

Fabric Bleeding Information

Do you mean fading or bleeding?

-Fabric will fade over time....if you are worried about a fabric bleed thenhere you go

Fabric is manufactured differently today than in the past so.....vinegar/salt only work on some acid dyes and only at the time of the dyeing process.....never sets color or stops fading on quilt cotton....another thing many don't realize.....if you wash something with a detergent and use vinegar in the wash cycle the vinegar neutralizes the effectiveness of the detergent.....so if you want the detergent to do it's job you need to use vinegar in the rinse cycle only.....by that time if you had a fabric bleed it would be too late.

Fabric manufacturers recommend using a couple products

-Retayne as a prewash when you have a fabric you know bleeds beforehand.....it will set the loose dyes.

-Synthropol is for a finished quilt project where one fabric bleeds onto another....it works by suspending the loose dyes in the water so as not to be absorbed by other fabric.....I had a king size quilt where blue bled onto cream fabric.....I used 1/4 Synthropol on the bulky bedding setting for extra water fill as water fill is very importantlucky for me my washer tub is large and I get great water fill....plus I don't have an agitator so it's much better on my quilt, fabric and clothes! One wash with Synthropol and my quilt was back to normal.....Synthropol is a ph neutral product so it's great to use just to wash a quilt.....fabric bleed or not.....it's also very effective at removing the oils in fabric from our fingers and many other things.....both of these products are used by many in the dyeing industryI've found them at every fabric store I've frequented but they are available at Amazon or just online.

Used exactly as directed for optimal performance they are wonderful products....they require hotter water the first use but that didn't harm my quilt at all.....compared to my leftover fabric my quilt looked exactly the same after the wash.

So many believe color catchers are a miracle cure but they don't prevent a true fabric bleed.....I've seen so many posts where they failed.....plus they are full of chemicals that can cause skin irritation and upper respiratory issues.....while they do "catch" colorwhich is misleading because everyone thinks they had a fabric bleed but they didn't....there is so often loose dyes in fabric and clothing and this is what the color catchers attract.....however, it's color that for the most time isn't going to be absorbed by other fabric.

It's been said that you can soak a quilt for hours/days.....however long it takes....that blue Dawn will remove a color bleed....I don't have the patience to wait that long and I can't imagine adequately rinsing and wringing out a quilt that's been soaking....not when my washer does it so much easier.

.....good luck

From Facebook Group Quilting 101: Lorraine Merkel Emineth answered question from Sherry Langdahl.