

Clear Discharge printing

Clear discharge printing is the removal (discharging), of dyestuffs from a printed or dyed fabric. The process is sometimes referred to as “bleaching out”, although some dyestuffs will not be completely removed (pure white) making the discharged area quite tonal.

It is important to note that not all dyed fabrics and print pastes are dischargeable, so it is important that you test your dyes and print pastes if they are not listed as dischargeable in the dye lab print and colour catalogues.

Discharge paste has a limited shelf life of approx. 24 hours, so it is important to print and steam your discharge work on the same day that it is mixed.

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. 90% grams Indalca thickener.
2. 8% grams Decrolin.
3. 2% mls Periblanco SA optical whitener.

Method:

1. Gather your ingredients, mixing pot and stirrer.
2. Switch on the extraction, positioning in line with your mixing pot.
3. Measure Indalca thickener into a clean pot.
4. Slowly and carefully add Periblanco optical whitener and decrolin, folding into the thickener evenly to create a smooth paste.
5. Print and dry.
6. Steam for 20 mins minutes in the atmospheric star steamer.

Wash:

1. Rinse in cold water.
2. Rinse in a hot wash at 50 – 60°C with a Metapex 26 detergent for 15 – 20 mins until the water runs clear.
3. Rinse in cold water to remove the detergent.
4. Dry and press.

