

## TECHNICAL TUESDAYS

TOPIC: Functions of Soaping/Wash off agent

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### **What is Soaping agent?**

Soaping agent, also called as Wash off agent is used in textile processing to remove the unfixed hydrolyzed dyes present on the surface of the fabric after the dyeing process.

### **Function of soaping /wash off agent:**

The importance of proper washing after dyeing is painfully known to all dyers, particularly the difficulty in washing off the unfixed dye to meet the required fastness standard. The main functions of the soaping agent are:

- Disperse the unfixed substantiated hydrolyzed dyes, and solubilize and emulsify these into the aqueous medium and keep these substances in suspension.
- Prevent re-deposition of hydrolyzed dyes and other particles of colloidal substance onto the textile material.
- Removes the alkaline earth metal ions that are deposited on the dyed material.
- Prevent the precipitation of insoluble calcium or magnesium salt.

### **Few reasons for getting poor wash off after dyeing:**

- Too high substantivity of dyes
- Short liquor ratio of washing bath
- High electrolyte concentration
- Inadequate washing time
- Inadequate chemicals

**Wishing you a great week ahead!**

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