



FUSTICWOOD SHAVINGS Natural Dye

ORIGIN	The trees from which this dyestuff has been harvested grow wild in the Caribbean island of the Dominican Republic. No tree is cut down for the harvest: only a large side branch is taken. All heartwood from the center of this branch is cleaned and shaved by hand. All sales of this dyewood benefit the harvesters, who are some of the few remaining descendants of the original Taino peoples of that island.
FIBERS	Dyes brilliantly on all natural fibers.
FASTNESS	Excellent fastness to light, good fastness to washing.
HOW MUCH TO USE	Use 6% to 25% per weight of wool (depending on desired intensity) Use 25% - 50% per weight of silk, hemp, or cotton (depending on desired intensity)
MORDANTS /FIXERS/ ASSISTS	Alum gives yellow and Tin gives “aurora”. Both Copper and Iron give a soft green and can be used after to modify the color. Fustic is also a “substantive dye”, meaning you can dye a permanent color without using <i>any</i> mordant/fixer! We call this color “therapeutic yellow”. It is not quite as permanent as colors produced with a fixer, but it will stay bright for many years.
HOW TO EXTRACT	Soak overnight. Add water three times the volume of the shavings. Bring to a boil and boil for 20 minutes. Strain and save the liquid. Continue to re-boil the dyestuff with more water and add this liquid to the dyebath. Repeat up to five times until there is no additional dye being extracted.
HOW TO DYE	Add your fiber to the dyepot and allow one hour for the deepest colors.
DISPOSAL	The dyebath does not keep well for more than a week, so make sure to use up quickly before disposing of it. Add the spent dyestuff to your compost bin or spread around the base of plants.
CARE	Handwash, use a mild soap such as Dr. Bronner’s. For reds, wash separately the first few washes as there may be some bleeding. <u>Do not soak.</u>

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