

Brenda Gael Smith is happy to share the following tutorial

Serendipity Shibori #2: Folding Resists



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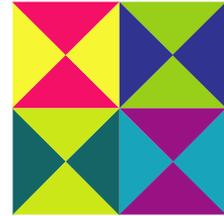
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Introduction to Shibori Dyeing Tutorial #2: Folding Resists

Simple fabric folding creates an extremely effective resist with serendipitous results. Different patterns are achieved depending how you fold the fabric; whether you dip or soak the fabric in the dye solutions; and whether you apply the dyes to wet or dry fabric. It's a very versatile technique!



Ice Crystals



Radiance

You will need:

- PFD (prepared for dyeing) cotton fabric OR light coloured cotton fabric that has been washed in hot water ready for overdyeing
- Soda ash solution*
- Procion dye solution(s)*
- Plastic bucket
- Plastic containers for dyeing
- Rubber bands (optional)
- Rubber gloves
- Flat waterproof surface suitable for laying out and folding fabric that is damp with soda ash solution



* Basic instructions for preparing soda ash and dye solutions can be found at the end of **Shibori Tutorial #1: Karamatsu**: <http://serendipitypatchwork.com.au/PDF/shiboriNo1.pdf>

Step 1: Soda Ash Presoak

- Tear your cotton fabric into pieces of desired size (eg 20 x 20in)
- Loosely pack the fabric pieces into a bucket.
- Pour soda ash solution over the fabric.
- Stir and leave to soak well for 5-15 minutes.
- Squeeze the fabric to remove excess soda solution and place the treated fabric in a separate container.
- Pour all the leftover soda solution back into your storage bottle (it can be reused).
- Keep the fabric moist OR allow to dry completely before making the folds.

Alternatively, you can fold and iron your fabrics and THEN soak the folded fabric in soda ash solution. Ensure the soda ash penetrates all layers or dye will wash out.

Step 2: Fold the Fabric

A selection of folding techniques is set out below. To achieve more even pattern coverage, fold fabric in a way that maximizes the number of layers and surface that are visible on the exterior of the folded shape.



