

FAMILY FUNSPOT AUGUST | Tie Dye Beach Towels

Materials:

- White cotton towel
- Rubber bands
- Plastic squeeze bottles
- Liquid dye (we used two colors from Rit's liquid dye product line)
- Rit Colorstay fixative
- Metal fork
- Water
- Plastic wrap
- Disposable plastic gloves
- Waterproof covering for your work surface (we used a plastic tablecloth from the Dollar Store)

Directions:

Place the waterproof covering on top of your work surface. You can work on a table or on the ground. We chose to work on a concrete patio, because being outside seemed best, as this is a messy activity!

Speaking of mess—be sure to protect little hands with disposable plastic gloves before you begin.

Mix your dye in the squeeze bottles. Follow the instructions on the back of the RIT dye bottle for mixing instructions (this step is very important). After shaking the dyes to thoroughly mix the water and dye, set them aside until ready for use.

Lay your towel flat on the work surface and smooth it out.

Take a fork and set it in the middle of towel and slowly spin the fabric—it will be like swirling a forkful of spaghetti! Keep twisting until the towel is wound into a bundle.

Once the bundle is spun tightly, grab your rubber bands, and bind the towel. The rubber bands will hold the folds in place when you apply the dyes.

Next comes the fun (messy) part! Take the squeeze bottles and squirt the dye onto the towel.

Once you have saturated the towel with dye, wrap up the bundle in plastic wrap and let it sit overnight—12 hours are about right to get the best results.

Next, get ready for the surprise!

Glove up and remove the rubber bands and slowly unwrap the towel.

Lastly, add 8 tablespoons of the Rit Colorstay fixative to a bucket or sink filled with hot water. Immerse the towel in the bucket and let it soak, stirring occasionally for 20 minutes. Then rinse the towel separately in cold water until the water runs clear. Follow this up by washing separately in the machine with detergent and cold water before use.