



# MAKE YOUR OWN WATERCOLOR DYE WITH COFFEE

Did you know that you can make your own dye? Artist Shinique Smith created the sculpture *Grace Stands Beside* using clothes collected from Baltimore residents. During the process of making her sculptures, she often dyes fabrics to change or enhance their colors. Take an up-close look at the sculpture at [artbma.org/grace](http://artbma.org/grace).

Artists sometimes make their own materials to create a work of art. Using Shinique Smith's process as inspiration, let's make our own watercolor dye with coffee.

## INSTRUCTIONS

- 1 Get an adult to help you brew coffee using 3 tablespoons of coffee and 1 cup of water. (Instant coffee works, too.)
- 2 Pour the brewed coffee into a glass or mug.
- 3 When the coffee cools down, your watercolor dye is ready: Start painting!



## TIPS:

Make different shades of dye by adding more water to the coffee. The more water you add, the lighter the coffee will be.

Use other drawing tools like pencils, crayons, or markers to finalize your masterpiece. The possibilities are endless!

