

Basic Instructions for Cushing's Perfection Acid Dyes

For many years Cushing's Perfection Dye was a "union" type dye, designed to be suitable for a variety of plant, animal and synthetic fibers. In response to the changing availability of raw materials and to increase the effectiveness and ease of use of our dyes, we reformulated them into two types, acid and direct. Acid dyes are suitable for wool, mohair, and nylon. Direct dyes are the better choice for cottons and cellulose materials, plus linen and rayon. Silk dyes best with one type or the other, depending on the particular characteristics of the silk.

Each 1/2 oz. jar contains enough dye for dyeing approximately 2 pounds of material. Use more or less for deeper or paler results.

- Start by thoroughly wetting out the goods to be dyed with warm water. Wash out any sizing or fabric treatment. Dissolve the dye in 1 cup of boiling water and set aside.
- Prepare your dye bath by drawing clean water into a stainless steel, glass, or enamel vessel in such quantity as to completely cover the material with room enough to allow for the liquid to circulate. Heat the vessel and allow your dye bath to simmer.
- Dissolve 4 ounces of common salt for each pound of material into the vessel and add the dissolved dye that had been set aside. Introduce the material to be dyed to the vessel and bring to a simmer again. Continue simmering for 20 minutes, all the while stirring and agitating to insure even dyeing.
- Use an after-wash for best colorfastness. Prepare after-wash by dissolving 4 ounces of common salt for each pound of material and 1 cup of white vinegar in cool water in a separate container. A plastic pail works nicely.
- Remove the dye vessel from heat and rinse material in the after-wash. Let dry and enjoy the colors.

Have fun and enjoy your results!