

## 1. PREPARING ANIMAL FUR, HAIR, & FEATHERS\*

- Remove natural oils by soaking them in a solution of hot tap water, small amount of dish detergent, and 1 ounce of ammonia per 1-2 gallons of liquid.
- Soak material for 5 to 10 minutes.
- Rinse well under flowing water to remove excess detergent and remaining oils. Please note that any remaining soap will impede the dyeing process.

\* Most animal furs and hair require no treatment before they are dyed

### 2. DYEING PROCESS\*

Weigh dye before it is added to the dye bath.

Amount of dye used will vary depending on the dye used, product that is being colored, and intensity of shade.

# \* In most cases you will be dyeing less than 100 lbs of fur, hair, or feathers so adjust the amount of dye being used accordingly.

### 3. GENERAL GUIDE FOR AMOUNT OF DYE

Color	Weight of dye vs. weight of Material being Colored*
Red	1 lb 2 lbs. dye per 100 lbs. fur/hair/feathers (1-2% dye solution)
Orange	1 lb 2 lbs. dye per 100 lbs. fur/hair/feathers (1-2% dye solution)
Yellow	1 lb 2 lbs. dye per 100 lbs. fur/hair/feathers (1-2% dye solution)
Green	1 lb 2 lbs. dye per 100 lbs. fur/hair/feathers (1-2% dye solution)
Blue	1 lb. – 2 lbs. dye per 100 lbs. fur/hair/feathers (1-2% dye solution)
Violet	1 lb 2 lbs. dye per 100 lbs. fur/hair/feathers (1-2% dye solution)
Brown	2 lbs 4 lbs. dye per 100 lbs. fur/hair/feathers (2-4% dye solution)
Black	2 lbs 4 lbs. dye per 100 lbs. fur/hair/feathers (2-4% dye solution)

### 4. TIPS FOR DYEING ANIMAL FUR, HAIR AND FEATHERS

- Use table to determine dye amount.
- In a glass or stainless steel bowl, dissolve approximately 1 oz of dye by weight (approx. 28 grams) into 16 oz of hot water. Stir until dye is dissolved.
- In a steel pot, add approximately 2 gallons of hot water. Add dissolved dye mixture into pot and stir.
- Dip a piece of paper or rag into solution to see the shade. If color is too strong add water and if it is too weak add dye.
- Add animal fur, hair, or feathers to the pot. Keep the dye bath warm to ensure that the material dyes better. Aim for 180 degrees F (82 degrees C).
- Keep material in the dye bath for approximately 20-40 minutes. Adding approximately 2 oz. of vinegar may help attain the desired intensity of shade.
- 🔲 If any Material is still on the natural hide or skin, you may want the dye bath to be no warmer than 140 degrees F
  - (60 degrees C), but adding 2-4 oz of vinegar may facilitate the dyeing of these substances.

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