

STRIPEY SOCKS

Preparation ...

Cover your work table with an old sheet or large towel. Find an ice cream container (or similar) that you can fit BOTH hands into at the same time. Put some plastic (or a plastic covered board) on your table surface to save the sheet from getting damp with the colours as you work. You might like to wear rubber gloves for this 'dunking' (dipping) technique - preferably disposable gloves as they give better 'feel' for what you are doing. NOTE: If you are doing this with the kids – and it's a brilliant activity for them! – they do not need to wear gloves. Little hands in big gloves can make a really drippy mess !!! Liquid Radiance colours are totally non-toxic and will wash off hands easily with soap and water. You might also like to have a pack of hand wipes or baby wash cloths to wipe children's hands.



You will also need ...

- An egg carton and two drink bottles or cans – any size will 'work' (find a place where bottles will stand securely in the carton ... OR ...
- Two extra-large disposable drink cups

Preparing the Colour Mixture...

You'll need 30 to 60 mls of prepared Liquid Radiance colour (ie diluted with water) to colour a pair of medium thickness adult ankle length socks, but less colour if the socks are thinner, and much less for children's socks! My favourite mix for socks (and many garments too) is a dilution of 1 part LR concentrate to approx 15 or 20 parts water. Put required amount of water

into a laundry scoop or medicine glass and add approx ½ teaspoon of LR concentrate. Dab colour onto white tissue or paper towel (or toilet paper – best known as "craft paper") to check colour strength).

Designing the Socks ... METHOD ...

1. Wet socks and wring out excess water well (or pat in an old towel).
2. Measure LR colour (concentrate and water) into the ice cream container / bowl.
3. With one sock in each hand, press the socks into the colour. First up, they will absorb all of the colour, so squeeze them out and continue dunking / dipping and squeezing until the socks are evenly coloured. Squeeze out any excess colour if the socks feel 'sloppy'.
4. Place each sock on a bottle with the bottle standing in the egg carton to simplify the task. Do one sock at a time so they don't flop around while you're working. Look for a smiley face in the sock when you've stretched it onto the bottle – it will be at the end of the bottle. When using a drink cup, work with the lip of the cup flat on your table.
5. Scrunch the socks along the pole or cup as evenly as you can to form the pattern, securing them at the toe end with a rubber band if necessary. Check the position of the heel – it will be on the opposite side of the sock to the smiley face – just like on a person! Tuck in the floppy bit of the heel.
6. Sit the bottles in an upturned egg carton until socks are dry. Or simply leave the drink cup sock upwards on the table to dry. This could take up to 24 hours depending on the weather and the thickness of the sock.
7. Remove socks from bottles when dry.
8. Iron to heat set. Iron for 1 minute with your iron set on a low heat because of the elastane content in the socks. Flatten the sock so the heel is underneath, as it would be when it is on your foot. Iron the top, then flip it over and iron underneath too.



LIQUID RADIANCE COLOURS WILL NOT COME OUT IN THE WASH. EVEN RED SOCKS WILL NOT LOSE THEIR COLOUR INTO THE WASHING WATER – NO MORE STAINED PINK UNDIES THAT SHOULD HAVE BEEN WHITE !!!

MORE THINGS TO TRY WITH SOCKS:

- ❖ Use marbles and rubber bands before putting the socks on the poles.
- ❖ Try salting socks front and back. Lay flat to dry. Rinse out salt before heat setting.
- ❖ I'm sure you'll find some variations of your own as well !!!

Enjoy!

Anne



RAINBOW SOCKS

Prepare your work area as for the Stripey Socks. You will also need ...

- A large old towel
- A piece of plumbers' pipe or two drink bottles joined together at the neck with masking tape to form a long 'pole'
- An egg carton or plastic dish or tissue box (or something to elevate the pole while socks are drying)
- Liquid Radiance colours diluted into dispenser bottles



Preparing the Colour Mixture...

You'll need 30 to 60 mls of prepared Liquid Radiance colour (ie diluted with water) to colour a pair of medium thickness adult ankle length socks, but less colour if the socks are thinner, and much less for children's socks! My favourite mix for socks (and many garments too) is a dilution of 1 part LR concentrate to approx 15 or 20 parts water. You can check the colour strength by dabbing a dot of it onto white paper towel or tissue ('craft paper test'). NOTE: Remember that the colour will be stronger when it is dry.

Designing the Socks ... METHOD ...

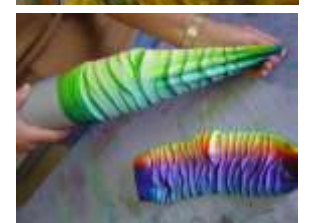
1. Wet socks and wring out excess water (or pat in a towel).
2. Put socks onto a piece of poly pipe (or you can use two drink bottles with straight sides), one on each end, matching heels along an identifiable line on the pole; then scrunch them along the pole. Check for the 'smiley face' (see #4 in Stripey Socks) and tuck in the heels. Hold socks in place with a rubber band at each end.
3. Lay socks on an old towel ready to colour. You'll roll the socks across the towel as you work.
4. Press the prepared colour into the socks using a dabbing action. Work down the pole from one sock to the other, leaving a small gap between to colours so there's room for them to spread as the colours dry. (About ½ cm gap should be enough.) If colours are not meeting up after 10 to 15 minutes, you may need to apply a little more colour.
5. Touch up the toes where colour hasn't bled in.
6. Sit pole onto something to elevate the socks from touching other surfaces as they dry. An upturned ice-cream container or the underside of an egg carton work well.
7. Remove socks from the pole when they are dry. This could take up to 24 hours depending on the weather and the thickness of the sock.
8. Iron to heat set. Iron for 1 minute with your iron set on a low heat because of the elastane content in the socks. Flatten the sock so the heel is underneath, as it would be when it is on your foot. Iron the top, then flip it over and iron underneath too.

NOTE: Socks are totally washable, in a normal wash load. You may notice a little colour come out in the first wash, depending on the amount of colour used, and the amount of elastane in the socks.

Liquid Radiance cannot bond to the rubber component of the elastane, but bonds to the fibre around the rubber. After the first wash, the colours are secure and will only wear out as the socks do.

Exciting to create ... and EVEN BETTER to wear! Have fun ...

Anne



RAINBOW COLOURS

(in order of use)
Yellow, orange, red,
magenta, purple, blue,
green, teal (or cyan), lime