, liquid, or gel cleanser, if necessary.

SINK OR BUCKET

This is the best technique for dyeing small or delicate items.

- 1 Fill sink or bucket with enough hot water for fabric to move freely. Remember: Use 1 package of RIT powder or 1/2 bottle of RIT liquid dye and 1 litres of hot water for each half kilo of fabric. Pre-dissolve powder in 2 cups of hot water. Add pre-dissolved powder or liquid to dye bath. Stir to mix.
- 2 Wet fabric in hot water. Uncrumple and add to dye bath.
- 3 Stir constantly (back and forth, up and down) for 10 to 30 minutes.
- 4 Rinse in warm water, then gradually cooler water until water runs clear. Wash item in warm water with mild detergent and rinse thoroughly in cool water.
- 5 Dry item in dryer or air dry.
- 6 Clean sink or bucket immediately with chlorine bleach or scrub with chlorine-based powder, liquid, or gel cleanser.

SPOT-DYEING

Use this technique when you need to colour correct or dye a very small amount of fabric.

- 1 We suggest using RIT liquid dye for this procedure for its easy, pre-dissolved convenience. If you choose to use powder dye, stir 1 teaspoon into 1/2 cup very hot tap water, 140°F/60°C. Stir to dissolve.
- 2 Cover a flat work area with a piece of plastic sheeting such as a trash can liner. Lay the garment flat on the work surface.
- 3 Wearing rubber gloves, now pour 2 tablespoons RIT liquid dye into 1/2 cup of very hot tap water.
- 4 Dip a small corner of a piece of clean cloth into the hot dye, gently squeezing out the excess. Rub the affected area where you wish to apply the dye. For extremely small areas, you can use a cotton swab to apply the dye.
- 5 Allow the dye to set for 20 minutes. To further set the dye, press with a hot steam iron. Place a cloth on your ironing board and over the treated areas, then press.
- 6 Launder the fabric using cold water with mild detergent.

FLAX WEAVING.

Please refer to your local library for a book entitled “Maori flax weaving” for instructions on preparing and dyeing your Harakeke.