

# UV CURE RESINS

## Instruction/Information Sheet



Item Number	Description	Size
F-134	UV Cure Clear Resin Gel	14 g
F-142	UV Resin Cleanser	4 oz bottle
F-133	Gel Curing UV Lamp	1
F-136	Transparent Red Dye for Resin	1 oz bottle
F-137	Transparent Yellow Dye for Resin	1 oz bottle
F-138	Transparent Blue Dye for Resin	1 oz bottle
F-139	Opaque White Dye for Resin	1 oz bottle
F-141	Opaque Black Dye for Resin	1 oz bottle
F-145	9 Watt Replacement UV Bulb for Lamp	1 ea

Art Clay's UV Cure Resin is a transparent resin gel which hardens when exposed to Ultraviolet rays. No mixing is required (except for the addition of UV Resin colorants) and it cures in as little as 1 minute with no colorant added, using the UV light shown. Unlike 2-part epoxy resins, this UV cure resin requires no long setup times prior to hardening, and you use just the amount you need without waste. UV Cure Gel Resin gives a very clean, transparent look and has outstanding hardness properties.



**Instructions: Before you begin:** Art Clay's UV Cure Gel Resin comes as a thick gel. Warming it slightly either by placing it on top of your dehydrator for a few moments or heating the container with a hairdryer will make the gel thinner and in some instances, easier to work with depending on your design.

- ➔ Completely finish the piece to which you will be adding the resin.
  - ➔ Clean well with alcohol to remove oil and dirt completely.
  - ➔ Mix your UV Colorant with the Gel Resin. Add only a very small amount of Colorant to the Gel Resin to begin with – the color is very concentrated. One technique is to place a small amount of resin and a drop of colorant on a saucer. Use a toothpick to draw tiny amounts of color over to the resin and mix until you reach the desired color. Do not use too much colorant or the resin may not cure properly.
  - ➔ Depending on your design, you may need to make a dam to hold the Gel Resin in place for the first few layers. Use adhesive tape to form the dam, making sure to burnish it to the metal on the edges so the Gel Resin will not leak around the tape.
  - ➔ Apply UV resin to the base of your piece little by little with a toothpick or thin spatula.
  - ➔ Work carefully to avoid creating bubbles. If bubbles appear, heat the surface of the gel before curing. To do this, you can use a stick lighter (like you would use to light a grill) and pass the flame over the surface of the Gel Resin. The bubbles will come to the top and burst. Working with the Gel warmed slightly, as discussed above, may alleviate the bubbles.
  - ➔ Set your piece under the UV lamp and time for 1-2 minutes. The longer time is used for Gel Resin to which colorants have been added. When you mix the Resin with UV Resin Colorants, the rule of thumb is "the darker the color, the longer it takes to be cured". If you need to prop your piece, cut a slice in a small piece of sponge.
- \*\*Cured resin will have a tacky surface even though the resin has hardened.
- ➔ Continue adding more Gel Resin to the top of the hardened Resin and cure using the UV lamp. Repeat the process until you have the desired volume. \*\* Do NOT use cleaner to remove the tacky surface between layers.
  - ➔ You can use wet and dry sanding cloths to polish down the UV resin to the silver surface level. When you sand, begin with the 400 and move through the grades up to 4000. Polish with Wenol and polishing cloth to complete.



## UV CURE RESINS FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

**Q1:** How do you remove the excess resin?

**A1:** If before curing, wipe the excess with tissue or cotton swab. For hardened or cured resin, insert blade of craft knife or something thin between UV resin and the base. Pry the resin part away from the surface. Be careful not to damage the surface of the piece.

**Q2:** How do I remove the stickiness that is left after the Gel Resin has cured?

**A2:** After curing final layer, remove stickiness with UV Resin Cleanser and a paper towel, napkin, or tissue. You can also clean the inside of the UV Lamp unit with the UV Resin Cleanser if it should get sticky.

**Q3:** Why does the resin overflow?

**A3:** Too much UV Gel Resin is used. To make a thicker piece, repeat coating and curing process several times to desired thickness.

**Q4:** Can the UV Gel Resin be cured more quickly?

**A4:** Clear Gel Resin cures in as little as 30 – 60 seconds which is very fast compared to the 24-48 hours with many other resin products. However, note that colored resin cures slower than clear resin, and also it cures slower on the side of a thick piece (layered many times) since the UV rays do not reach through the thickness easily. You can put aluminum foil in the bottom of the UV light fixture (not on the bulb) to concentrate the UV rays onto the piece. This will also keep your unit free from any Gel Resin that may get on the inside.

**Q5:** Is the UV Gel Resin color that I mixed storable?

**A5:** It is storable in an airtight container. However, mix it well before using again as the color may be settle. A suggestion is to make a bit more of the color than you think you will use on one piece to ensure that the color is uniform throughout the entire piece. If you need to make a second batch of a particular color, the match may not be exact.

**Q6:** Does UV Gel Resin become hard if left in the air?

**A6:** Unless left in direct sunlight, the resin piece will not harden in air.

**Q7:** How do you stand pieces such as rings under the UV light?

**A7:** Make a slice in a sponge or use polymer clay to stand the piece upright.

**Q8:** How do you clean tools used with resin?

**A8:** Clean with the Resin Cleanser.

**Q9:** Can UV resin be polished?

**A9:** Use the same techniques as with Art Clay. You can get a shine after polishing with wet sanding pads #400~2000 or the Polishing Papers 4 sheet combination, beginning with the 400 and going up to the 4,000 (Item R-024). Then apply Wenol Polish for a final finish of your silver and the hardened resin. Avoid traditional sandpaper that leaves a black residue. This may contaminate the resin and make it cloudy. If you polish long enough, your piece will become crystal clear. A matte finish means you have not polished long enough. Always use water when sanding resins. The particles sanded off are not friendly to your lungs!

If you have any questions regarding this or any other Art Clay product, contact your distributor or Art Clay Technical Assistance at [info@artclayworld.com](mailto:info@artclayworld.com) or toll-free at 866-381-0100.