

Sharpie Marker Tie Dyeing

by Cheryl Sleboda



Materials

- Sharpie® markers in various colors
- Commercial fabric, fat quarter
- Rubbing alcohol in a spray bottle
- Pins
- Rubber bands
- Tall disposable cup

Optional

- Apron or painting clothes
- Protective gloves

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Place the fabric over the top of the cup, and secure it with a rubber band.
2. Using a variety of colored Sharpie markers, draw dots, lines, or other designs on the fabric that is stretched over the cup.

Tip: You do not need to make dark marks as the marker ink will run.

3. When you're happy with your artwork, spray the stretched fabric liberally with rubbing alcohol.
4. Use a pin to pull up the center of the stretched fabric so the inks run to the edges of the cup.
5. Let the fabric dry completely. The ink is permanent on cotton, and will not need to be heat set. Only more rubbing alcohol will remove the marks.

Tips and tricks

- Make a "bleed chart"—samples of how each color performs—that will record how the colors bleed and change. For example, black Sharpies become purple when they run. Some colors run more than others. Write your notes on the fabric for future reference.
- You can keep moving your fabric over the edge of the cup to cover the entire surface of the fabric you are working on.

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