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IMAGEMAKER

CYANOTYPE / SUNPRINTING RESOURCE SHEET

THE BASIC PROCESS

The following assumes that the user has already prepared the two-part liquid chemical solution, available in kit form here: <http://stores.photoformulary.com/cyanotypes-liquid-dry-original/>

All work must be done in subdued light and away from direct UV radiation. A shady garage, tucked-away bathroom, or other sheltered area works well. Keep in mind that the solution stains clothing very easily; if you wish to prepare fabric, do NOT put it in your washing machine or dryer.

1. **Apply the prepared solution** to your medium of choice (paper & fabric made from natural fibers work best). For fabric, you may use a brush, or submerge it in the solution.
2. Allow solution to **dry** (a hair dryer can be used) in a dark place, away from UV light.
3. Arrange your materials or negative on the surface of the prepared paper (or medium of choice). You may wish to sandwich them between a board and a piece of NON-UV-coated plexiglass.
4. **Expose your paper for 10-20 minutes;** the image should look silvery-green when completed. Times vary according to the sun's intensity--summer makes for faster printing.
5. **Rinse** until the water runs clear.
6. **Dry away from the sun** by hanging on a clothesline or lying flat.

EXPLORE FURTHER

The Book of Alternative Photographic Processes, by Christopher James

<http://tinyurl.com/alternativeprocesses>

THE. BEST. BOOK. There is so much information on cyanotype here. I also recommend the School of YouTube (although I know that's annoying to filter through), just to get a sense of how people are playing with it.

World Cyanotype Day

<http://www.worldcyanotypeday.com/>

The website is out of date, but there *is* a World Cyanotype Day happening in 2018 on September 29th. You can join up on Facebook and meet other artists working in this fabulous medium.

Blueprints on Fabric

<http://www.blueprintsonfabric.com/>

Go here for all things readymade cyanotype. SO. MUCH. FUN. And it's way less messy than doing it at home.

Photographer's Formulary

<http://stores.photoformulary.com/>

These folks are a great resource (along with Freestyle Photographic Supplies) for alternative process chemicals. Their basic cyanotype kit comes in a dry chemical or pre-mixed liquid form (two solutions, A and B, that you mix 1:1 to create your light-sensitive surface).