

Vauxhall High School
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Textile, Fashion and Clothing
Textiles colouring and Finishing

Topic: Applying colours and designs to fabrics

After fabrics are constructed, most of them are processed through a number of steps to produce the appearance and performance desired for apparel use, one such process is colouring.

Reasons for colouring fabrics:

- I. To enhance the attractive of the fabric
- II. To add value

Dyes

Dyes are used to give colour to fabric, without dyes, all garments would be grey, brown, or off-white. Dyes can added to textile produce at different stages in production:

Fibre dyeing means that the fibres are dyed before being spun into yarns.

Solution dyeing is possible only with manufactured fibres. Dye is added to the chemical solution before it is forced through the spinneret to form fibres.

Yarn dyeing means that the yarn are dyed before they are woven or knitted into fabric.

Fabric dyeing means that the fabric is dyed after being woven or knitted.

Garment dyeing means that the fabric is cut and sewn into finished product and then dyed

Classification of dyes

Dyes are classified according to sources:

- (a) **Natural dyes** (plant and animal)

Plants: such as mustard plant given bright yellow, Beet or berry juice gives red and Coffee juice gives brown.

Animals: bodies of shellfish gives purple and Cochineal from insect that lives on cactus plant gives red.

- (b) **Synthetic dyes** from chemicals

Methods of applying design to fabrics

1. **Tie-dyeing** is a process where fabric is treated by washing, prepare pattern using several techniques and immerse into dye bath for required time.

Some Tie-dye techniques are:

- Knotting. Roll the fabric then tie into a knot.
- Marbling. Crumple the fabric into a ball, then bind the ball of fabric with thread or string until it becomes a hard solid mass.
- Folding. Pleat and fold the fabric, then bind.
- Starbursts. Pinch the fabric, and tie around according to the size desired.
- Clump tying. Tie objects like coins, shells, pebbles

View the following videos of basic Tie-dye techniques.

https://youtu.be/9bOuxD_6WQc

<https://youtu.be/rM1M932ieD4>

2. **Batik** is a process of using wax for applying coloured designs to fabric.
 - Wash, rinse, dry and iron the fabric, preferably cotton. This removes any sizing from it.
 - A design is made on fabric.
 - Melted wax is drawn or painted on to the fabric sections that are not to be dyed
 - Dye for 30 minutes, using cold water. Dye will not penetrate the waxed areas.
 - Melt wax, by ironing the designed fabric between sheets of paper towels

View video for a simple demonstration

<https://youtu.be/Mc2uu6qv3GU>

3. Fabric painting

Special paint are available for use on fabric. Silk paints are used on silk fabrics. Water-based acrylic emulsion paints are very friendly to human skin.

The fabric has to be free of any sizing. It is necessary to wash, rinse, dry and iron to prepare it to accept the paint readily. <https://youtu.be/3lfMcMBFS6Q>

4. **Stencilling** is a very simple method of applying and repeating a design. Use a stencil to cut out shape from stiff paper, place design on fabric, use a brush or sponge to apply colour. <https://youtu.be/eucQNEMCY5A>
5. **Printing**- A simple form is block printing, where a colourant that could be paint or dye is applied to the surface of a fabric so as to produce a pattern. The pattern could be cut into wooden block or potato. The chosen colour is applied to the block then stamped on to the fabric. <https://youtu.be/58r3BJOYgSw>
6. **Embroidery stitches** provide simple decoration and can be made to work creativity. Transfer pattern on fabric then used different embroidery stitches to create design. <https://youtu.be/L-aFaKVd1Gs>

Activity

1. Explain reasons for colour fabric.
2. Colour can be added to Textile products in several stages. Identify three stages.
3. It is said that “fabric bleed” Given your understanding on the phrase.
4. List three (3) types of surface design.
5. State at least three (3) Indigenous materials that can be used to make Textile products.
 - (a) Name two (2) textiles products each that can be made from the Indigenous materials identified.