

ROOT (RUBIA TINCTORIA)

MADDER DYE

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RENEWABLE - VEGAN - COMPOSTABLE



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INGREDIENTS & TOOLS:

- 50g dried madder roots (dyestuff)
- 500 ml water (solvent)
- 30 g alum (potassium aluminium sulphate to draw out pigment)
- 5 g soda ash (for bright reds)
- a piece of silk

Tools: thermometer, cooker, pot, a coffee filter, strainer, glass jar, mortar and pestle

THIS IS A VARIATION ON:

Madder biochrome recipe by Cecilia Raspanti for Fabricademy, 2019.

The same dye recipe, but the silk is not mordanted. Variation: none

MAKING PROCEDURE:

- Grind the madder into a powder using a mortar and pestle
 - Bring water to the boil, add alum. Bring down to 70 degrees.
 - Add the madder roots and simmer for 60 mins at 70 degrees
 - Filter the liquid, put the liquid back in the pot. Keep roots for a second extraction (optional)
 - Add soda ash (it will froth, simmer for 10-15 mins at 70C.
 - Let it cool to lukewarm before adding the silk, leave overnight
- Silk can be redyed. Rip to shreds for home composting.