

Basic Sun Printing

by Lisa Chin

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Lisa Chin and host Susan Brubaker Knapp

Materials

- Pēbēo Setacolor light or transparent fabric paint
- Small cup
- Foam paint brush
- Water
- Plastic gloves
- PFD (prepared for dyeing) fabric, fat quarter
- Leaves, stencils, or masks
- Cookie sheet or board covered with plastic

Optional

- Plexiglass

Most people don't know this but it is heat—not sunlight, per se—that creates a sun print. A nice, bright sun does make the process go faster, however, and it is a fun project for all ages. Good news, though—as long as you have a warm place and some time, you can create sun prints indoors.

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Soak the fabric in water and squeeze out the excess so the fabric is only damp. Spread the damp fabric on the cookie sheet or plastic-covered board.
2. Put on the gloves. Mix 2 parts water to 1 part paint in a small cup.
3. Using a foam brush, cover the fabric with the diluted paint.
4. Working somewhat quickly, place leaves, stencils, or masks on top of the fabric and set it in the sunshine until the fabric is dry.

Tip: If it is a windy day, consider placing a piece of plexiglass over the fabric after the masks have been set down to keep them from blowing away.

5. If the sun is not out or it is a cold day, the fabric can be placed under a desk lamp or on top of a heating pad indoors. The key is to have the fabric in a dry, warm area.
6. When the fabric is completely dry, remove the masks. Pēbēo Setacolor paints are colorfast and washable. 

