



# EVIL MUTANT FAIRY PLASTICS 2: TORTURING TYVEK

By Tara Maginnis





**DuPont™ Tyvek® HomeWrap:** stiff house wrap in medium thickness, with “Dupont Tyvek” printed on one side. Also recognizable for having a very slight linen like texture that is sometimes visible when dry brushing. This is my favorite, both because of its big bold pustules and craters when heated, and the fact that you can get a 3’ x 165’ roll of this at Home Depot for only \$63.58.

HomeWrap ironed from the back

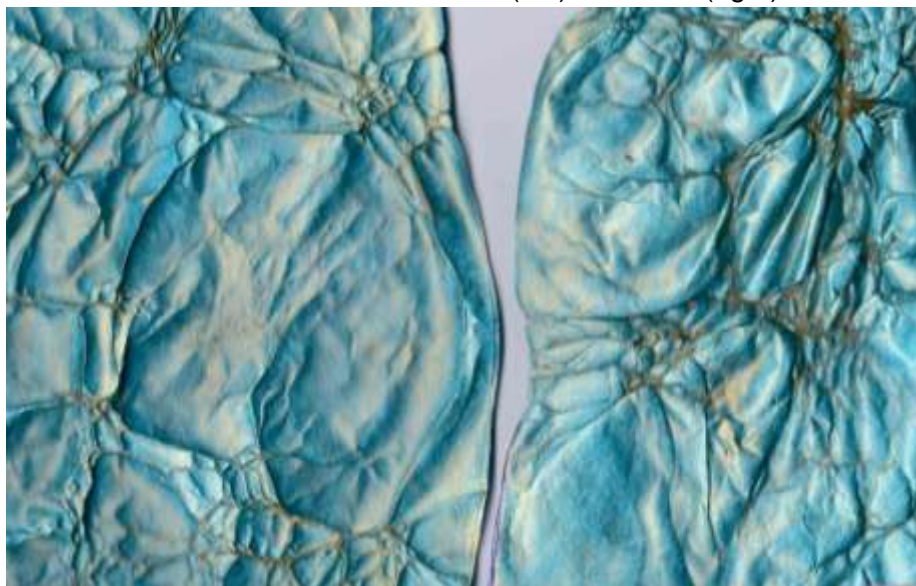


HomeWrap ironed from the front



**DuPont™ Tyvek® Brillion:** (AKA Envelope Tyvek®) Ultra smooth, white, light, crisp Tyvek for printing. Good for heat shrinking, but hard to find in any size larger than an envelope. Brillion makes small delicate pustules and craters easily with an iron on a wool setting.

Brillion ironed from the front (left) and back (right):

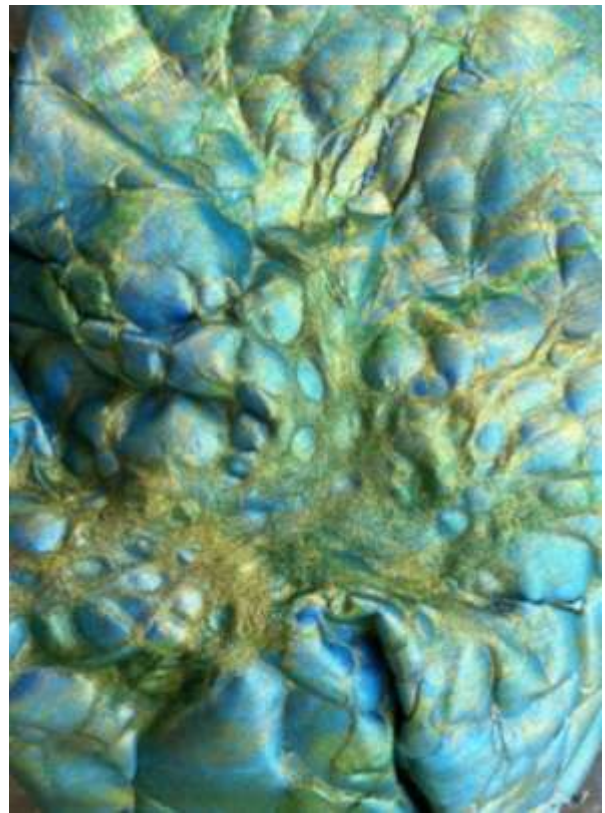


**DuPont™ Tyvek® Banner Paper:** thick, smooth, stiff paper on a roll for printing those huge ultra-strong outdoor banners. It is expensive, and a bit too leathery for good shrinking, but very tough. Needs extra heat to torque, but when shrunk tends to produce tough micro pleats at the heating points.

Banner Paper heat-gunned from the front



Banner Paper heat-gunned from the back



**DuPont™ Tyvek® Soft Structure:** is used for protective paint coveralls. This type is easiest to sew, but does not make stiff puffy pustules, overall it makes something more like seersucker, comfortable but often too subtle for the big weird stage costume effects demonstrated today. It is very good for quilting, and small effects seen up close.



