

Batik Fans



Exploring the Batik

- BATIK is a wax dyeing technique of creating designs on cloth, applying wax to a portion of material in order to maintain its original color, dyeing the cloth and then removing the wax. The intricate and laborious process is repeated, sometimes several times to produce unique and beautiful designs.
- The history of Batik can be traced back to 1500 years ago in ancient Egypt and Asia. However, it is most prominently associated with Java, Indonesia.
- It is believed that the word batik is derived from the word Ambatik which translates as “cloth with little dots.” Tik in Javanese means dots.
- Originally considered to be a cloth reserved for royalty, batik material and designs are now popular among people globally.(The image showing authentic batik designs reflect some motifs used by royalty). Most motifs are inspired by natural and beautiful surroundings.

The main items used in the process of creating batik include

- Fabric such as cotton or silk, mostly white or cream.
- Tools known a canting (as seen in the image), or, cap (a carved, metal block stamp, pronounced as “chop”).
- Wax (Mostly bees or paraffin)
- Natural dyes. Prominent colors are yellow/beige, blue and red.



Create your own Batik Fan!



Materials Needed:

- Sheet of white paper (computer paper 8 ½ x11inches works well).
- Templates and design sheets (from Image on slide 4) – Optional
- Pencil, sharpie for drawing
- White crayon, pastel, small candle – any of these that are accessible
- Water colors and brush or Q tip, (if no brush is accessible).
- Diluted food color IF water colors are not accessible
- 3 Popsicle sticks or 3 strips of sturdy paper
- Glue
- Scissors



Directions

- On the sheet of white paper, draw a design of your choice. OR, use the templates and designs provided in the images.
- Outline the design with sharpie – optional
- Firmly apply either the white crayon, candle, pastel in areas you wish to block out from the paint.
- Using little water, spread the water color of your choice carefully across the sheet. You may wish to use more colors, but be careful!
*** The point of interest is to observe how the waxed areas resist the paint when applying water colors over the surface.** The paint seems to sweep over the waxed areas, leaving tiny residue of dots or no trace of color at all.
- Allow the sheet to dry.
- Carefully cut out the fan shape.
- Fold down the middle of the fan shape, then fold each half again to create an accordion effect. (See image of fan).
- Gently flip the fan. Place a popsicle stick (or sturdy strip of paper) at each end of the fan and one in the middle. Make sure the sticks seem to cross over each other. (See image of fan). Apply some glue very carefully! Allow this to dry.
- Re-flip the fan. Optional-Embellish with a bow, or strings etc. to make it look more pretty!
- Optional – retouch the design for special highlight effects
- ENJOY your fan created by the batik concept.

