

Shell & Tube Sharps Cartridge Dyeing Instructions

Important Dyeing Notes:

Rit dye can be found at Kmart, Walmart and most hardware stores. The dye can stain very easily and splashing will occur. Heated acid activated dyes will stain many things normal dyes will not. If you do splash the dye on something WIPE IT OFF IMMEDIATELY!! It is best to use a camp stove or some other independent heat source so that the dye bath can be heated up and stirred outside or some other place where a little splashing is ok. If you have to use a stove top, surround the area around the pot with aluminum foil, and use extra care when stirring. When straining and rinsing the tubes do not use your kitchen sink since the splashing that occurs may stain your countertop. A laundry tub is ideal for this. This dye is much less potent when the temperature is below 100°F. If there are concerns about splashing in sensitive areas allow dye to cool before straining and rinsing.

What is needed:

- 2 gallon or more capacity pot
- Slotted Spoon
- 1 Old Pillow Case or Cloth Bag
- ¼ Cup White Vinegar
- 1 Package Rit Dye

Procedure:

- 1) Fill pot with about 1 gallon of water
- 2) Heat water on high until temperature reaches between 190°F and 212°F
- 3) Add White Vinegar and stir with slotted spoon
- 4) Add 1 Tablespoon of Rit Dye and stir with slotted spoon
- 5) Remove Shells from cartridges and add to pot. Make sure that all tubes are submerged and that the inside is filled with the dye bath. No tubes should be floating on top. Sometimes bubbles cling to the inside of the tube. A quick tap with the slotted spoon should dislodge the bubbles and allow the tube to sink.
- 6) Stir the dye bath well, and wait 2-3 minutes. Make sure that all tubes are submerged during this time.
- 7) Pull one tube out of the dye bath and check the color under a good light source.
- 8) Add about a teaspoon of dye, stir, wait 2-3 minutes, and check color again.
- 9) Repeat this process until desired color and darkness is achieved.
- 10) Strain out tubes and flush with cold water thoroughly to wash all additional dye off of tube. Make sure that the inside of tube is also flushed out.
- 11) Shake off excess water and put tubes in the pillow case or cloth bag, tie the end tight, and put in a dryer for 1 hour on high heat to dry and set the color. **Warning: Some dye will come off and stain the pillow case or cloth bag!**