

# 1450 Ocean - Made By Hand Project - Spray-Dyed Scarf

**U**pcycle a used t-shirt and make a fun scarf with your own unique design! Time to complete: 20 minutes, not including dry time.

## Materials and equipment

Light-colored cotton t-shirt, spray fabric dye (available at most craft supply stores), fabric scissors, piece of scrap cardboard as wide as the t-shirt, scrap material to protect your work surface, masking tape/keys/other small objects.

Optional: apron and plastic gloves. Read directions on the spray dye—most are non-toxic, and will dry within an hour. Dye can be washed off skin with water and dish soap, but it will stain clothes.

The jersey material of a relatively thin t-shirt is best—cut edges will curl and need no finishing. 100% cotton provides the best surface for the dye. Cut fabric with fabric scissors or rotary blade for a smooth edge, and use something else to cut your scrap cardboard. T-shirts in size large or smaller will loop once around the neck—for two loops, use an extra-large t-shirt.

**STEP 1:** Lay your t-shirt flat and even, and cut the bottom half from the top, right under the armpits. No need to measure, just eyeball it—but try to cut a straight line without any zigzags. (You'll be left with a loop of fabric—the top part—that can be taken to your local fabric recycler; ask [recycling@smgov.net](mailto:recycling@smgov.net) for your nearest fabric collection facility.) If the t-shirt has a finished bottom hem, cut that off as well.

**STEP 2:** Turn inside out so that the edges will curl "in" when worn (knitters, this is the purl side of your jersey material.) Stretch the loop over your scrap cardboard so that when you dye one side of the loop, it will not bleed onto the other side.

**STEP 3:** Decorate the fabric with keys or other small objects you don't mind getting dye on, and/or use masking tape to create geometric designs such as chevrons or stripes of varying widths.

**STEP 4:** Spray dye over the decorated fabric—notice how the spray behaves and try to concentrate the dye in some areas while leaving others more lightly colored. If it drips, love the random pattern it makes—experiment and have fun!

**STEP 5:** Let your scarf dry following the directions on the dye bottle. If you'd like to do the other side, make sure all dye is fully dried before flipping over.



*Fun*  
WITH  
1450 OCEAN

Your new upcycled accessory makes a great transitional layer. Wear it as-is, or try a knot, double loop or cowl.

Join us at 1450 Ocean, Santa Monica's new Art & Community Center offering arts, crafts and movement classes for adults in the Camera Obscura Building. Every second Saturday, drop by and enjoy our free Craft Lounge, and share your ideas and projects with tea and company!



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