

MAKERS MANUAL #50

Esmée Dros



CYANO-TOWEL

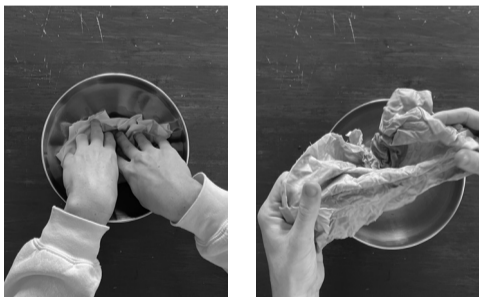
INTRODUCTION

In this manual you will learn a technique called: cyanotype. It's a very fun and easy technique where you can photograph patterns in fabric or paper. With this manual you are going to make kitchen towels. You can use anything from your kitchen or home to make any pattern you like!

For one towel I used round lids, for the other dried pepper, lemon, and Peruvian groundcherry. In the end you will have a homemade funky blue-white patterned kitchen towel.

STEP 1

Before you start your project, make sure that you have the right materials. For this project I used the Jacquard A+B Component. Each bottle has pre-made powder in it. Fill the bottles with water, and shake them. For the best results, do this a day before and let it rest for 24 hours.



STEP 2

Before soaking your towel in the cyanotype component, make a lay-out of how you want your pattern to look like. When the A+B components are mixed, the uv process starts and you have to be quick. That's why you want to have your design sketch ready.



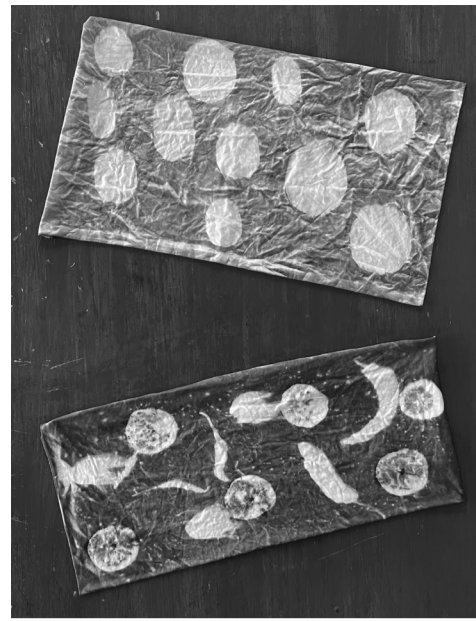
STEP 3

Then you mix the A+B components 50/50 in your mixbowl. I used 3 tablespoons of each for 1 towel.

Quickly stir and and put the towel in the emulsion. You can soak your towel completely or use a brush if you only want parts of it to be covered.

STEP 4

When your towel is covered with the green emulsion, lay it out on your tray and start putting your sketch on there. Do this as quick as possible.



LIST OF THINGS

MATERIALS

- The cyanotype Jacquard A+B Component kit

TOOLS

- Old kitchen towel (white/ light fabric)
- Mixing bowl
- Table spoon
- Bucket with water
- Brush (not necessarily required)
- Natural daylight (the sunnier the better)
- Anything you want to make a pattern with: cutlery, fresh herbs, popcorn, fruit, bottles, etc.
- A flat tray or cardboard to move the towel from inside to outside

BIO OF THE DESIGNER

My name is Esmée Dros (she/her) and I am a graphic designer working in Rotterdam. In my practice I let fun and curiosity be my methodology. Its core is built around the three concepts of spaces, stages, and shapes. Besides my own practice, I also work as a designer, educator and tour-guide at the New Institute.

FURTHER READING

When you pursue the jacquard cyanotype A+B kit, you will find a lot of other tips, methods and tutorials. When you dive into cyanotype it can become very technical and detailed. This manual is only to introduce you to the technique and hopefully make you enthusiastic to learn more about cyanotype!

Makers Manual is a collaborative project between exciting makers and STORE STORE. This is a collection of manuals encouraging people to make objects from what is around them. These manuals are both a practical guide to making for beginners and experts, and a journey into the designers' practice. You can share your creations using #makersmanual.

This project is supported by G.F Smith.

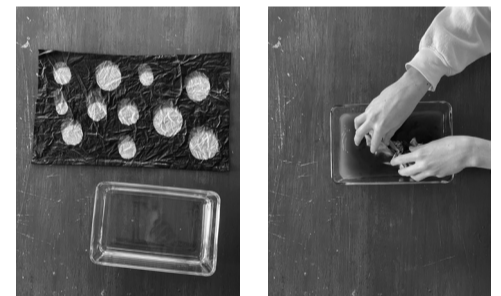
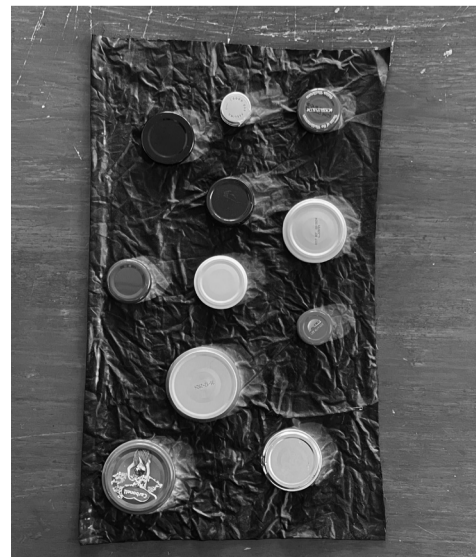
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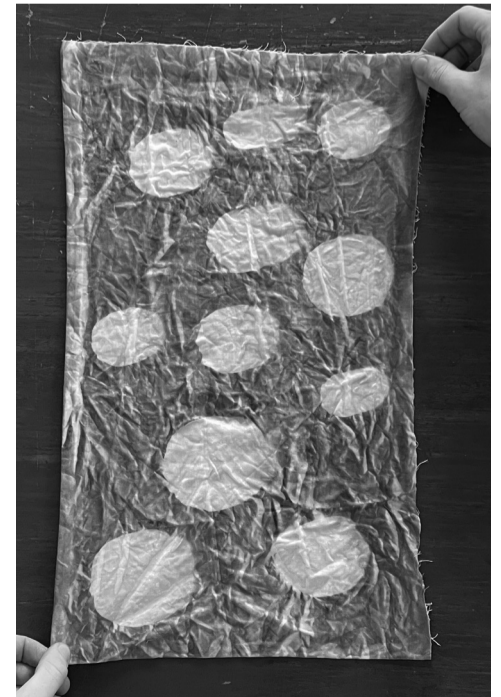
STEP 5

When your pattern is ready, go outside with your tray and let the sun do its magic. You will see pretty quickly that the green fabric starts getting darker and darker. Exposure time depends on how sunny it is. The sunnier the shorter, but I would say between 5 to 20 minutes.



STEP 6

When the towel is dark blue, it's time to go back inside. Remove your objects and put your towel in a bucket of water. Make sure all the emulsion is out by washing it. Refresh the water 2-3 times to be completely sure.



STEP 7

Let your towel dry and voila! Now you have your selfmade cyano-towel. These towels are also laundry proof, so wash them once before you use them in the kitchen.

