Black History Month: Adire Textile

February 20, 2022

What is Adire Textile?

Adire textile is the indigo (dark blue) dyed cloth made in south western Nigeria by Yoruba women, using a variety of resist dye techniques. This textile features squares with geometric and representational designs.







How Adire Textile is Made

After the white cloth is covered in various patterns and designs, it is dyed in an indigo dye bath. The cloth then gets put into a tub of boiling water which melts off all the wax, revealing the white design.







How is Adire Textile Used?

Adire cloth is used for clothing as well as for export to be made into decorative textiles (throw pillows, tablecloths, etc).







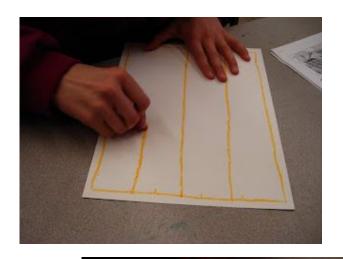
How to make your own adire textile

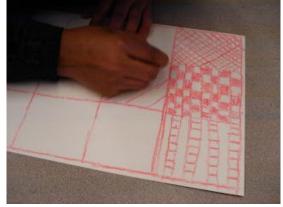




1) Draw Squares

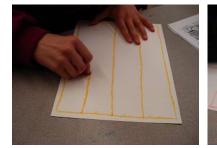
Make 3 rows and 4 columns of squares on the white paper with a light colored crayon. Make sure to **PRESS HARD** when you draw the squares.

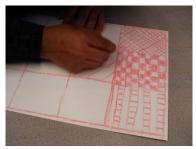


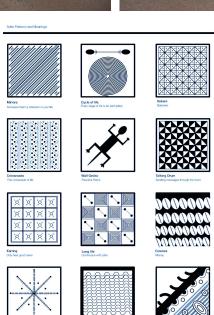


2) Add Patterns

Add different patterns to the squares. You can use lines, more squares, squiggly lines, triangles, and much more.







3) Paint Over with Blue Paint

Paint over the whole paper with blue paint. Paint gently to make sure that the patterns still show through.

This will be our "adire textile." Let the paper dry while we move onto the second part of this art project.





4) Draw an Animal

Choose an animal to draw and draw the outline of it on black paper. Color it in with lines and patterns with oil pastels.

Cut the animal out once you're done and glue it onto the dry "adire textile" that we made earlier.

Here are some examples \rightarrow









