

Bleached T's

Program presented at:
Hussey-Mayfield Memorial Public Library
By: Carrie Smith, Teen Librarian

Materials:

- Dark/Bold colored T-shirts (have the teens bring their own shirt)
- scrap paper, newspapers, etc.
- plastic or metal items (interesting shapes)
- 1 spray bottle
- 1 sm. bottle bleach
- 2 rolls ea. wax paper & paper towels
- 1 can spray adhesive (only needed if windy outside)
- 1 plastic tarp
- 1 bottle gentle laundry soap (Woolite or generic equivalent)
- 4 plastic tubs or buckets
- 1 garden hose (or other water source)



- Step 1: Create a design by cutting out shapes from scrap paper, or by laying plastic or metal items on the shirt. Large, simple designs work BEST!
- Step 2: Place sheets of wax paper inside the shirt to prevent the bleach water from soaking through.
- Step 3: Wipe off the tarp with paper towels, so that bleach spatter from previous projects does not get on the back of your shirt.
- Step 4: Using spray adhesive, attach paper design to t-shirt (if it's not windy, then you can just lay the design on the shirt)
- Step 5: Fill bottle with 50% bleach/ 50% water. Spray the mixture over the shirt (about 2 feet above shirt – not too high, not too low!) and do not over saturate. Have only 1 spray bottle, so that you can oversee its use.
- Step 6: Watch as your shirt begins to change color! If the color doesn't change very much, spray more bleach over the design.
- Step 7: Once the color has changed, remove the paper (some my stick) and wax paper, then wash your shirt in a tub of soapy water. Rub & scrub the shirt for several minutes.
- Step 8: Empty the dirty water from your tub & refill it with a drop of laundry soap and fresh water. This water is for the next person.
- Step 9: Rinse your shirt by spreading it in the parking lot and running the hose over it until the soap is gone. Wash the shirt as soon as you get home.