



Smithsonian Associates

Natural Dye Workshop: A Beginners Studio

Instructor: An-Phuong Ly

Instructor recommended vendors for these supplies include:

- [Maiwa](#)
- [Botanical Colors](#)
- [Dharma Trading Co.](#)

Supply List

Natural Dye Foundations

- **1-2 Pots** stainless steel or enamel. These can be old ones that you don't (and won't in the future) use for cooking. If it's an enamel pot, try to make sure it doesn't have rust.
- **1-2 large bowls.** Think large mixing bowl. This can be plastic or stainless steel. If you don't have a bowl, any kind clean used vessel will work, like a bucket, old trashcan, etc. Again, these shouldn't be used for cooking.
- **Heat source:** during our workshop you'll need to have access to a heat source. This can be your kitchen stove or a fire outside or tabletop burners.
- **Measuring cups/Spoons** or small takeout containers/yogurt containers
- **Kitchen Scale** that can measure in grams
- **Other items:** gloves, mask, hand towels, tarp in case you want to protect your floor or tabletop

Dyes and Mordants

Please note – as this class is designed for experimentation while learning, you don't need to purchase a large amount of the following items for class. Anticipate that you'll be using teaspoons-full, so buying weights of 100g is more than enough for now.

- Potassium Aluminum Sulfate
- Soda Ash
- Tannin
- Aluminum Acetate

FACEBOOK: SMITHSONIAN STUDIO ARTS INSTAGRAM: @SMITHSONIANASSOCIATES

EMAIL: ASSOCIATES-STUDIOARTS@SI.EDU

- 2-3 dyestuffs: marigold powder, cochineal, madder root extract
- Iron Powder

Fiber/Fabrics

- Cotton fiber or fabric that you'll dye. I suggest either bandana or napkin sized pieces (1/2yd total).
- Silk fiber or Wool. Again, I suggest square pieces that you can experiment with.
- Existing garments or materials in your home such as tea towels, old t-shirts, socks (just make sure the piece is natural material such as cotton/linen/bamboo/rayon/silk/wool)

Design & Pattern Making Tools

- Large popsicle sticks
- rubber bands
- string
- disposable chopsticks
- mason jar lids
- Clothespins