Batik

* Ironing board and iron
* Wooden frame
* Wax pot
* Wax pellets (paraffin, beeswax 50:50)
* Fabric
* Bristle brushes for applying wax
* Tjantings
* Dyes or Brusho
* Dye fixer if using dyes
* Ice cube trays/pots
* Thick rag or paper towel for collecting wax drips
* Newspaper
* Sponges and paper towels
* Plastic bag for collecting excess wax
* Hairdryer

1. Make a simple drawing.
2. Go over lines with thick dark pen.
3. Trace through onto fabric with pencil – keep lines light.
4. Follow lines with wax either using a tjanting or brush. Use a pad underneath the tjanting to stop drips and only keep half full. It’s easier to work at an angle/vertical than horizontal.
5. Make sure the lines are translucent (the wax needs to soak right through the fabric) so that the wax properly resists the dye.
6. Pre-wet areas with a clean brush if you want gradated colour and then apply concentrated dye to the areas that need darkening.
7. If you want to make colours darker/deeper you can also protect the layers you have already painted by applying more wax (when ink is dry) and then painting more dye on the parts that aren’t covered in wax.
8. To remove the wax, wait until dye is dry and then keep ironing your fabric between lots of newspaper. Swap the newspaper regularly and be patient – it will take a while.

If you make a mistake with the ink, blot with a clean sponge and paper towels. Keep rinsing the sponge and keep blotting.

**Health and safety**

The wax is VERY hot – use ONLY for batik. Do not put your hands in the wax pot and be careful not to drip on other people.

Keep your workspace organised and make sure you only have to move the hot wax in the tjanting a short distance.

The iron is hot. Turn it off and unplug after use.