

IndiGold™ Recipe + Dye Instructions



New and experienced dyers alike love the depth of blues quickly achieved in this completely hydro-free vat. You can now access and utilize indigo that is truly 100% plant-derived in just 5 easy steps.

Prepping Your Fabric

Fibers need to be thoroughly scoured to assure good, even uptake of dye. Sourcing is not done to remove dirt, but to strip the fibers of natural oils and waxes. We recommend washing with a neutral detergent and 5% WOF of soda ash directly in your washing machine on a hot cycle, or simmering in a pot over the stove for 20-30 minutes. If you are scouring in a pot, rinse thoroughly with warm water afterwards.



Note! Protein-based fibers, like silk and wool, are usually best scoured by hand using a gentle soap with hot water that doesn't exceed 160 degrees F so as not to damage or "felt" the fibers.

Recommended Materials

- Materials to dye (ex. t-shirt)
- Neutral soap or detergent
- 5-gallon bucket or pot
- Rubber gloves

In Your IndiGold™ Kit:

- 50g IndiGold Pre-reduced Dye
- 100g Pickling Lime (Calcium Hydroxide)
- 150g Fruit Sugar (Fructose Crystals)





Preparing the Vat

1. Dissolve all of the Fruit Sugar in 1 quart of very hot - almost boiling water.
2. Add 3 gallons of hot tap water to your 5 gallon bucket or pot.
3. Mix in 100g of Pickling Lime ensuring it is properly dissolved, then add the Fruit Sugar to your bucket. Stir gently, but thoroughly. Make sure to completely dissolve the Pickling Lime in your vat before adding the fructose.
4. Add the entire bottle of IndiGold™. Pour the indigo as close to the surface of the vat as possible, without splashing. Gently stir three more times and allow the sediment to settle for 15 minutes.




Dyeing with your indigo vat

 **Note! Your vat is ready once the indigo sediment has settled to the bottom and you are left with a clear-ish yellow/green liquid under the surface of your vat. The "Gold" in IndiGold™!**

 **Tip! If you are making a resist with shibori techniques, apply those prior to wetting out the fabric. If you are applying a paste resist, allow the resist to dry prior to dipping and skip the wetting out step (below) if suggested by your paste recipe.**

1. Wearing gloves, pre-wet your fabric with water, making sure your piece is evenly wet but not dripping. Squeeze any excess water out, then carefully submerge it into the vat. Minimize the amount of oxygen you are adding to the vat by dipping the fabric in slowly and not lifting it up and down (this introduces air bubbles).


 **Note! Fully wetting your fabric, not so that its dripping, but so every bit of the material is wet will allow the color to spread more evenly (Like painting with watercolor!) Any dry spots will dye slightly lighter and cause unevenness. By massaging the piece under the vat's surface you can also ensure any creases are also being exposed to the indigo.**

2. Start with longer dips (5-10 minutes) then follow up with shorter (30 seconds -2 minute) dips to deepen the shade.


3. Allow for 5-15 minutes between dips so that the fiber can fully oxidize. Leave your piece in the vat for 2-10 minutes at a time. You want at least three dips even if they are very short. If you want to build up to a darker color, keep adding successive dips until you reach the desired shade.

4. Take care not to agitate the vat when removing the materials. As the materials are being removed let them drip into a nearby bucket, not the vat.

5. Hang the material in a spot away from direct sunlight, and fully spread out your piece to ensure that every bit of the material is exposed to the air. Wrinkles and all!

 **Note! When you are happy with the depth of color, remember some of the indigo will rinse off, and that plant fiber, such as cotton, tends to dry a few shades lighter than their color when wet. So, if you love a color you have reached in the vat, dip it one or two more times!**

6. Rinse in cool water to get most of the unfixed indigo off. For the integrity of the fiber, add a 1/2 -1 cup of distilled white vinegar with clean water another bucket or pot for a final soak to neutralize the alkalinity (especially for animal fibers like wool and silk). Let your fabric soak for 15-30 minutes. There is no exact ratio of vinegar to water. Adding a splash of vinegar to a clean

 bucket of water or directly in your washing machine (with no detergent) works well. Rinse with water once more!

Note! Indigo may still rub off so we suggest being careful with your first few times wearing the garment. Wash separately and do not sit on any white couches!

