



Carrefour
Européen
Patchwork

contact@patchwork-europe.eu

+33 (0)3 89 73 53 52

patchwork-europe.eu @ f

RETREAT PRACTICAL SHEET

Cecilia KOPPMANN | Dye to Create

Thank you for your interest in this unique creative experience! In the meantime, please prepare yourself with the following information. When you arrive, please be punctual and allow time for the teacher to settle in. All participants will be called at the beginning of the class.

Please take care of the materials provided by the organization, the classrooms and make sure that your workspace is as you found it.

During the course you may be visited by the event's photo & video teams. They will do their best not to disturb you, but images are important, so please give them a warm welcome. If you do not wish to be filmed or photographed in close-up, please let them know.

You will be given a questionnaire to evaluate the course at the end. Please complete it to ensure the quality of the teaching provided at Carrefour.

We wish you a wonderful experience and a successful workshop!

Practical information

From Sunday, September 21 to Wednesday, September 24, 2025
9 AM – 5 PM | MJC, Rue du Général de Gaulle, 67730 La Vancelle

Presentation & what to expect

Dive into Color: A Unique Creative Journey

The knowledge you will gain in this workshop will enrich your artistic journey, unlocking endless creative possibilities.

Have you ever dreamed of creating the exact shade you envision? Felt the frustration of searching for the perfect color, only to find it doesn't exist on the market? This intensive workshop goes beyond dyeing fabric—it transforms the way you see, understand, and create with color.

"Tell me and I forget, show me and I remember, let me experience and I will understand."

True mastery of color comes from hands-on experience: a single extra drop can completely transform a hue, reveal unexpected undertones, and bring your palette to life.

Over the course of four immersive days, you will explore the fascinating world of textile dyeing and learn how to transform plain white fabric into a burst of customized colors.

What You Will Experience

During these four days, we will live, experiment, and play with color through a rich and dynamic program:

Mornings – A deep dive into color theory, with engaging presentations, the analysis of inspiring quilts and artworks. Each session will end with a live demonstration, where I will reveal my dyeing techniques.

Afternoons – Time for hands-on practice! You will experiment on your own, creating your own hand-dyed fabrics. Guided step by step, you will witness the magic of the process: seeing white fabric transform into a radiant palette, unique and shaped by your personal touch.

This workshop is more than just a learning experience... it's a total immersion in the world of color, an invitation to explore and push the boundaries of your creativity.

Master a Unique Textile Craft

Throughout this workshop, you will learn to master color in all its facets, exploring precise and professional techniques:

Subtle Gradients – Learn how to create seamless transitions between shades to enrich your compositions.

Full Color Wheel in Three Values – Master the creation of primary, secondary, and tertiary colors in three different intensities, for total control over your palette.

Dyeing Deep, Dark Colors – Discover how to achieve rich, intense shades.

Neutralized Colors – Explore the art of composing sophisticated and balanced hues.

By the End of This Workshop, You Will Take Home:

Around 90 hand-dyed fabrics – A true textile treasure, crafted by your hands and creativity.

Valuable Expertise – The knowledge and tools to create your own custom color palettes at home.

The Power to Create the Perfect Hue – No more frustration searching for an impossible-to-find color!

A Signature Style for Your Projects – Your textile creations will carry that distinctive artisanal touch that makes them unique and visually captivating.

Four Days to Explore, Experiment, and Master Color

Each day of this workshop follows a carefully designed program that balances theory and practice, allowing you to progressively explore all aspects of fabric dyeing.

Day 1 – Diving into Color: First Shades and Gradients

Morning: Introduction to color theory and a live demonstration of gradient dyeing, a fundamental technique to modulate and enhance a palette.

Afternoon: Time to experiment! You will create your own gradient-dyed fabrics, playing with saturation and smooth transitions.

Result: Between 6 and 18 fat eighths in subtle shades.

Day 2 – Colors in Motion: From the Color Wheel to the Magic of Shades

Morning: Washing the fabrics dyed the day before to reveal the first results.

A deeper dive into color theory and a demonstration of the color wheel, an essential tool for understanding and composing harmonious palettes.

Afternoon: Creation of your own color wheel, including two intensity variations for each hue.

Result: Between 24 and 36 fat eighths in a vibrant spectrum of colors.

Day 3 – Exploring Depth: Revealing the Intensity of Dark Colors

Morning: Further exploration of color theory and a demonstration of how to dye deep and dark tones, ideal for adding striking contrasts to your compositions.

Afternoon: Experimentation and creation of a dark-toned color wheel.

Result: Between 12 and 24 fat eighths in rich, intense shades.

Day 4 – Achieving Perfect Balance: The Art of Neutral Colors

Morning: Introduction to crossing the color wheel, a fascinating technique that creates sophisticated neutral shades by blending complementary colors.

Afternoon: Hands-on practice to develop your own neutral tones, exploring the subtlety of mixing to achieve delicate, balanced hues.

Result: Between 8 and 24 fat eighths in refined, muted tones.

At the end of these four days, you will leave with a unique collection of hand-dyed fabrics, along with the knowledge and techniques to create infinite palettes according to your inspirations and artistic vision.

For the class, please bring:

Fabric needs:

100% white cotton fabric washed without fabric softener and cut into FAT EIGHTHS.

What is a fat eighth?

It's a meter (or yard) of fabric cut in half along the width and then into four equal parts. This results in 8 pieces of approximately 25 x 50 cm for each meter or yard. So, a fat eighth is half of a fat quarter.

- A minimum of 50 fat eighths** (about 7 meters of fabric) and a maximum of 98 fat eighths (about 13 meters of fabric) are required.

Other material needs:

MANDATORY KIT: 45€

- 2oz (0,6cl) magenta, red or fuchsia dye
- 2oz (0,6cl) yellow dye
- 2oz (0, 6cl) cyan, blue or turquoise dye
- 2oz (0, 6cl) black dye
- 500g de sodium carbonate

As they are hard to find in Europe, 25 kits with dyes and sodium carbonate have been prepared by Cecilia & Au Fil d'Emma (vendor). They will be waiting for you at the Au Fil d'Emma stand in the vendor area (Sainte-Marie-aux-Mines) for 45€ / kit. **Pick up your kit from Thursday to Saturday.** If you are unable to visit the booth, please inform us by e-mail at contact@patchwork-europe.eu before Monday, September 15.

Apart from the kit, please bring:

- 1 package of coarse salt
- 4 glass jars of 0.50L with lids

- 5 plastic teaspoons
- 1 plastic water jug of 1L (can be a bottle)
- 1 roll of kitchen paper
- 1 cloth to dry hands
- Rubber gloves
- An apron
- Approximately 100 small watertight plastic bags (such as freezer bags or supermarket produce bags) for storing dyed fabrics
- 12 Tupperware-type containers of min.15 cm in size. All shapes are okay, as long as you can put your hand in it and stir well. If they are disposable, bring more in case they break.