

# How to Dye with BENGALA

Use the same steps for Susuzome Soot Dye and Aijozome Indigo Dye.

Bengala is a mineral dye made of natural and sustainable material mined from soil. Its beautiful colors were born from mother earth. Using modern technology, the Japanese manufacturer *Kosyokunobi* revived the ancient colors as a new textile dye. You need only to add tap water. Colors won't fade in the sun and shield your skin from UV rays when worn. Bengala is the eco dye we've longed for!



## 1. Pre-wet the fabric in water and wring it out lightly.

**Tip:** Pre-wash the fabric if it has starch, oil, stains or dirt.

**Tip:** Use Bengala Dye Prefixer beforehand for the best color fixation. The colors will become vibrant.



## 2. Fill a bucket with enough tap water cover the fabric.

**Tip:** Too much water will make it difficult for the pigment to reach the inside of the fabric. The recommended amount of water is 3 times the weight of the fabric but adjusts accordingly depending on the volume of the fabric. Use water that is 60°C (140°F) max temperature.



## 3. Shake the bottle of Bengala well because the pigment settles on the bottom.

**Once mixed well, pour the dye into the water.**

**Tip:** Start with a smaller amount of dye to see how much is absorbed into the fabric.



## 4. Mix the dye solution well and then soak the fabric in the dye bath. Immediately knead the fabric evenly in the dye bath for 3-5 minutes to bind the pigments to the fibers. Keep kneading until the color is as deep as you want. If the dye solution is becoming clear and you want a deeper color, add more Bengala to the dye bath and continue.

**Tip:** Because iron pigments are heavy, mix the sediment of the dye solution completely before adding fabric each time. Also, leaving the fabric soaked in the dye solution causes black stains.

**Tip:** You can mix multiple Bengala in the same dye bath or use a different dye bath for each color and overdye.

**Tip:** For delicate materials, such as wool and silk, stir and press the fabric gently, rather than kneading it.

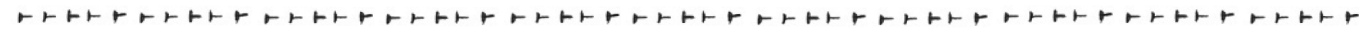
**Tip:** A 200ml bottle of Bengala can dye approximately 5 T-shirts, depending on the depth of the shade.



## 5. Roll and lightly squeeze the dyed fabric in a towel to absorb excess water. Dry it well even in the sun! You may hang-dry it indoor and use an iron, a hair dryer, or a tumble dryer to be completely dried. The color is stable once the fabric is well dried.

**Tip:** Don't rinse before the fabric dries, otherwise the pigments will run.

**Tip:** Don't use heat to dry wool.



### Ingredients

Iron Oxide from the earth, Hypoallergenic natural rubber latex, Water

Note: Gofun (K-2), Fukagawa (K-3), Kurotsuchi (K-8) and Haruzakura (K-11) contain Titanium Dioxide.

### Materials good for dyeing

Cotton, paper, linen, hemp, ramie, rayon, silk, wool, and even synthetic fibers pretreated with Bengala Dye Pre-fixer.\*

\**Bengala Dye Pre-fixer helps fixing the mineral pigments and making more vibrant color. The dye adhere securely to the fibers, preventing fading.*

### How to wash

You can wash the dyed fabric once the color is fixed, after it has dried.

Hand-wash the fabric separately in cool water the first couple of times as the dye may run. After that, you can wash it with other items in a washing machine.

### How to store

**Bengala dye solution:** Keep the left over dye for up to 5 days in the refrigerator.

**Bengala dye:** Store in a cool area for up to a year after being opened. Don't freeze. If you drink it by accident, drink clean water and seek medical attention as soon as possible.

### Where to shop

#### Loop of the Loom

US Distributor of *Kosyokunobi*

#### Workshop

227 E 87th Street, New York, NY 10128

197 Plymouth Street, Brooklyn, NY 11201

Email: [contact@LoopoftheLoom.com](mailto:contact@LoopoftheLoom.com)

#### Online shop

[www.LoopoftheLoom.com/bengala/](http://www.LoopoftheLoom.com/bengala/)

