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Cyanotype Toning Kit

Thank you for purchasing a Cyanotype Toning Kit from Bostick & Sullivan. The 500 ml kit will tone approximately 50-75 8" x 10" images with a cool, deep magenta color using a Tannic Acid toning solution. Before you begin, read all instructions completely, and follow all safety advisories.

1. Safety and Handling

Always follow proper laboratory safety practices when handling chemicals. Wear latex or nitrile rubber gloves, protective eyewear and an apron to limit your exposure. Never store chemicals in a refrigerator that is used to store food. Store all chemicals away from children and pets. The chemicals in your Cyanotype Toning Kit have a shelf life of 10 years at room temperature.

2. Preparing your Workspace

You may tone cyanotype prints under normal room lighting, so no safelight is necessary. You will need three trays for the toning process; one for bleaching, a second one for toning, and a third for washing with cold, slow running tap water.

3. Mixing Bleach and Toner Baths

Tray 1: Mix 50 ml Bleaching Solution A with 950 ml distilled water.

Tray 2: Mix 50 to 100 ml Toning Solution B with 900 ml distilled water (Stronger solutions tone more quickly, and give a darker image).

4. Bleaching the Image

Submerge your cyanotype image in the bleaching solution. Agitate the tray gently to cover your paper completely. Notice the color change from a bright blue to red, and then begin to fade quickly. Agitate every 20-30 seconds, and continue bleaching for 3 minutes. After 2-3 minutes the entire image will fade to a shadow except for the absolute darkest areas of the image which may not fade away entirely. *Try bleaching for longer or shorter times to obtain many different colors in the toning bath.*

5. Toning the Image

Transfer your bleached image from the wash bath to the toning solution, and agitate quickly to cover the entire image. After a few seconds the image will begin to darken. Agitate the tray every 10-15 seconds and notice the shift from a salmon color to an eggplant (aubergine) color, then darken to a deep

burnt magenta tone after several minutes. You can remove your print at any time during the toning process, allowing you to obtain a wide variety of colors with a single toner.

After toning, transfer the print to the wash bath and wash for 15 minutes. Remove from the wash bath and hang to dry, or lay on a flat screen.

6. Replenishing the Toner

After toning several images you may notice a decrease in toning speed. Replenish the toning bath with 5-10 ml of Toning Solution B per 8" x 10" image.

7. Disposal & Storage of Used Chemicals

Store working solutions in light tight containers for future use. Depleted solutions may be poured down the drain, with plenty of water. Bleaching and Toning Solutions are safe for septic systems and the environment.