

Key information

- Paraffin wax must be melted (110-19 F). This will make it free flowing. Paraffin wax is good to use as it can be cracked and produce an interesting design.
- These are tjantings; they can create a variety of different thicknesses of lines. Brushes can be used also; these cover a wider area and are good for filling in shapes.
- Mount a plain piece of cloth to a frame. Lightly draw your design onto the fabric. Apply the first layer of wax, these will be the areas you want to stay white. Check the back of the fabric to see if the wax has penetrated through the fabric, if the wax is too cold it will just clump on top.
- Prep the fabric for dye, allow this to dry for 5 minutes and then paint on the first layer of dye. Always begin with your lightest colour and work gradually darker. Allow this to dry before applying the next colour.
- Now wax out the areas you wish to keep your new dyed colour. Apply your next layer of dye, again allow this to dry and repeat the process.
- Once all your layers have been applied allow your fabric to dry completely and iron out the wax.

Batik is a method of dyeing fabric where some areas are covered with wax or pastes made of glues or starches to make designs by keeping dyes from penetrating in pattern areas. The word batik originates from the Javanese tik and means to dot.



Batik

Useful Links

Making a wax leaf:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XrsD4oa-gb0>

Indonesian cloth – Batik :

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/av/world-asia-19564360/how-to-make-the-indonesian-cloth-batik>

Key Vocab

Tjantings: Use a tjanting like you would a pen; to control the rate of the flow by raise and lower the handle. **▣ Fabric:** When using dyes to colour fabric, you get the best results when natural fabrics such as 100% cotton and silk are used.

Resist: When applying the resist try to create a thin continuous line. If you don't the dye may bleed through the resist. Always lay your fabric on an absorbent surface because the dye will bleed underneath and "muddy" your colours.

Colour mixing: When dyes are used to colour fabric they don't always behave as you would expect.

- Magenta + a little yellow = red
- Magenta + yellow = orange
- Cyan + a little magenta = royal blue
- Cyan + magenta = purple
- Cyan + Yellow = purple

Experiment with colour mixing in a palette before applying to the fabric.

Also try diluting the dye with more water; you will get a paler colour.

