

# Canada D'eh Nature Wear



Finished Canada D'eh shirt ready to wear.

In this project I share a fun twist on traditional tie-dyeing. Typically when tie-dyeing you use a white garment, such as a shirt, sheet or sweater knotted with rubber bands and dipped in vibrant coloured fabric dyes. However, we are swapping the white fabric with dark and using bleach and maple leaves to make a one-of-a-kind, negative impression.

When the maple trees are bursting with large, healthy leaves pick two or three in various sizes. Be sure to keep the whole stem with the leaf, particularly if you intend to stencil words onto the fabric, eg, "eh", because you can use the stem as part of your letters for a graphic design.

## Project Preparation

To start, gather your supplies and lay newsprint to protect your work surface. Place a piece of waxed paper inside the body of the garment to protect it in case the bleach bleeds through to the back. Lay it flat on your protected table and wearing rubber gloves and eye protection, pour a small amount

of Splash-Less Clorox into a container and dip a maple leaf into it to fully coat it with bleach. I like to use this brand because the bleach is more gel-like which coats the leaves consistently making it easier to work with.

I found Splash-Less Clorox at my local dollar store, but any bleach will work for this project.

Carefully place the Cloroxed maple leaf onto your garment and let it sit in place for 20-30 seconds. It doesn't take long and you should

see your leaf impression immediately. Using your stencils dab from the top down a small amount of Clorox onto the shirt to spell out, "eh". You will notice that the bleach soaks quickly into the fabric so you don't need to use much and blotting isn't necessary. You can also paint your letters freehand.

You can make your own (eh) stencils, purchase a variety online from my Etsy store which you cut out at home using your Cricut machine or purchase them from your local craft supply.

I suggest practicing on a scrap piece of fabric before attempting your final design. Let the fabric dry completely and then wash separately for the first wash cycle.

Enjoy (adult) crafting and creating with nature, eh!

## SUPPLIES:

- Rubber gloves
- Safety eye wear
- Dark shirt
- Splash-Less Clorox bleach
- Vessel to dip leaves into
- Apron
- Paint brush or alphabet stencils
- Waxed paper

## Follow Along

You can find a helpful how-to tutorial of this project on my YouTube channel. @FarmhouseStudioOnFifth. Visit [farmhousestudioon5th.etsy.com](https://farmhousestudioon5th.etsy.com) to purchase a stencil pack.

*Nicholl Spence is a freelance graphic designer who works from her rural farmhouse home office in Erin. Among her work is the design and layout for this magazine.*

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► Step 1: Gather supplies and prepare your work surface.



◀ Step 2: Position leaf and stencil on your shirt to get an idea of layout.




▲ Step 3: Fully coat your leaf with bleach including the stem.



▲ Step 4: Position your bleached leaf onto your shirt. Be careful not to drip.



◀ Step 5 (if stenciling): Remove the leaf and place your stencil into position. Dab the bleach from the top down onto the stencil. Don't use too much, a little goes a long way!



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