

## Liquid Radiance Fabric/Fibre Dyeing Comparison Chart

PROCESS	LIQUID RADIANCE	ACRYLIC PAINTS	PROCION DYES
<b>DO I NEED TO PRE WASH FABRIC?</b>	✓	x	✓
<b>DO I NEED TO MORDANT FABRIC</b>	x	x	✓ Mordant with soda ash
<b>CAN I USE WET OR DRY FABRIC?</b>	✓✓	✓✓	✓
<b>IS PROTECTIVE CLOTHING REQUIRED?</b>	x Latex gloves and apron optional. No powder mixing required	x Protective clothing optional for using tube paints	✓ Latex gloves and P2 mask should be worn when mixing dye powders and soda ash. Apron advised.
<b>CAN I DYE ANY FABRICS AND FIBRES?</b>	✓ Yes providing they're water absorbent	✓ Yes, but they will end up stiff	x No, natural fibres only or poly/cotton blends if mostly cotton.
<b>DO I HAVE TO BATCH THE FABRICS?</b>	✓ <b>“While there’s moisture there’s movement”</b> You need to let the fabric dry completely before heat setting, so it’s permanent. But no other auxiliary chemical is needed to fix the dye.	x No, paint will dry on fabric quite quickly.	✓ Fabrics must not dry out too quickly, while they’re batching, or the dyes won’t fix. Soda ash is needed to help fix the dye.
<b>IS THE DYE COLOURFAST?</b>	✓ Yes, once heat set. Dye is attached permanently to the fabric and will last as long as the fabric. If salt or a resist medium is used - it needs to be washed out first before ironing and some unfixed colour may come out initially.	x Paint only sits on top of fabric in a stiff plastic layer. Not suitable for washing.	✓ Ideally yes, but it needs lots of rinsing to completely remove all excess dye
<b>DOES IT ALTER THE HANDLE OF THE FABRIC/FIBRE?</b>	x No. The fabric will retain its original handle providing excess moisture has been squeezed out when dyeing and will not make the fabric/fibre stiff. It will be stiff if too much LR colour is used and not squeezed out. <b>“ Excess = the enemy”</b>	✓ Yes, conventional acrylic paint will stiffen the fabric – even if it’s thinned.	x No, Procion dyes will not alter the handle of the fabric in any way – even if used as thickened dyes, providing the thickener is completely rinsed out.
<b>IS IT EASY TO MIX UP THE COLOURS?</b>	✓ Yes. Available as liquid concentrates to be watered down to suit applications. Most applications require 1 part colour to 3 parts water. Easy to apply with dispenser bottles.	✓ Yes, use mostly from tubes and mix up colours on palette. Add thinners, reducers or retardants as required.	✓ x Yes and no. Pre-mixed liquid colours available.  If using dye powders, they must be weighed out and mixed with water.