

### **Dye Pad Tips Helpful Hints to Dye**

When tackling an area that has changed color remember that this may simply be a PH color change. So if you used a tannin formula then neutralize with a protein formula, and vice versa. However, if the area has turned white you can assume color loss has happened. If the color loss is the result of chlorine bleach it is very important to neutralize the chlorine with Sodium Bisulfite or Acetic Acid (see the Bleaches Page for mixtures). If you don't do this first, the chlorine will continue to bleach out the dye as you add it.

#### **Now into dying :**

Prepare the area of the garment to be worked on, clean, dry, flat.

Protect the surface you are working on with a towel.

Make sure the dye pad is properly moistened.

(If not follow the instructions on the inside cover.)

If a single solid color is needed on a large area simply gently apply the pad to the color loss area. Pushing harder to get a deeper color.

(If you go too dark or the wrong shade simply dryclean the dye out. The dye doesn't set until you press it in.)

NOTE: This step should always be done after the area has dried and with a protective cloth below and above the dyed area to protect the press pad and grid plate cover from discoloration.

If a blend is needed use a "Color Wheel" (which you can purchase from any artist's supply store for about \$5.00) to learn what colors to blend.

Always apply the lighter pad first, so the darker colors don't contaminate the lighter pads.

Better still use the plain white pads from the Fashion Dye Pads as the blending medium (cheesecloth will also work). Wet the plain pad with the same formula for replenishing the regular pads. Then blend lighter to darker and apply to the color loss area as in step (d.).

(Dryclean this pad when done to restore to white.)

For very fine work do the same as above with a Q-Tip.

Use very small amounts of colorless chapstick to create a barrier between two colors on tight multicolor areas to protect the other colors.

Use the plain white pad (wet out as in step (g.)) to soften edges and blend in new dye to old. This step also works on very mildly affected areas all by itself sometimes.