



### To begin well...

These plants extracts will give you magnificent colors to dye your fabrics or woolen hanks.

The obtained nuance will depend of fiber to dye, of its color (white, off-white, natural), of extract quantity and also of mordant used. Your personal touch will allow you to obtain a unique tint. The vegetable dye allows to create its own receipts with an infinity of nuances...

### Material :

- Take one container in stainless steel or in enamel.  
This container must be able to contain your fiber without having to compress it, thus to find a size of bowl accordingly ...
- A jam thermometer or a thermometer with probe.
- A small wooden stick, or a wooden spoon, very practical for manipulations (do not plunge any metallic utensil into your preparations).
- Wear gloves when you touch the mordanted fibers.
- The quality of the water is important for the mordanting step.  
Avoid waters limestones. If you use some tap water, add a little spirit vinegar (1-2 coffee spoon / liters). If you have distilled water, well water or rainwater, the result will be there only better.

### Recipe :

1. Weigh the dry fibers.  
Determine the quantities of mordant and of extract necessary with the table below;
2. Rinse your fibers (hanks, fabrics...) by means of a bath of warm soap added by some washing soda in the case of vegetable fibers (linen, hemp, cotton).
3. Mordanting step :  
Fill your container with water. Make warm your water until 40°C.  
Pour the alum then cream of tartar into the 40°C water, mix it for dilute then immerse the fibers that you have rinsed before. For linen, hemp and cotton fibers, add the sodium carbonate before plunging your fibers.
4. Heat in 80°C during 45 min by moving fibers regularly.  
At the end of 45min, let cool fibers in the bath.
5. Rinse your fibers abundantly in the cold water if you do not wish to dye immediately.  
If you dye immediately, it is not necessary to rinse.
6. Fill again your water container.  
Make warm your water until 40°C.  
Pour the colouring extract in a glass jar with some water in 40°C, by taking great care to dilute well the color.  
Once the color was diluted, pour into the container, mix the water to dilute, then immerse your wet fibers.
7. Make warm your dye bath in 80°C during 45 min by moving fibers regularly.  
If you wish to darken the tint, pour a pinch of iron sulfate after 45 min (do it little by little).  
Let cool fibers in the bath.
8. Remove dyed fibers, rinse in tepid water then dry.

Fibers	Mordant	Mordant weight	Colour dosing*	Colourway
Wool, silk	Alum	Alum: 20% of dry fibers	1% to 5%	Saturate
		Cream of tartar: 8% of dry fibers	1% or less	Light
Linen, hemp, cotton	Alum + Sodium carbonate	Alum: 15% of dry fibers	3% to 5%	Saturate
		Cream of tartar: 6% of dry fibers  Sodium carbonate: 10% of dry fibers	3% or less	Light

\* The chlorophyll and the cochineal are more concentrated, divide the quantities by 2 for these 2 colors.

I wish you a good dyeing...