

Dyeing with Western Jack-o'-Lantern Mushroom (*Omphalotus olivascens*)



Colors: mossy greens, grays, purples

Mushroom: *Omphalotus olivascens* (The mushroom is toxic so avoid getting it on skin.)

Textiles:

Mordanted with alum (pre-mordanted): Wool, Silk and Cotton (for the acidic jar)

Mordanted with iron (will mordant in class): Wool, Silk and Cotton (for the alkaline jar)

Modifiers: Citric Acid (Acidic), Soda Ash (Alkaline)

Other useful stuff: PH-paper, rubber gloves

We will use two pots with mushrooms and water. We will add citric acid to make one dye bath acidic (PH 4-5), and add soda ash to the other one to make it alkaline (PH 8-9)

The dye pots will be simmering at around 180 F until the mushrooms have released their dye around 30 to 60 mins or so.

We will then strain the dye from the mushrooms and put it back into the pots.

We will then put the fibers into the pots and watch. If the fabric is in too long it will get more gray and muddy. 20-30 mins is probably enough for the acidic / purple gray bath. Maybe a bit longer in the alkaline / green 30-40 mins.

Rinse, or if possible, let dry for 24 hours then rinse. Dry out of sunlight.