

# AMERICAN INGENUITY

## Wear Your Patriotic Pride On Your Sleeve (Or On Your Pants)



(NAPSA)—You can create a patriotic fashion statement. It's easy and all it takes is a few items of clothing that you're likely to find in your closet—a white T-shirt and a pair of blue jeans—colorful dyes and a bit of genuine American creativity.

“American pride is running especially deep this year. And, although many people will be happily wearing typical red, white and blue clothing, others will want their attire to stand out in the crowd,” said Robert Kaufmann, senior product manager for Unilever Bestfoods, makers of Rit® Dye.

To help you show off your pride in the good ol' U.S.A., try the following fun and easy instructions for creating unique American-inspired fashions.

### STAR-STUDED JEANS

#### ITEMS NEEDED:

- Rit Fast Fade for Jeans
- Blue denim jeans
- Masking tape
- Star stencil
- Sharp knife
- Spray bottle with adjustable spray head for misting
- Large plastic bag to cover work area
- Plastic food wrap
- Paper towels

#### INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Protect work area with a plastic bag.
2. Dissolve ½ package of Rit Fast Fade in 1-cup hot tap water, then pour into a spray bottle.
3. Apply masking tape to areas of jeans where stars are desired.
4. Place star stencil on top of masking tape and draw outline.
5. Remove stencil and cut along star outline using gentle pressure so as not to cut into the fabric.
6. Separate jean's front-to-back material by placing strips of plastic food wrap inside each pant leg.
7. Lightly spray the immediate area around the star shape. DO NOT saturate fabric.
8. Use a paper towel to blot Rit Fast Fade on masking tape dry.
9. Spray two more times at ten-minute intervals. Allow Rit Fast Fade to work for 30 to 40 minutes until jean color begins to fade.
10. Remove tape when denim

material shows desired effects of fading.

11. Wash jeans in warm water using detergent.

12. Dry as usual.

Rit Fast Fade for Jeans is specifically formulated to lighten the color of denim without damaging the fabric. A solution of ⅔ cup chlorine bleach and ⅓ cup hot tap water will produce similar results.

### PATRIOTIC STRIP T-SHIRT

#### ITEMS NEEDED:

- Rit Fuchsia and Scarlet powder or liquid Dyes
- White T-shirt
- Rubber bands
- About four 1" x 100" strips of fabric
- Large stainless steel pot
- Scissors
- Chlorine bleach for cleanup

#### INSTRUCTIONS:

(Create strips on your T-shirt while the stars on your jeans develop.)

1. Fold T-shirt lengthwise, crosswise or diagonally into 2- or 3-inch wide accordion folds, forming a long-strip; fold strip in half or thirds.

2. Tie the folded shirt in two or three places with rubber bands. For greater definition, tie shirt using cloth strips.

3. In stainless steel pot, combine 1 package (or ½ bottle) Rit Scarlet and ½ package (or ¼ bottle) Rit Fuchsia Dyes and 2 gallons of hot tap water.

4. Heat dye solution to a simmer.

5. Immerse T-shirt in the dye solution for 3 minutes.

6. Remove T-shirt and rinse under running cool water until water runs clear.

7. Remove bands and ties and continue to rinse under cold running water.

8. Wash T-shirt with cool water with a small amount of detergent; rinse thoroughly with cool water.

9. Hang or tumble dry.

10. Clean up equipment and any spills with chlorine bleach.

You can find Rit in the laundry or sewing section of your favorite mass merchandise, craft, drug or supermarket. Or visit online at [www.ritdye.com](http://www.ritdye.com).