It's easy to begin dyeing your own roving for spinning or needle felting projects. All you need to begin dyeing is some acid dyes and a heat source. There are no set rules for how to apply the dyes to the roving. Feel free to be creative. Use as many colors as you want, cover all the roving with color or leave areas of blank roving and discover what happens.

Give Battenkill Fibers a call to buy Wool Roving for this dyeing project. 518-692-2700

Difficulty: Moderately Easy

Things You'll Need:
Acid Dyes • Vinegar • Two Ceramic, or Stainless Steel, Pots • Foam Brushes • Plastic Wrap
Vegetable Steamer • Disposable Cups

Instructions:
1. Soak your wool. Fill a pot with water and vinegar. Place the roving in the pot to soak. Use 1 Cup of Vinegar to every pound that you want to dye.
2. Boil water in another pot. Add several inches of water and bring to a slow boil.
3. Mix your dyes. In a disposable cup, add boiling water and the amount of dye that you want to use. After the dye has dissolved completely, add vinegar to the cup to create the necessary acidity.
4. Remove the roving from the pot it has been soaking in and place it on a plastic wrap covered work area.
5. Use the foam brushes to soak up the dye. Press the dye soak brushes into the wool roving. This method is called "paint dyeing."

Setting the Dye
1. Take the now dyed roving and roll it up in the saran wrap.
2. Place saran wrapped roving in the vegetable steamer and place steamer in the pot of boiling water.
3. Cover the pot and allow the roving to steam for 30 minutes.
4. Remove roving from pot and allow to cool.
5. Gently rinse roving with cool water to remove any extra dye and allow to dry completely.