

3-D Watercolor Nuno Kimono

Materials and Supplies List

This *Materials and Supplies List* is for creating a nuno felted kimono which will feature 3-D surface design effects. The garment will be felted and then colour will be hand painted on with dye. During the layout, you will use mostly un-dyed fibre and fabric, with a small amount of coloured fabric and fibre for embellishment (as seen in the photo below).

NOTE: The amounts given are estimates of the amount needed for the project. Actual amounts used may vary due to individual preferences.

BASE FABRIC

NOTE: Momme (pronounced “mommy” and abbreviated “mm”) is used to express the weight of silk. It is determined by the weight (in pounds) of a sample of the material measuring 45 inches by 100 yards. For example, a 100 yds. of 4.5 mm 45” wide silk gauze would weigh 4.5 lbs. The higher the momme, the heavier and stronger the fabric.

4.5 mm silk gauze for the base fabric, 6 yards, un-dyed. For a light and gauzy effect, I recommend a 4.5 mm silk gauze. Chiffon will work as well, but will give a heavier appearance.

WOOL

Wool, 8 oz. (227 grams) un-dyed merino wool, superfine (approx. 19 micron) will work best for the instructions given in this course, Coarser merino will take longer to migrate through the fabric.

NOTE: The amount of time recommended for felting in the dryer in this course is based on using a 19.8 micron wool. Finer wools may need less time, coarser wools may need more.

NOTE: The measurement of the diameter of wool fibre is expressed in microns (μm or micrometre). According to Australian Wool Classing, micron count ranges from:

- <17.5 microns - Ultrafine merino
- 17.6-18.5 microns - Superfine merino
- <19.5 microns- Fine merino (also interchangeably called Extra Fine merino)
- 19.6-20.5 microns - Fine medium merino
- 20.6-22.5 microns - Medium merino
- 22.6-<24 microns - Strong merino

Dharma Trading labels 19.8 merino as "superfine." This wool is suitable and will felt according to the timeframes described in this course.

FABRIC FOR EMBELLISHMENT

3.0 mm and/or 4.5 mm silk gauze, 2 yards (or metres), un-dyed. For making rosettes, blossoms, leaves, or abstract ruffles. Either weight of silk gauze can be used for the 3-D effects. The 3.0 mm gives a softer, more subtle effect in flowers and ruffles, the 4.5 is more prominent. (I started out using the 3.0 mm gauze in all my projects, but now prefer the bolder results of the 4.5 mm silk.)

Small amounts of dyed silk gauze can be used to create coloured leaves and shapes for contrast as shown in the photo. A 24" x 24" (60 cm x 60 cm) square of dyed fabric should be sufficient. This amount of fabric can also be divided into smaller pieces of different colours.



Coloured silk gauze, habotai and mulberry silk roving are added for contrast in a wrap that will be felted and then hand-painted.

FIBRE FOR EMBELLISHMENT

5.0 mm silk habotai
(also known as China silk),

1.5 yards (or metres), un-dyed dyed for making rosettes, blossoms, or "bark." Small amounts of dyed fabric can be used to embellish with coloured leaves and shapes for contrast as shown in the photo. A 24" x 24" (60 cm x 60 cm) square of dyed fabric should be sufficient. This amount of fabric can also be divided into smaller pieces of different colours.

NOTE: Mulberry, Bombyx, Cultivated or Tussah silk, soy or milk fibres are protein fibres and will be dyed by acid dyes. Bamboo, banana, pineapple, linen or other plant fibres are composed of cellulose and will be unaffected by acid dyes.

FIBRE FOR EMBELLISHMENT, continued

Silk roving or other fibre, 2 oz. (57 grams), dyed and un-dyed, adds colour, and shimmer and contrast.

Silk yarn, 2 oz. (57 grams), dyed and un-dyed. This is optional but creates a nice impact. A similar effect may be obtained by using strands of un-spun mulberry silk roving. Optional.

EQUIPMENT & SUPPLIES

2 tables, at least 6' ft. long, to be placed side by side.

8 table leg extenders, optional, but may save your back from strain. Lengths of PVC pipe can be cut and slipped over the table legs to raise the height.

Plastic sheets, 2 mm painter's drop cloth, clear plastic, you need 3 pieces, 48" x 82" each. One piece of plastic goes under your project, one goes on top, and one will be used as a resist between layers. There should be leftover plastic that can be used for the sleeves and collar.

Spray bottle, for water, should be able to spray a mist.

Scissors

Measuring tape

Blue Chalk pencil, for marking neckline

Long straight pins, also known as quilting pins.

Plastic dishpan, to be used in fulling and ideally, it will fit in your microwave so it can be used for the heat setting process. Don't worry if it doesn't fit, you can wrap the project in plastic and place it inside the microwave (make sure it can "breathe and allow steam to escape).

