





## Using synthetic dyes Chooser Chart

Until you have gained a lot of experience using natural dyes, dyeing can be a bit of a hit or miss affair. It is an interesting area for investigation, but it does take a lot of time to ensure consistently good results. You can overcome this problem by using synthetic dyes, which have proven and reliable performance. The Dylon range of dyes can be used easily in schools. They work well for both yarns and fabrics. The table below summarizes the types available.

Dye	Method	Fixing agent	Suitable fibres
Dylon machine dye 	Place in automatic front-loading washing machine	salt	cotton, linen, viscose with lighter shades on polyester mixtures
Dylon hand dye 	Use hottest tap water and agitate in dye bath	salt	cotton, linen, viscose with lighter shades on wool, silk, cotton/ polyester mixtures
Dylon multipurpose dye 	Agitate and simmer in dye bath Special instructions for wool	salt	cotton, linen, viscose, wool, silk, nylon and elastomeric
Dylon cold water dye 	Agitate in cold water dye bath	salt plus cold fix	cotton, linen, viscose with lighter shades on wool and silk

*Remember - These dyes will stain your skin and clothes so always wear rubber gloves and an old apron. Also take care when handling hot water.*