

Crimp Paste

Crimp paste will give the effect of seersucker, creping or crimping on 100% cotton fibres, it is important that the fibres are 100% cotton and lightweight to produce the best effects. Ideal fabrics are fine cottons, such as lawns and voiles. Your design should also aim to cover around 50% of the surface to be printed, this will give you the best effect...stripes, circles and simple geometrics are often most effective.

The paste uses a strong Caustic Soda solution which shrinks the printed area, causing the fibres that have been left unprinted during the process to cockle and crimp.

WARNING

Extreme caution must be exercised at all stages of the printing, washing and finishing of this particular print process. Appropriate safety protection must be worn and used at all times during mixing, printing and finishing. **(Nitrile apron, gloves and eye protection)**

You must ask a Technician to assist you while using this paste and it should be discarded as per the departments waste management system

- The mixture will become hot during the mixing stage and **can only** be mixed in a glass or stainless steel pot, with a wood or metal stirrer. **NB it will melt all plastic that it comes into contact with and the glass and stainless steel pot will also become very hot**
- The mixture will melt holes in the mesh of the silk screen if left unwashed or not washed thoroughly before being racked ready for the next print session.
- The mixture will burn skin when it comes into contact with it...if this should happen wash with copious amounts of cold water for at least 10 mins
- Take extreme care to wash everything that you have used/ touched during and after your print session...this will include doors, handles, squeegees, taps, spray hoses etc
- You may need to wash your gloves several times during your print session to avoid spread, contamination and unnecessary burns to yourself and other users of the workshop.

You are strongly advised and encouraged to keep thorough notes for any colour combinations and recipes you develop over your course of study, alongside a small fabric swatch, to help you establish your own colour reference library. You might use the page overleaf or invest in your own print/ dye notebook.

Recipe:

1. 50% grams Solvitose thickener.
2. 40% grams Sodium Hydroxide (caustic soda).

3. 10% mls water

Method:

1. Gather your ingredients, mixing pot (and stirrer). **NB these must be stainless steel or glass**
2. Switch on the extraction, positioning in line with your mixing pot.
3. Measure Solvitose thickener into a clean pot.
4. Carefully add the water and mix, this will help to loosen the paste.
5. Slowly and carefully add the Sodium Hydroxide, folding into the thickener evenly to create a smooth paste.
6. Print fabric. **NB complete penetration is required for the process to work correctly**
7. Dry naturally without heat or tension for best results.

Wash:

1. Rinse in cold water for 15mins
2. Wash in a hot water for a further 10mins
3. Finally rinse in cold water with a 5% Acetic Acid solution to neutralise any Sodium Hydroxide remaining in the fabric.
4. Dry and press.