Small plastic tub or bucket, 1 qt. yogurt size or 1 gal. ice cream tub would suffice, for holding soapy water and citric acid.

Ball brause(r) or sprinkling device, you can use a small watering can or pump sprayer, or a plastic bottle with holes poked in the top, a detergent bottle works well. It should deliver a gentle steady sprinkle of soapy water to your project.

Old towels, 3 or 4 large. However, 2 "Sham Wow," or other artificial chamois, are extra absorbent and could replace 2 of the towels.

Soap, any soap will do, but I prefer olive oil or goat's milk soap, due to the fact they are low sudsing and gentler on skin. I let a bar of soap dissolve in a small tub of water until it forms a gel and then use spoonfuls of gel as needed for making a soapy water solution. I use approximately 2 heaping spoonfuls of soap gel in a gallon of water to make a soapy water solution. I use a solid bar for soaping my hands when fulling.

Wide bubble wrap, for fulling, not rolling, needs to be at least 24" wide x 30" long. Two narrow pieces of bubble wrap can be taped together using packaging or duct tape.

EQUIPMENT & SUPPLIES, continued

Ties: can consist of panty hose legs, strips of fabric, large elastics, etc. My preferred ties consist of green "garden velcro," the same type used to secure garden plants. Available at Home Depot (not Lowes) in the US. In Canada, at Canadian Tire. May possibly be found at other garden centres.

NOTE: In addition to using ties, you can slip your project into a nylon panty hose leg, which has been cut from the panty hose. (Thicker, heavier material from tights lasts longer.) Secure the exterior of the panty-hose encased roll to keep the roll from slipping to the bottom (I've seen this happen with unsecured rolls). Tie a slip knot on the open end of the pantyhose. This method works very well and gives added security to your piece as it tumbles.

Hot water source, use an electric kettle, microwave or a pot on the stove to get water hotter than the tap.

Clothing dryer, to tumble the project, replaces rolling, use the air fluff or a "no heat" cycle.

Sink, for rinsing

DYEING EQUIPMENT & SUPPLIES

NOTE: items used for dyeing should not be used for food preparation afterward.

Microwave, For heat setting the dyes. Alternatively, the project can be steamed for 1 hour in a steamer basket in a pot.

White vinegar or citric acid, 1 qt. or liter of vinegar, or 50 grams of citric acid.

NOTE: 5% household vinegar will be diluted 50% when used for dyeing to create a 2.5% acid solution. To dilute, add 1 cup vinegar to 1 cup water to make 2 cups of a 2.5% solution.

If you have hard water, or are dyeing dark colours, you will need a stronger vinegar solution. In this case, dilute the vinegar by only 25%, by adding 1½ cups of vinegar to ½ cup water.

If you would prefer to use citric acid solution instead of vinegar, mix:

16 teaspoons of citric acid powder in 1 gallon of hot water, or
100 grams of citric acid powder in 4 litres of hot water

This makes a 2.5% acid solution. For hard water, or dark colors, mix 120 grams of citric acid powder with 4 litres of hot water. Hot water dissolves the citric acid crystals, the solution may be used cold.

DYEING EQUIPMENT & SUPPLIES, continued

Acid dyes, You are welcome to use what you have as long as you have experience with that particular dye. Dyes requiring soda ash cannot be used on wool. I have always used Jacquard acid dyes and know the idiosyncrasies of the individual (primary) colors. Have also used Sabraset. I am not able to advise on other dyes. I usually purchase Jacquard's primary colours: Red, Pink, Sky Blue Yellow and Turquoise, plus the compound mixtures, Silver Gray and Black. The 1/2 oz. bottles will be sufficient for this project, but if you plan to continue dyeing after you are finished with this course, consider ordering larger sizes.

Plastic apron or protective clothing

Protective gloves

Protective mask, To wear when mixing dyes

Plastic cups for holding dyes, 6-10, I like to use old cottage cheese and yogurt tubs. Solo cups will work also, but may melt or shrink when heated in the microwave.

Plastic spoons for mixing dyes

Brushes, 2"-3" inexpensive, any type of bristle. Will need 2-6 or use one and keep rinsing it out. A **half inch brush** for details is useful.

Empty Plastic Water bottles, 5-12 bottles, 500 ml size for storing stock solutions and leftover dyes. I prefer the heavier bottles (Dasani, for example) that don't crush as easily as thin bottles. **Note:** Pour cooled dye solution into plastic bottles. Hot dyes will likely cause the plastic to shrink, causing your filled bottle to overflow as the bottle decreases in size. (This has happened to me!)

Funnel, for transferring dye or other liquids from cups to bottles

WEAR: old clothing and shoes. You may get a little wet. Sometimes the runoff water has a very slight amount of dye in it. This dye is supposed to wash out of clothing made from plant fibres and adhere to silk, wool and nylon only, but there is no guarantee it won't stain your favourite jeans or sweater!

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