

Hand dye a silk scarf and make a silk greeting card to match for your Mom or favorite Aunt or a woman special to you. Sign it with a gel pen (the one with a removable cap so you can heat set the ink). You can even use the pen to write a special message into the design of the scarf. If you want to make a lovely rainbow scarf, here is the easy way.

1. Set Up: Wet your silk scarf and arrange in a U shape on the plastic covered tabletop. Gently create pleats by pulling on the hemmed edges and the center of the “U”.

2. Dyeing: Start with Yellow in the middle or at the ends of the scarf and apply dye using a pipette. Flood about a 3-4 inch area with the color. Then spray dye the same color. Taking the next color Pumpkin, repeat slightly overlapping the yellow area so the colors flow one into the other. Pipette and spray dye Pumpkin. Continue with the other colors –Rose-Magenta-Eggplant-Purple (mix Magenta and Blue)- Blur-Turquoise-Green-Brown-Black. I like to add the brown and black at the two ends of the scarf. Leave out any colors you don’t want. Overlap the colors so they blend a bit and the transition from color to color is smoother. Because it will be really wet the colors will floor into each other.

3. Bonding: Let the scarf and dye sit on the tabletop for at least 15 minutes allowing the dyes to bond with the silk in crisp patterns. Lift up a corner of the silk and look under it to see if there is any color on the tablecloth. If there is any color, let it rest some more. Or walk away and let it dry overnight. The colors will be intense. If you want to rush it and can’t wait to pick it up, then take a wipe up silk scarf and dab all the excess water and dye from the scarf dumping it into a waste water container. Lift up a corner again and if no color, pick it up. Squeeze out any more water and roll in a towel. Iron dry to see the colors come alive.

