

RED CABBAGE DYED EASTER EGGS

Materials

One medium head of red cabbage, sliced
Large white eggs
Four tablespoons white vinegar and/or
two teaspoons cream of tartar
Stockings
Assorted leaves, flowers, and stickers
Scissors
Large Saucepan
Bowl
Colander/strainer
Slotted spoon
Oil
Paper towel



Directions

1. Wash all of the eggs with soap to make sure they are free of oil or grease.
2. Place an egg in the saucepan and fill it with enough water to cover the top of the egg by at least an inch. Remove the egg.
3. Add the cabbage and bring to a boil. Boil for 30 minutes partially covered to minimise evaporation, stirring occasionally. The water should be a deep purple.
4. Allow water to cool slightly, and then strain contents over a bowl, pressing pulp to remove any remaining liquid.
5. Rinse pan, pour in dye water, cover, and return to low heat to keep warm while preparing eggs.
6. Cut the stockings into 4 to 5 inch lengths.
7. One at a time, place leaves, flowers, and stickers on the egg as desired. Some of the plant materials will stick better if you dip them in water first.
8. Place the toe of the stocking on the top of your fingers and turn it inside out so that it covers your hand. Place the egg in your hand, and gently turn the stocking right side out to cover the egg. Make sure your design is how you want it, and then pull the stocking securely and tie into a knot on the back. Repeat with remaining eggs.
9. Return dye to a gentle boil and stir in vinegar and/or cream of tartar.
10. Gently lower the eggs in the pan and boil for 30 minutes. Turn off heat, cover, and let stand for about 3 hours, or until desired colour is obtained.
11. Remove eggs with a slotted spoon and place on rack to cool slightly.
12. Carefully cut the stocking and unwrap eggs. Discard any remaining plant materials or stickers.
13. Dampen a paper towel lightly with oil and buff eggs until shiny. Remove excess oil with clean paper towel.

Naturally dyed eggs are common in many countries, including Latvia, Lithuania, Poland and Hungary. Some traditions use freshly collected greenery to decorate the eggs with. Fern leaves give the eggs a beautiful lacey look.