

Dyeing

Category Rules

The category is for entries that consist of a quantity of natural fiber (wool, silk, cotton, linen, mohair, etc.), either as loose unspun fiber, spun yarn, woven fabric, or felted fabric. The dyeing process must be detailed in the documentation. The category does not include dyed leather. Rayon is excluded from entry because even though it is derived from natural material, the process for making it is a modern invention.

Judges should judge entries in natural light if possible.

Research and Documentation (Score: 0-4 points)

- 0 No documentation provided with entry. Face-to-face judging adds very little information.
- 1 Minimal information is provided for time, place and style. Face-to-face judging adds some background information.
- 2 As in #1, generalized sources are given with no emphasis on primary and/or scholarly resources. In face-to-face judging, no further understanding of the resources is evident. Materials and methods of construction of the entry are described.
- 3 As in #2, there is a good balance of resources: primary and/or scholarly sources well supported by other resources. Documentation and/or face-to-face judging provides well developed discussion of research. Materials and methods of construction are described and the reasons for the choices made are discussed.
- 4 As in #3, in-depth and extensive documentation provides a good balance of resources, emphasizing primary (if available) and/or scholarly resources backed up with a significant selection of other resources. Documentation and/or face-to-face judging provide a good explanation of original research and experimentation related to the research. Face-to-face judging indicates a keen grasp of the research and the entrant can discuss it easily with active engagement. Appendices included in documentation (if any) help provide further pertinent information to subject and time period.

Materials and Methods (Score: 0-4 points)

- 0 Entry is completely modern with no relationship to period elements or practices.
- 1 Use of modern materials and methods to produce a work that would not be accepted in period but either bears some relationship to an authentic work or which might be useful within SCA culture. Entry is inconsistent to period, location, and persona (ex: some period elements, but doubtful authenticity of materials, colors, technique, design, or planned use).
- 2 Use of **both** modern materials and methods to produce a work that looks or feels authentic to the time period, location, culture, and economic class for which it was constructed (ex: RIT, Procyon, or Deka dyes).

- 3 Use of **either** modern materials **or** methods to produce a work that looks or feels authentic to the time period, location, culture, and economic class for which it was constructed without explanation of any substituted materials.
- 4 Use of materials and methods entirely documentable to the period for which it was constructed (ex: entrant grew or foraged, harvested, and prepared own dyestuffs with appropriate mordants prepared from raw materials such as dissolving iron filings, nails, or copper wire; or using iron, copper, or bronze kettles on natural fibers); or modern materials are used in a way that does not detract from the appearance and feels appropriate to the persona for whom the item was constructed. Reasons for the substitution are explained in the documentation. Substitutions of modern materials for materials which are no longer readily available will not be penalized so long as an effort has been made to substitute materials with a close appearance to the original.

Scope (Score: 0-6 points for each bullet item)

Rank the **ambition**, not the success, of the entry for each of the following elements.

- Color (variety of collection or uniformity of color over the whole batch of a single color).
- Mordant (consistency of color).
- Dyeing processes (pre-mordant, post-mordant, after baths, top dyes).
- Extent gone to ensure authenticity of techniques used.

Skill (Score: 0-6 points for each bullet item)

How well is the entry made? Rank the **success** of the entry for each of the following elements.

- Color.
- Dyeing process.
- Visual impact (is the finished product pleasing to the judge's eye?).
- Quality of hand (is the feel of the finished product pleasant? Is the natural quality of the fiber or fabric unimpaired or possibly enhanced?)
- Quality of aroma (is the smell of the finished product such that it would not be objectionable if worn as part of a garment?).

Ingenuity (Score: 0-4 points)

Judge the ingenuity of the entry. Was the entrant resourceful and inventive in the approach to creating their entry? Does the entry reflect the entrant's vision of period context? Is original thought, contemplation, interpretation, and vision evident according to the entrant's period?

Judge's Observation (Score: 0-6 points)

Rank the entry as a whole. How well do all the separately judged parts fit together? The entry's overall effect is judged in this section. This is the only section of the criteria where the judges may allow their personality, private opinions, and personal preferences to influence scoring.