

## Mordanting Cellulose Fiber (cotton/linen etc.)

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You need:

Your fiber/yarn/fabric/clothing

Detergent (preferably pH neutral)

Aluminum Acetate (NOT Aluminum Sulfate)

Wheat Bran

There are many recipes for mordanting anything. I used the instructions in this video for mordanting on cotton and linen and it turned out very well. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Fyz1rlkv9NI>

### 1. Measure

Weigh the fibers (when dry). You will need 10% of the Weight of Fiber (WOF) of aluminum acetate, and 5% of WOF of wheat bran.

### 2. Clean the cellulose material

Clean the textile using a pH neutral detergent. (I have been using a detergent called Synthrapol.)

### 3. Put water and alum in a pot

Put the aluminum acetate in a bowl/jar. Add a little bit of boiling water. Mix until dissolved.

Use a pot big enough to allow your textiles to move around in the pot. Fill with warm water (110-120f, hot bath temperature), put the alum in it, stir well. Add fibers. Leave it in for 45 mins.

Put the pot on low to keep the temp at 110-120f. Or if the room is warm it might stay at that temperature without putting it on the stove.

### 4. Make a wheat bran "tea"

Put your amount of wheat bran in a cheesecloth, laundry or nut milk mesh bag. Fill a pot or bucket with warm (110-120f) water, put the wheat bran bag in it. Let steep for 30 mins. Remove the "bran tea bag"

### 5. Put the textiles into the bran tea.

Stir the fiber in the bath. Soak for 30 mins.

### 6. Rinse the fabric.

In the video linked above, the fabric is not rinsed. I am concerned loose aluminum acetate will float around in the dye pot stealing dye, so I rinsed the fabric and it still works well.

### 7. Dye or dry

You can now dye the textiles or let them dry until you are ready to use them.