## Tyvek dress experiment progression:



Painting HomeWrap



Sewing cellophane and HomeWrap to a Dollar Tree shirt (above)

The DVC Costume Class (below) takes turns abusing the Tyvek with a heat gun







Some additions are made to the sleeves, collar and skirt (above left), and black spray paint is used to contour and distress the garment (above right).



Plastic rhinestones, lizards and bugs are glued on with glitter glue ooze (above)





Extra sample pieces are made and sewn on as parts of sleeve puffs and electric Xmas lights put inside for twinkle (above left) ruffles of recycled plastic bags edge the hem

(above right) and iridescent red cellophane and wire wings are added.



After appearing at CoCo 2011, (cover page) more jewels and bigger crawlies are added for the "Fairy Queen" costume for *The Skriker* (left, right and next page).







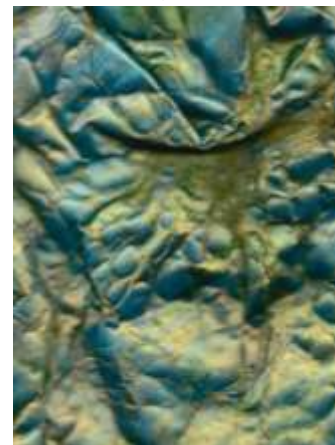
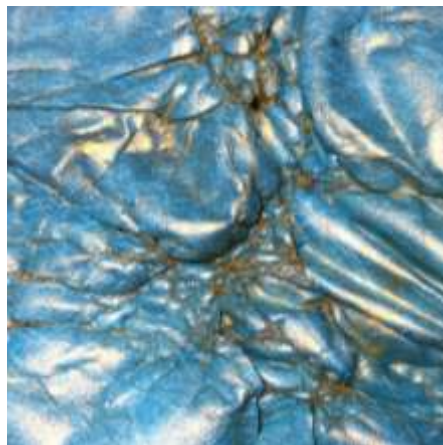


## Handy tips for working with Tyvek®:

- When ironing, keep your iron on a middle (200 degree or “wool”) setting for best results.
- Put cooking parchment paper over the Tyvek® while ironing to keep melting Tyvek® from adhering to iron or board.
- It is usually easier to paint or tint Tyvek® before heating, but you can also add paint or ink to it afterwards.
- Two-tone iridescent Jacquard Lumiere paints if applied before heating give very interesting effects after heating. The most effective colors for this effect are Halo Pink Gold, Halo Blue Gold, Halo Violet Gold, and (to a lesser extent) Citrine & Burnt Orange. You can order this paint from <http://dharmatrading.com>

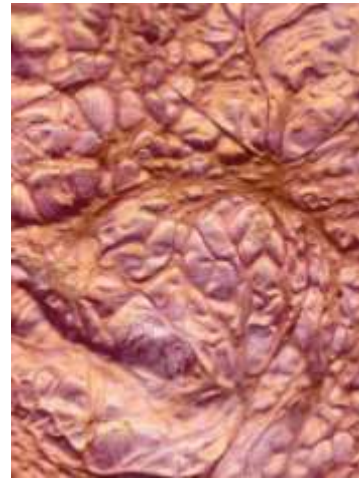


*Jacquard Lumiere Halo Blue Gold in a thin coat on HomeWrap (below left),  
and a thick coat on Banner Paper (below right)*





*Jacquard Lumiere Halo Pink Gold applied in a thin coat to HomeWrap (below)*



- Alcohol inks work to tint all Tyvek® while making the fiber in Brillion look like handmade rice paper.
- Harbor Freight Tools sell very cheap heat guns that work wonderfully for making big lumpy heat effects on Tyvek®. Coupon sales (to be found in Popular Mechanics, or by signing up to the store mailing list) often drop the price of their cheapest gun there to under \$10.
- All Tyvek® is much, much tougher than it looks
- Hunt online to see lots of textile artist techniques for blending Tyvek® with other materials. Tyvek® can also be, sewn, ink stamped, cut, burnt out with stamps to resemble lace, rolled into art beads, formed into shapes, glued, and hot glued.

To learn more, see my Tyvek® links page at:  
[http://thecostumersmanifesto.com/index.php?title=Unusual\\_Costuming\\_Materials:\\_Tyvek](http://thecostumersmanifesto.com/index.php?title=Unusual_Costuming_Materials:_Tyvek)

To see more images from DVC's production of *The Skriker* go to my Shutterfly page:  
<http://taramaginnisclasses.shutterfly.com>







Heat treated Banner Paper over-bodice with fringed skirt designed by Janice Gartin for her CoCo 2011 Gala "Snake Fairy" costume (bottom right), re-used for part of the costume for "The Green Lady" in *The Skriker*, 2012 (top left).