



Family Projects: Shibori T-Shirts with RIT Dye



Supplies: Cotton, rayon, linen, or other natural fabric T-shirt, string, all-purpose RIT dye, sink or bucket, gloves, 1 cup of salt, 1 teaspoon of dish detergent, stir stick or spoon.

Gathering Materials Tips: RIT all-purpose dye can be bought at many grocery stores or ordered online. You can repurpose an old T-shirt or use a new one.

- **Step one:** Use a recently washed T-shirt. Take a portion of the shirt (the sleeves, the entire shirt, or twist a small circle) and do an accordion or fan fold as shown above.
- **Step two:** It's helpful to use a few pieces of string to secure the folds before you begin wrapping.
- **Step three:** Wrap the entire section with string and tie it off.
- **Step four:** Now you are ready to dye! Cover the work area with plastic or work outside. Have paper towels ready for spills.
- **Step five:** Fill a sink or bucket with enough water to fully submerge your shirt. For bright vibrant colors, use more dye; for softer colors use less. 1 liquid bottle of dye will dye about 2 lbs. Adjust as needed. Add 1 cup of salt to increase vibrancy. Add 1 teaspoon of dish detergent for even dye consistency. For more info or for trouble-shooting dye, visit: <https://www.ritdye.com/instructions/using-rit-all-purpose-dye/>
- **Step five:** Submerge your shirt and stir it in the mixture slowly and continuously for at least 10 minutes.
- **Step six:** Remove T-shirt, allow to dry, and wash before wearing.

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