

big Crafting:

SEAWEED YARNS

4 ingredients | kitchen equipment

by: aLive_Makerspace

colorful | biodegradable string

TOOLS

- blender
- glass jar + vacuum chamber
- measuring tools
- refridgerator + vacuum chamber
- squeeze bottle
- strainer

INGREDIENTS

- water... 1 cup
- glycerin... 6 tbsps
- sodium alginate... 3 tsp
- calcium chloride(CaCl)... page 5
- more water... page 5

RECIPE

1. add flexibility
2. reduce shrinking + optional

+ COLOR

10. CREATE!

7 Projects to consider...

your favorite pattern-Start with simple and familiar with your favorite pattern... applique, granny square, or stitch gauge.

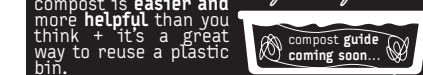
mermaid bag- If a mermaid made a purse she would use seaweed... using powdered seaweed you can make colorful strands to crochet or knit your favorite bag pattern

cooling scarf- As the yarn dries it stays cold to the touch. Unlike typical textiles used for warmth, it's possible to make cooling cloths for those hot summer days.

thought of more ideas???

use #alveyarn to share and make a growing archive of projects

11. not reusable... but is compostable starting an at home (fully biodegradable) compost is easier and more helpful than you think + it's a great way to reuse a plastic bin.



follow for more: alive_makerspace

most important advice!!!
HAVE FUN

VACUUM CHAMBER

A faster option, this takes 30 minutes to 1 hour. The substrate will grow 4x its size, expanding and popping the airbubbles.

REFRIGERATE

Mixing traps airbubbles that interrupt the string and cause mold. Refrigerating for at least 2 hours is advisable, but for best results leave it in the fridge overnight.

Don't have a mason jar? Try recycling a pasta or pickle jar

6-9 hours safe for up to 2 weeks

BATH

magic

POP

5. release air bubbles

INGREDIENTS

Water 1 cup
CaCl 1 tsp

6. Make magic bath (10% CaCl solution)
Chose the right bowl for the job. A small/medium size mixing bowl should do the trick.

Sunflower oil will make the string float in the bath, so a wider, shallower bowl can help

Measure the water to fit the bowl size, following the ratio 1cup : 1tsp. I recommend to fill about half the bowl

measure add stir

Add the Calcium Chloride and stir until it's fully dissolved, about 1 minute.

****use for multiple batches up to 2 weeks****

BLEND

until it's a smooth paste. It's going to be thick!!! Add the rest of the water and blend until all the chunks are gone.

4. Transfer to a glass jar for the next step... (tip: filter through a strainer to remove stubborn clumps that could clog the bottle.)

2. measure in blender

1. add color to water

remember it dries darker

back of the spoon

break down clumps with the

tip: an immersion blender better breaks up clumps. It's better for making larger batches.

1/3 of the water

- glycerin
- sodium alginate
- sunflower oil

MIX

STRING

7. Squeeze Bottle
transfer the alginate to a squeeze bottle. **diy option:** use a water bottle by puncturing a hole in the cap

squeeze into the magic bath in a circular motion

sunflower tip: it will float at the top, starting in the center helps

8. Strengthen the yarn!!!
Doing fiber art projects, the increased tension could break the string... There's a solution! Leave it in the bath for 30 minutes to get STRONG. Strong enough to work with, but not the easiest...

9. Dry... takes 7 days
Out of the bath, water will start to shrink out in an endothermic reaction, feeling cold and rubbery. Drying fully makes the texture easy to work with:

coil on/around a plate/tp roll

Mold prevention: Keep in a warm, dry place and monitor in the first hour to towel off water.