

How to Dye Fabric with Rust**By Laurie Brooks****Supplies**

1. Metal Tray
2. Spray bottle
3. Vinegar
4. Water
5. Salt
6. Solid, light-colored fabric
7. Steel wool
8. Pieces of old metal such as washers, springs, grates and nails
9. Large sheets of plastic or a large plastic bag
10. Stack of books or other flat, heavy objects

Method

1. Using a clean spray bottle, combine 1 part water with 1 part vinegar.
2. Lay the fabric on a metal tray, such as a cookie sheet or baking pan.
3. Spray the fabric thoroughly with the water and vinegar mixture.
4. Tear pieces of steel wool and scatter them on the fabric. Randomly arrange the other metal objects, leaving enough negative space to develop or embellish with other materials. Later you may want to be more deliberate with the placement of metal objects to create a particular design or pattern.
5. Spray across the top of the fabric and objects again with the water/vinegar mixture.
6. Slide the tray into a plastic bag or wrap it securely in sheets of plastic and close up the ends.
7. Place books or other flat objects on top of the metal pieces to make certain they are pressed into the fabric.
8. Leave the wrapped fabric overnight in a warm place. It can be left for up to 24 hours, depending on the depth of color desired.

Unwrap the fabric and remove the metal objects. Neutralize the fabric by placing it into 4 gallons of water mixed with $\frac{1}{4}$ cup salt. After neutralizing, the fabric can then be washed in soap and water.