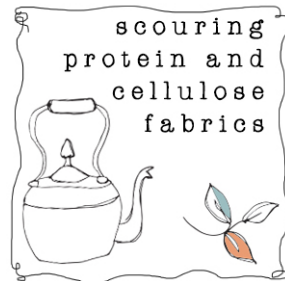




## Scouring & Mordanting Recipes and Methods for Protein and Cellulose Fabrics



### Scouring recipes and methods

#### scouring protein fabrics e.g. wool, silk

##### **For 100g wool:**

- 4 litres water
- 15-30g or 1-2 tablespoons eco dishwashing liquid (dependent on type of wool)

##### **method:**

Stir detergent into warm water, immerse fabric and heat to 140°F/60°C for 2 hours. Rinse with water of the same temperature and repeat with fresh ingredients if water was brown. Rinse thoroughly.

##### **For 100g silk:**

- 4 litres water
- 30-45g or 2-3 tablespoons eco dishwashing liquid (dependent on type of silk)

##### **method:**

Dissolve detergent in warm water. Immerse fabric and heat at a simmer for 30-60 minutes. Rinse thoroughly in warm water.

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#### scouring cellulose fabrics e.g. cotton, linen

##### **For 100g cotton:**

- 4 litres water
- 5g or 1 teaspoon eco dishwashing liquid
- 15g or 1 tablespoon washing soda





**method:**

Dissolve ingredients in warm water. Work in a well ventilated area. Add fabric then bring to the boil for 2 hours. Depending on how brown the water becomes you may need to rinse and repeat with fresh ingredients. Finally, rinse several times until all soap suds have gone.

**For 100g linen:**

- 4 litres water
- 10g or 2 teaspoons dishwashing liquid (eco)
- 15g or 1 tablespoon washing soda

**method:**

Dissolve ingredients in warm water. Work in a well ventilated area. Add fabric then bring to a simmer for 1 hour. Repeat if necessary then rinse thoroughly.



## mordanting recipes and methods

### mordanting protein fabrics e.g. wool, silk

**For 100g wool:**

- 3 litres water
- 10g or 2 teaspoons alum (potassium aluminium sulphate)
- 5g or 1 teaspoon cream of tartar

**method:**

Dissolve alum in hot water. When dissolved, add cream of tartar and stir until dissolved. Add your scoured, wet fabric and heat slowly to a simmer of about 200°F/93°C. Keep at this temperature for 1 hour turning occasionally. Allow material to cool and soak overnight before rinsing thoroughly.



**For 100g silk:**

- 3 litres water
- 10g or 2 teaspoons alum (potassium aluminium sulphate)

**method:**

Dissolve alum in hot water. Add to 3 litres hot water and stir. Immerse scoured, wet fabric and stir well for several minutes, bring to a simmer for one hour stirring every 15 minutes before leaving to soak overnight. Rinse thoroughly.

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**mordanting cellulose fabrics e.g. cotton, linen****For 100g cotton/linen etc:**

- 3 litres water
- 8g aluminium acetate
- 25g calcium carbonate

**method:**

Dissolve aluminium acetate in hot water and add to 3 litres of water. Immerse fabric and bring to a simmer for one hour. Rinse thoroughly, then dissolve 25g calcium carbonate in hot water and to 3 litres of fresh hot water. Immerse fabric and soak thoroughly before rinsing.



Much like cookery, different chefs have different recipes and you'll find many options when researching mordanting methods too. These recipes are taken from '[The Art and Craft of Natural Dyeing](#)' by J.N. Liles, a well respected dyer who conducted thorough research into the efficacy of his recipes.

