



Neutral Territory: 50 Shades of Gray+ 50 shades of Brown

Length: 5 days

Level: Intermediate/Advanced: Some previous experience with Procion MX dyes required

Materials Fee: \$50

Have you been frustrated when the dye houses discontinue one of your favorite black dyes? Do you sigh in frustration, because all the samples you have developed with these dye go out the window?

Learn about making your own black mixes from the pure primary dyes. We will create the ever elusive

- **Neutral blacks**, that gradate to neutral grays
- **Warm blacks**, that gradate to pinky lavender
- **Cool blacks**, that gradate to steely blue
- **Grunge blacks**, that gradate to greenish hues

In addition the class will cover creation of many neutral studies--tans, browns, gray-blues, gray-reds, and other chromatic grays. Think of the palest alabaster to inky night sky--all values ranges will be examined. Taupes and tans can be fascinating as well--ecru, heath, titanium, putty, and driftwood. Sharing our results, we will compile a large reference book--our own **50 Shades of Gray** will just be the beginning of our explorations in **Neutral Territory**, as we cross into **50 Shades of Brown** as well.

From shibori to screen printing, neutrals pose their own unique dye challenges and opportunities. We will examine the particular tricks and tips for dyeing neutrals when using immersion, low water immersion, and thickened dye applications.

As time allows, interested students may also pursue discharge studies.

When the subtleties and color shifts of discharge are added to the mix, possibilities explode!

Consideration of the evocative nature of neutral color, and ideas of combining neutrals with punchy colors will be discussed. From subtle atmosphere to dramatic moodiness, the range of expressiveness with neutrals is limitless.

Materials fee: \$50

The materials fee covers all the dyes and necessary chemicals, handouts and swatchbook pages, and all the fabric necessary for the sample book. Carol will bring a variety of other equipment to use in class.

Fabric	
5 yards fabric for further dye explorations	PFD--prepared for dyeing-- fabric recommended. In addition to cotton, you may bring some silk, rayon, linen or tencel.. Note to weavers: It is fine if you would like to bring some skeined yarns for dyeing: cotton, linen, rayon, tencel, or silk
Optional: samples of your dyed fabric and/or photos of your work	

Office Supplies	Label Your Own Supplies!
notebook for note taking and a pen	
pencil with a working eraser or a separate eraser	
three-ring binder	one 1" thick
100 CLEAR page protectors	Buy in bulk at office supply store: do not buy those that have holes through the main section of the page protector. You want the ones with holes through the a band on the margin.
Scotch Double Sided Tape 1/2" wide	enough to total 50 yards of tape
masking tape	
stapler plus extra staples	
20 rubber bands	
Sharpie (permanent marker)	
calculator	

Cutting Tools	
small pair scissors for paper and one for fabric	
rotary cutter	Bring a fresh straight blade as you will cut through numerous layers at once. The large (60 mm) cutters work the best for this. The 45 mm cutters can work but you must have arm strength.
rotary cutting mat	11" x 17" or larger
Quilter's plexiglas ruler	6" x 12" is suggested size. Must be at least 12" long
Optional: June Tailor Shape Cut ruler-- the large size	This is particularly good for weavers and those inexperienced in rotary cutting. Sign up for JoAnn's newsletters and they will send you 40% off coupons. The Shape Cut Ruler WILL NOT WORK for this class unless you have the 60 mm cutter, because of the number of layers we cut.

Plastic Items	
	If you are flying, the cups and orange juice bottle can be obtained at the grocery store after arriving. Check with me first, because if I am driving, I will try to bring extras
15 plastic party cups and 10 plastic picnic spoons	16 oz. Clear cups are nice, but the red Solo cups are fine
one plastic juice bottle	at least 1.5 L in size. Simply Orange, Pure Tea brands work best.
three 6 or 8 oz. squirt bottles	These will hold your dye supply at your table
2 plastic coat hangers	
4-6 clothespins	clean—with no dye on them

Other items	
Straight pins	for use on design wall
Iron and ironing pad, or old terry towel	if you are driving
adhesive lint roller	from the dollar store
rubber gloves	both the loose dishwashing kind that extend up the arm, and the close-fitting latex or nitrile kind
one roll paper towels	if you are driving
two large buckets – 3-5 gallons	if you are driving
one box one gallon ziploc bags	
acid gas respirator	if you are interested in discharge work
apron or old clothes	
Graduated cylinders	if you have some from previous classes, bring your 10, 50, and 100 ml cylinders. I will bring extra cylinders to share.