



Henna

Henna dye powder comes from the dried, ground leaves of a shrub called *Lawsonia inermis*. These produce browns to tending red-oranges. Henna bonds very well with protein (skin, hair, fingernails, leather, silk and wool). Colour yield on cellulose is a lot paler.

Mordanting

- Protein fibres: mordant with Alum at 15% WOF
- Cellulose fabrics: mordant with tannin at 8% WOF and then alum at 15% WOF

Dyeing

- Dissolve the powder in hot water – use 50% WOF on mordanted fibres, for rich browns/red oranges on protein fibres and coffee colours on cellulose fibres.
- Add to the dyebath and simmer until the desired colour is obtained – approximately 1-2 hours.
- If you use Iron at 2-4% of the WOF you can slightly deepen and enrich the brown colour.
- Altering the pH of the henna dyebath won't change the colour.
- Rinse well in warm water.