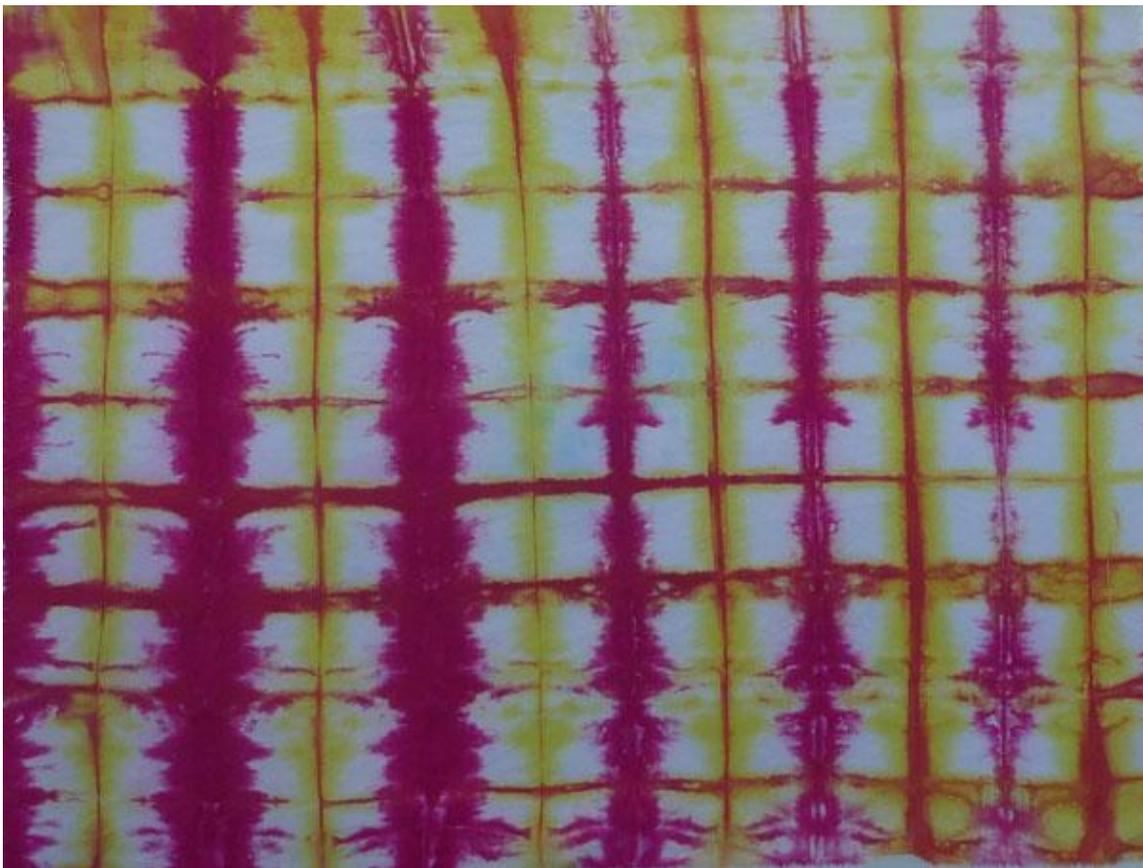
Step 3: Dyeing

- Pour some dye solution into the bottom of a container so that it just covers the bottom and dip the edges of the folded fabric into the dye. This approach leaves areas of white (or background cover).
- Alternatively, squirt or pour dye solution(s) over the soda ash-soaked fabric to penetrate through all layers and minimize the amount of white/background.
- Leave to batch for at least two hours but preferably overnight.
- Pour off excess dye into the sink – this dye is exhausted and CANNOT be reused.



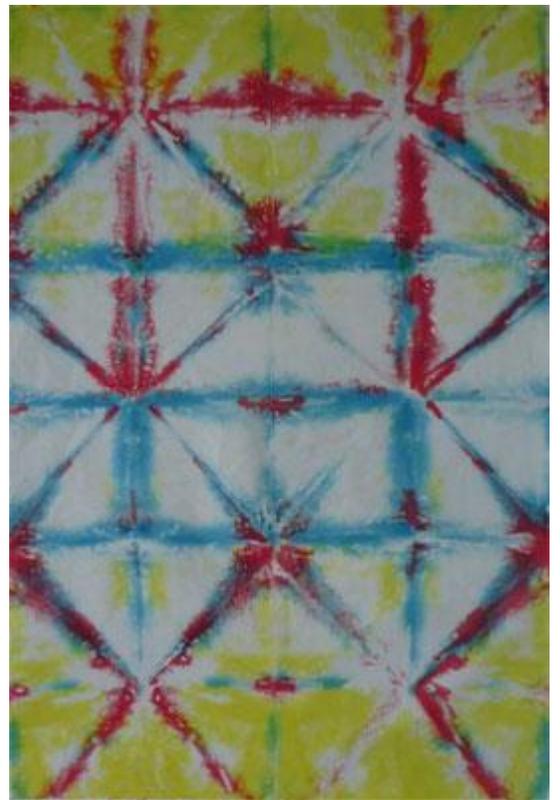
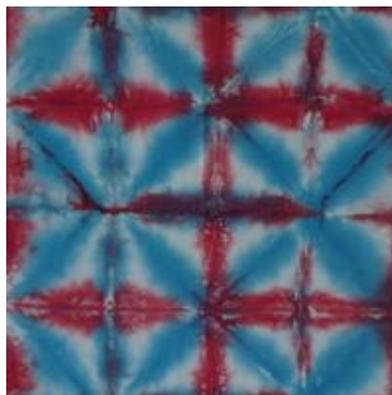
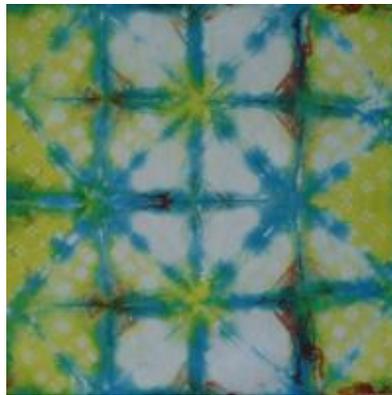
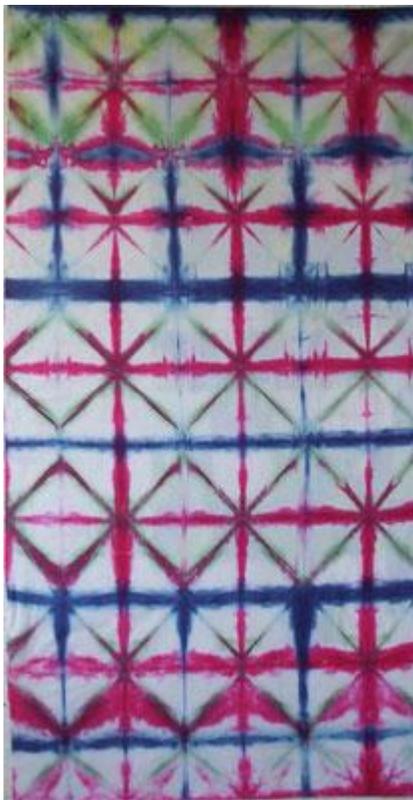
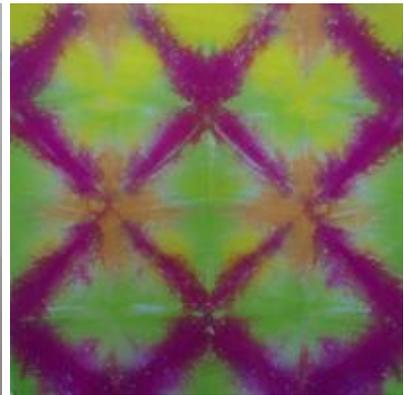
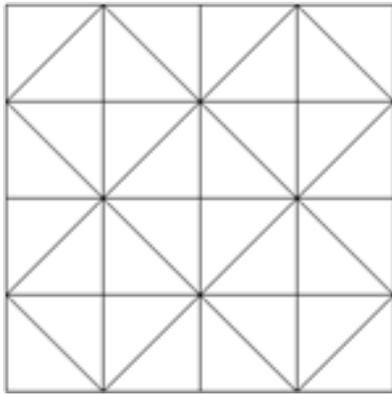
Concertina scroll secured with rubber band

