

EPOXY RESIN

Epoxy resins come in two parts: the resin and the hardener. When the two parts are mixed together, a chemical reaction occurs that changes the epoxy from a liquid to a solid. Small amounts are mixed together, usually in one to one proportions. Curing time (the amount of time needed for the epoxy to completely harden) varies depending on the type of epoxy you choose and climate conditions. For proper curing, the resin needs to be mixed thoroughly in the correct proportions. Epoxies also have different “working times”. This is the amount of time you can work with the epoxy before it starts to thicken. Be sure to read and follow the manufacturer’s instructions.

SAFETY

- Read and follow manufacturer’s instructions and safety precautions.
- Work in a clean and well-ventilated area.
- Depending on materials used, consider wearing a respirator, rubber gloves and eye protection.
- Follow manufacturer’s recommendations for clean up. Dispose of all waste materials in accordance with local regulations.

WORK AREA

- Cover the work area with wax paper or freezer paper. Most resins don’t stick to wax paper.
- Prepare a level surface for items to dry on that will not be disturbed.
- Create trays for curing items. For rings, turn a cardboard box over and poke holes in the box with a pen or other sharp object.
- Cover the curing resin so dust does not ruin the finish. Use an inverted box for multiple items or cups for individual items, leaving space for air to circulate.

PAPER IMAGES

- To prevent discoloration, seal both sides and edges of the image with Mod Podge® or Elmer’s® Glue-All®. This is especially important if the image is printed on an ink-jet printer. Allow the glue to dry completely before covering the images with resin.
- Glue image to surface to prevent “floating”. Let adhesive dry completely before adding resin.
- Resin magnifies images and makes them surprisingly clear. Imperfections become noticeable, so be careful.

OTHER EMBEDDED ITEMS

- Flowers and other vegetation need to be dried before use. Moisture can prevent the resin from curing, and cause cloudiness.
- Seal dried flowers, candy sprinkles, etc., with a spray sealer such as Krylon® to prevent discoloration.
- Do not use glitter or sand near resin that you do not want glitter or sand in.
- If using dyes or pigment, add a small amount (2-3 drops) at first. Add more only as needed.
- Do not apply Mod Podge or other sealer over the top of embellishments with facets. It will form over the facets and reduce the sparkle.

MIXIN RESIN

- Fold resin and hardner together gently to avoid creating extra air bubbles. Do not mix vigorously.

POURING RESIN

- Apply the resin a little bit at a time. Depending on the resin, it may pour quickly. Pouring from a smaller cup is easier to control.
- Pour extra resin in a cap of some kind so you can use it to check for dryness. This way you don’t stick your finger in and ruin your work.
- Use a blow dryer, rubber stamping heat gun or flame from a lighter to get rid of air bubbles. If the hair dryer is too strong, hold it further away to keep from blowing the resin out of the bezel cup or container. Gently blowing through a straw works too, but be careful not to blow food or saliva into the resin.

RESIN JEWELRY-MAKING KIT

Get started making your own custom resin jewelry with this exclusive kit from Rings & Things. Includes all items shown below.



#82-550

For a complete list of [jewelry resins and resin supplies](#) visit us online: www.rings-things.com

STEP-BY-STEP

Here are instructions for making a resin pendant using SuperClear resin, a Piddix image and an Amate Studios™ heart-shaped bezel.

TOOLS AND SUPPLIES

- 24mm heart-shaped bezel (#46-814-242-8)
- Piddix collage sheet (#83-231-06-001)
- SuperClear Resin (#82-503-06)
- Mixing cups (#82-597)
- Stir sticks (#82-595)
- Disposable plastic cup
- Lighter (use flame to draw out the bubbles)
- Fine-point scissors
- Optional paper sealer like Crafter's Pick™ The Ultimate! (#60-280) adhesive (Piddix collage sheets are printed with a specialty ink, papers do not need to be pre-sealed or treated to resist bleeding)

1. Gather the tools and supplies necessary to make your SuperClear Resin pendant.



2. Cut out the image to fit the size of the bezel's interior.



3. Place the image into the bezel. It should fit snugly. If the image is loose, you can glue the image in place with a water-based adhesive such as "The Ultimate!" glue; the same glue can be used to seal the image by painting a thin layer over the image. Allow to dry thoroughly.



4. Use the calibrated cups to measure the resin and hardener separately according to the manufacturer's instructions: 2 parts resin to 1 part hardener.



5. Gradually combine the hardener and resin in a disposable plastic cup.



6. Mix by "folding" the resin and hardener together for two minutes; scrape the sides of the cup as you mix.



7. Let the mixed resin "rest" for five minutes.



8. Pour the resin slowly into your prepared bezel. Add resin until the bezel is full and is gently domed. Working on a small elevated work surface makes it easy to pivot and move the piece.



9. To aid in the dissipation of air bubbles, carefully hold a lit lighter above the surface of the resin; bubbles will quickly rise to the surface and burst. Once the resin is clear, set the pendant aside on a level surface and cover with an inverted container to prevent dust from settling on the resin. Allow to dry for approximately eight hours at room temperature.



Music Lover Necklace
by Valorie Nygaard-Pouzar

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