

# Dyeing shoppers with the batik technique

**Instructions No. 3661**

Difficulty: Beginner  

Working time: [1 hour](#)

A simple fabric shopper can be transformed into a real designer piece with little effort. The combination of **creasing and binding** creates exciting patterns and individual color gradients using the **batik technique**. These DIYinstructions show you step by step how to dye a shopper, fix the dye correctly and achieve a long-lasting, creative result - perfect for anyone who wants to design their own sustainable fabric bags.



**Preparation: Protect your work area and dampen the fabric**

First cover your work area thoroughly to prevent paint splashes from getting onto furniture or floors. Then put on gloves to protect your hands from the textile paint

Now spray the shopper evenly with water from both sides. The fabric should be well moistened but not dripping. Moistening the fabric ensures that the **textile paint** later spread more easily in the fabric and create smooth transitions.

**Ball up the shopper and tie off: Creating a targeted pattern**

Lay the damp shopper on the work surface and shape it loosely into a ball. Then tie it together with a cord or elastic

bands. **Tying** will compress certain areas of the fabric so that less color penetrates there. It is precisely this effect that later creates the typical pattern with lighter and darker areas.

The tighter and more irregularly you tie, the more expressive the result will be.

### **textile paint apply and knead in**

Now the creative part begins: apply the paint to both sides of the tied shopper. Make sure that all visible areas of the fabric are colored.

Then **knead** the paint carefully into the fabric. Press and move the ball of fabric carefully so that the dye can penetrate deep into the fibers and spread evenly. This step is important to achieve a harmonious and intense color pattern.

### **Loosen the fabric and leave to dry**

Once the color is well incorporated, carefully remove the cord or elastic bands. Carefully unfold the shopper without pulling the fabric too much. This will preserve the color gradients and patterns.

Then hang the shopper up and leave it to dry completely. Only when the fabric is completely dry can the color be fixed.

### **Fix the color: For long-lasting color brilliance**

To ensure that your self-dyed shopper remains color-stable even after washing, the color must be fixed. When **fixing**, the color pigments are permanently bonded to the textile fibers using heat.

There are two ways to do this:

- **Fixing in the oven:** Preheat the oven to 150 °C and place the shopper in it for around 8 minutes.
- **Fusing with the iron:** Iron the shopper for approx. 3 minutes at cotton temperature. Place a cloth between the iron and the fabric and work on an area of approx. 30 × 30 cm. Both variants ensure a long-lasting and wash-resistant result.

### **Your self-designed fabric shopper is ready**

After fixing, your DIYshopper is ready for use. The creasing and tying technique creates a unique design that makes each fabric bag truly one of a kind. Ideal for everyday use, shopping or as a personal gift.

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