MICROWAVE FABRIC DYEING

The microwave technique is a speedy way to dye fabric when you don’t have the space or time for a more involved method. Only use microwave safe items while dyeing (never use fabric with metal trim including zippers or buttons).

You can dye small items in a container reserved for dyeing projects. Tintex is not food grade so avoid using cooking pots for dyeing fabric. Only use this technique on heat safe fabrics (ex: cotton & linen respond well while rayon and wool are not suitable for this method).

*Proceed with caution as microwave power and fabric heat tolerance vary. Only handle hot containers with gloves and always supervise children.


2. Add enough hot water to a microwave safe container to cover your fabric (use up to 8 cups depending on amount of material).

3. Wear rubber or plastic gloves and if needed, protect work area.

4. Thoroughly mix Tintex powder with 2 cups (500ml) of hot water (Avoid breathing dust. Use with adequate ventilation) in another container.

5. Pour the mixed dye solution into the other container (already filled with hot water) and stir until completely combined.

6. Place your fabric into the container so it is totally covered in solution, if needed push it down with your hand or a utensil.

7. Cover the top of your bowl using plastic wrap.

8. Protect bottom of microwave with paper towels or newspaper to avoid stains.

9. Place the container in the microwave and turn it on high for approximately up to two minutes. Proceed with caution and watch to see if you need to stop and remove the container. Microwave power may vary greatly. Use your discretion, If needed carefully remove container early.
10. Handle the hot container with caution and set down on protected work area.

11. After plastic has cooled remove the fabric from the container and place it in the kitchen sink.

12. Run cold water throughout the item and gently squeeze it until you notice the excess water flowing from the item runs clear.

13. Rinse material with cool clean water. Thoroughly remove all excess dye until the water runs clear.

14. Wash and dry as usual with similar colours; you may iron on a low setting when slightly damp if needed.

15. Clean your workstation with water and appropriate cleaner as soon as possible after dyeing.