



girl scouts
of eastern washington
and northern idaho

SHARPIE TIE DYE

Sharpie markers contain permanent ink, which will not wash away with water. Permanent ink is hydrophobic, meaning it is not soluble in water. However, the molecules of ink are soluble in another solvent called rubbing alcohol. This solvent carries the different colors of ink with it as it spreads in a circular pattern from the center of your fabric. So, as the fabric absorbs the alcohol, the alcohol picks up the ink - creating a Sharpie Tie Dye masterpiece!

Directions: Place the plastic cup inside the middle of the fabric. Stretch a rubber band over the fabric and cup to secure the fabric in place. In the center of the stretched out fabric, doodle dots or circles of ink with one marker in a circular pattern about the size of a quarter. If you like, use another color marker to fill in spaces in between the first dots. Then, slowly squeeze a few drops of rubbing alcohol into the center of the circle of dots, allowing the molecules of ink to spread outward from the center. As the rubbing alcohol absorbs into the fabric, the ink spreads in a circular pattern. The result is a beautiful flower-like pattern. Apply as much or as little rubbing alcohol as desired, but do not let the pattern spread beyond the edges of the cup. Allow 3-5 minutes to dry. Use your colorful fabric as a towel, bracelet, or headband. Next, try creating a tie dye shirt!



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The learning pyramid shows that people retain about 5% of information by hearing about it, 10% by reading about it, 30% by seeing it, and 75% by doing it themselves. When kids get their hands on exciting activities, it can inspire them to learn.

77% of girls say that, because of Girl Scouts, they are considering a career in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, & Mathematics).



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