

## DIY Epoxy Resin Kit Instruction Manual

### Section 1: Safety First!

1. **Wear Protective Gear:** Always wear the provided **gloves** and work in an area with good air circulation. Consider a face mask if ventilation is poor.
2. **Protect Your Workspace:** Cover your desk or floor with plastic sheeting, a silicone mat, or wax paper. Uncured resin will stick to almost anything else.
3. **Keep it Separate:** Do not eat, drink, or smoke in the work area. Keep children and pets away.
4. **Skin Contact:** If uncured resin touches your skin, wash it immediately and thoroughly with soap and water.

### Section 2: Preparation

1. **Ideal Conditions:** Work in a warm, dry area. The ideal temperature is usually between  $70^{\circ}\text{F}$  and  $80^{\circ}\text{F}$  ( $21^{\circ}\text{C}$ – $27^{\circ}\text{C}$ ). If your resin is cold, warm the sealed bottles in a tub of warm (not hot) water for 10-15 minutes to reduce bubbles.
2. **Gather Supplies:** Have your kit contents, mold (if using), colorants (pigments/mica powder), and any embedded objects (glitter, dried flowers) ready.
3. **Determine Volume:** Use a measuring cup to determine the volume of your mold (if needed).

### Section 3: Mixing the Resin

1. **Measure Accurately:** This is the most critical step. Using a clean measuring cup, pour **Part A (Epoxy Resin, 50ML)** and **Part B (Curing Agent, 50ML)** into a second clean measuring cup. **The ratio is typically 1:1 by volume** (e.g., 10ML of A and 10ML of B). Using the wrong ratio will prevent the resin from curing properly.
2. **Slow Mixing:** Using a mixing stick, stir the two parts **slowly and deliberately** for 3–5 minutes. Scrape the sides and bottom of the cup continuously to ensure everything is fully combined.
  - *Note:* The mixture will look cloudy at first, but it will become clear again once fully mixed. Avoid fast mixing, as this introduces excessive bubbles.
3. **Optional: Add Color:** If adding color, do so now. Start with a tiny amount of pigment and mix well until the desired shade is achieved.

### Section 4: Pouring and Curing

1. **Pour Slowly:** Slowly pour the mixed resin into your mold or onto your surface. Pouring from a slight height can help pop small bubbles.
2. **Pop Bubbles:** After pouring, wait a few minutes for bubbles to rise. Gently use a heat gun, a small kitchen torch (briefly passed over the surface), or a toothpick to pop any surface bubbles.
3. **Working Time:** Your **pot life** (working time) is typically 30 minutes to 1 hour. You must complete all pouring and bubble popping during this window.

4. **Curing:** Leave the resin to cure in a dust-free environment. **Curing time is typically 12 to 48 hours** for a solid demold, but check your product packaging for the exact time. Full hardness can take several days.
5. **Demolding:** Once the resin is fully hard and no longer sticky (usually after 24 hours), you can carefully remove it from the mold.

#### **Section 5: Cleanup & Disposal**

1. **Uncured Resin:** Clean your mixing sticks and cups immediately with **rubbing alcohol (IPA) or acetone**.
2. **Cured Resin:** Once cured, leftover resin/waste can be disposed of in regular trash. **Never pour uncured resin down a drain.**