What Difference Does Your Hair Color Make?

Everybody has a different color of hair, different diet, and different environmental circumstances. Henna will be different on everyone. This essay shows henna and indigo mixes tested on churro sheep of different colors. Churro sheep have a natural color range similar to graying human hair, though their fleece is coarse and more resistant to dye than human. This is intended as an example of how henna and indigo stain a range of fleece similar to, but not the same as, the stains produced on human hair.

People have different hair colors and textures. Every person’s hair reacts a bit differently to henna. Though Ancient Sunrise® hennas are very similar, you may find one suits you better than another. These are plants, growing in different soils, under different conditions. You’ll have to try a few things to find out what you like best.

These samples are wool from sheep of color, with different proportions of gray hair.

From left to right, these sheep are

1) natural white
2) dark blonde that is about 50% gray,
3) medium brown that is about 20% gray
4) dark brown that is about 10% gray,
5) black that is about 10% gray
6) black that is about 80% gray
Henna and indigo stain the outer keratin sheath of your hair. They do not change the melanin color in the core of your hair. The color of your dyed hair will be a combination of the stain and your natural color. If you dye graying hair, the stain will be different on the pigmented and gray hair. These pictures show how different the results will be when the same mix is applied to different colors of hair.

![Colored fleece dyed with henna.](image)

Each fleece sample was dyed with the same henna at the same time. The blonde sheep became redheads. All of the gray hair became coppery. All of the dark sheep fleece stayed dark, but gained warm auburn tones.

![Colored fleeces dyed with half henna and half indigo](image)

Here, each fleece was dyed with a mixture of half henna and half indigo. The blonde and gray fleece became medium brown. The brown fleeces had warm highlights.