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art & craft to soothe your soul

Time Out for Tie Dye



Project Guide

by s o u l c r a f t

[www.tinycraftbox.com](http://www.tinycraftbox.com)

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## Welcome to Time Out for Tie Dye!

I hope you enjoy making this project as much as I enjoyed designing it for you!

This PDF forms part of our Time Out for Tie Dye project guide. The video part of the guide can be reached by following this link;

### Video Guide to Time Out for Tie Dye

Feel free to follow along with me or create your own design! Use whichever materials take your fancy. Enjoy! It's your time!

What's included in your project?

Everything you need to get started with tie dye!

- cotton fabric swatches
- cotton tote
- cotton string
- a box of dye as an alternative to using avocados
- links to our video part of this project guide are contained in this PDF. If you need any assistance accessing them, please email us at [tinycraftbox@gmail.com](mailto:tinycraftbox@gmail.com)

In addition, you will need; avocados, a pan and some water.





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## tie dye techniques

### *Introduction*

Welcome to our tie dye project! I have been using avocados to make dye for paper and fabrics for a while and it's a super easy way to make good use of the stones and skins of the fruit. Plus a great excuse to make some guacamole!

Avocado also makes for a great dye because the stones contain high levels of tannins which act as a natural mordant, helping the dye bind well with cotton fabric which should give a long lasting result!

Please note; for the best result, use a mild detergent when laundering your avocado dyed items as well as storing them out of direct sunlight.



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## tie dye techniques

### *How to make Avocado Dye*

- For dyeing cotton fabrics, I use the avocado stones.
- I clean any fruit flesh from the stones and skins and store them in my freezer until I have enough to make a batch of dye.
- For this project, I made a batch of dye using eight avocado stones and three quarts of water.
- Using a large pan, I added my water and the stones then slowly heated to a gentle boil as boiling too vigorously may see the dye turn brown. I boiled the stones for an hour then turned the heat off and left the entire pan, covered, overnight on my stovetop.
- The dye will keep in the fridge in a mason jar or bottle for a few days to a week.





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## tie dye techniques *Making a Circular Tie Dye*

- Before you start dyeing, soak the fabric with water and wring it out.
- To make the circular tie dye, take hold of the centre of the fabric and bunch it, twisting slightly then tying string tightly around it where desired.
- Wherever a string is tightly tied around there will be white space so the more strings tied around the fabric, the more non dyed 'circle' areas there will be.
- Place your tied fabric into the dye, cover and leave overnight.



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## tie dye techniques

### *Making a Grid Tie Dye Pattern*

- To create a pattern of 'squares', first soak the fabric then wring out, as before.
- This time, lay out the fabric and then fold/roll it up from one edge.
- Tie it with string as with the first piece, again, wherever the string is tied the dye won't penetrate the fabric and there will be a white area.
- Place the tied fabric in the dye and leave overnight.





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## tie dye techniques

### *Rinsing Out*

- Remove the fabrics from the dye and rinse under running water.
- Carefully, so as not to make any holes in the fabric, cut the strings and unwind them from the fabric.
- Unfold the fabric, rinse and squeeze out until the water is running clear then hang the pieces to dry.
- Choose your favourite and then get started dyeing the tote bag!



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## tie dye techniques

### *Adjusting the Hue*

- If you want to experiment further with avocado dye then here are some tips you can try!
- Avocado dye naturally varies in hue due to factors such as type and ripeness of the avocados and the cooking temperature when making the dye.
- You can make the dye more acidic by adding white vinegar which will make a more peachy hue. Adding baking soda makes the dye more alkaline resulting in deeper pink hue.
- Each batch of dye is unique! Save your avocado stones and try out different amounts of vinegar or baking soda to see what results you get!





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Well done! You've completed your first tie dye project!  
How do you feel? Will you keep it and use it for you or will you gift  
it to someone special?



Remember, it's not about producing a perfect piece, instead  
concentrate on the process, enjoy the experience, relax and allow  
your mind to rest.

See you on the next project,

happy soulcrafting!

*emmie clare xx*

PS; Did you enjoy our Time Out for Tie Dye project? Did you know  
that we offer a selection of our previously released art & craft  
project kits in our online store, as well as our very own  
gorgeous, super giftable handmade items? Click here to visit;

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