Square Folding



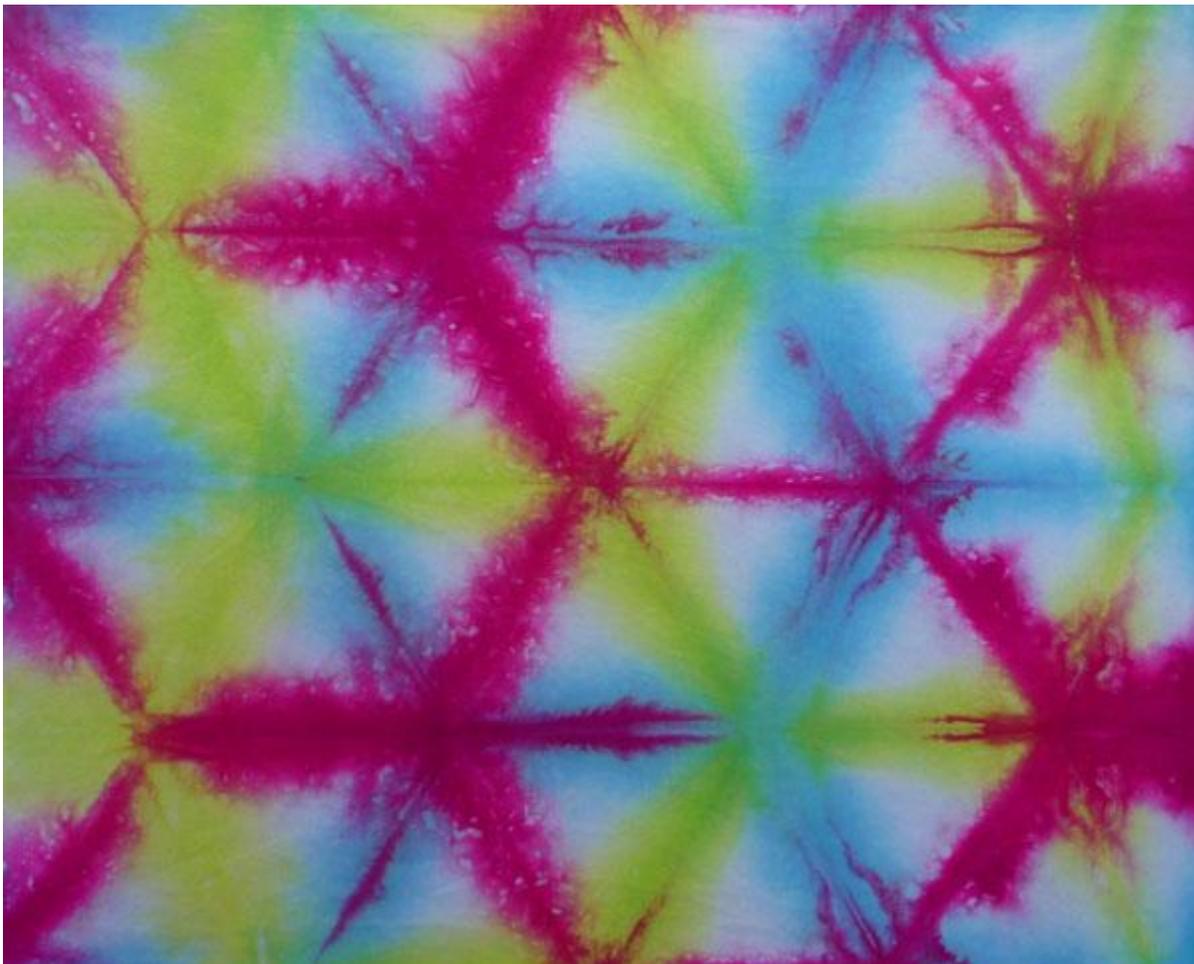
Triangle Folding

Right-angle triangle folds create a square and diamond pattern.



Triangle Folding – Hexagon Variation

An equilateral triangle (60° angles) creates a hexagonal star pattern.



Step 4: Rinse, wash & iron

- It is more efficient to wash small pieces of fabric by hand but, if you have a large shibori batch, consider using a washing machine on a low water level.
- Start with a cold water rinse and end with hot water (a dash of dishwashing detergent is optional).
- Ensure that the water runs clear at the end of the rinsing and washing process.
- Dry, iron and admire!

