

Cellulose Devoré printing

Devore printing comes from the French word *devorer*, and literally translates as devour: to consume destructively.

Cellulose Devore print paste is used to **burn out plant fibres from woven fabrics** usually with different warp and weft fibres. For example the viscose (a reconstituted cellulose fibre) would be burned away in a silk viscose fabric.

This recipe is usually made in bulk by the Technical Demonstrator and can be found in the dye lab. Its recipe is outlined below.

Recipe:

1. 2% grams Urea
2. 8% mls Glycerine
3. 20% grams Aluminium Sulphate
4. 1% grams Cream of Tartar
5. 65% mls water
6. 4% grams Indalca powder

Method:

1. Gather your ingredients, mixing pots, measuring cylinder, hand mixer and beaters
2. As this print paste contains Aluminium Sulphate, which is a strong irritant, you will need to wear goggles and gloves throughout the mixing process.
3. Switch on the extraction, positioning in line with your mixing pot.
4. Using the measuring cylinder measure and pour the water into a large container.
5. Slowly mix the Urea and Glycerine into the water using the hand mixer to blend.
6. Slowly add the Aluminium Sulphate and Cream of Tartar using the hand mixer to blend.
7. Slowly add the Indalca powder using the hand mixer to blend until smooth and thick.
8. Print and dry.
9. Heat press at 160°C for 30 seconds, checking between each press time, until the Devore paste has turned a dark (burnt toast) brown. You should be easily able to crack the burned fibres.

ALTERNATIVELY – for larger work

10. Bake at 160°C for 3 – 5 mins in the baker until the Devore paste has turned a dark (coffee) brown. You should be easily able to crack the burned fibres.

Wash:

1. Rinse out the carbonised cellulose in warm water, gently agitating the fibres to ensure all burned out fibres are removed.

2. Rinse in a warm wash with detergent to remove any remaining burned out fibres.
3. Rinse in cold water to remove the detergent.
4. Dry and press.