



How to Make Berry Ink

Ingredients:

- ◆ ½ Cup fresh or thawed frozen berries
- ◆ ½ Teaspoon Vinegar
- ◆ ½ Teaspoon Salt

Supplies:

- ◆ A bowl
- ◆ A fine mesh strainer
- ◆ A clean jar with a lid to store your ink.
- ◆ (Optional) Plastic gloves

Steps:

- First, wash your hands! Making ink might make your hands pretty dirty, but it's always best to start off with clean hands.
- Next, place the strainer over the bowl and pour the berries in the strainer.
- Push the berries through the strainer until you get a pulp-free juice. This will take some time, so get to mashing!
- Then, add ½ teaspoon vinegar. This will help hold the color of the ink! If you want a thinner ink, add more vinegar!
- Add ½ teaspoon salt. This acts as a preservative for your ink!
- Finally, pour into your small jar and MIX WELL.

Terms:

- ⇒ **Color Agent:** a substance that provides color or *pigmentation* to another substance
- ⇒ **Binder:** a substance that draws (or binds) materials together
- ⇒ **Preservative:** a substance that prevents or delays decay

Notes:

- ⇒ The natural pigment in the blackberries acts as our **color agent**.
- ⇒ The vinegar acts as our **binder**. This “binds” the color to the page itself and prevents it from fading into the page.
- ⇒ The salt is used as a **preservative**! This will keep the ink from getting moldy!
- ⇒ The blackberries are very messy, so if you have plastic gloves, we suggest you use them, so you don't stain your hands!