

Instructions for UV Resin

- 1) Fire your piece and finish it. We recommend burnishing in the areas you will be placing transparent resin to help illuminate the cavity.
- 2) Clean the cavity/metal with UV Resin Prep and Cleanser or alcohol to make sure it is ready to receive the UV resin.
- 3) Place container of resin on a warmer or in the dehydrator. This will help level the resin and help with bubble elimination. It will become runny like honey. You can pack the resin into the cavity in its gel form, but you may have a harder time extracting the bubbles. If you do this, then add a little at a time. At minimum the gel needs to be at room temp, 72F.
- 4) Mix colorant into the gel with a toothpick or stir straw. You'll just need to add a drop at a time as the colorant is concentrated. If the resin is very opaque you'll need to add more UV exposure time in order to harden the resin.
- 5) You can use blue painters tape or clear packing tape to create a dam for the UV resin. You will want to burnish well at contact points to avoid leaking.
- 6) Once the cavity/metal has been filled, then use a vibrator to help coax the bubbles to the surface. You can also use a bit of heat to get the resin to become more runny. Once this has been done, simply use a bbq/fireplace long lighter to pop the bubbles on the surface. You can also do this by breathing on the piece in a 'huffing' manner, where the heat of your breathe pops the bubbles.
- 7) The UV lamps that is available thru Whole Lotta Whimsy, allows your piece to be exposed for 1-3 minutes for a full cure. You can prop your piece up with polymer clay, foam, Styrofoam and other creative tactics. You will want to do a test run to see what amount of time is needed for full cure with the UV lamp you are using. Again, the darker or more opaque the resin the longer it will take to cure.
- 8) Once fully cured, the resin will remain tacky. You will need the UV Prep and Cleanser to remove this tackiness. Do not add more UV resin after using the prep. If you are curing in between layers, do not use the UV Prep and Cleanser. Also if you are adding inclusions, you will want to warm them up in a dehydrator or blow dryer before surrounding them with resin in order minimize the bubbles.
- 9) Sanding may be required or desired to level the resin. Start with 400 grit and move through 2500 or 4000. Use Whole Lotta Whimsy's micro abrasive papers, TL198, with water. Black sandpaper may leave an undesirable residue that is difficult to remove. It is smart to wear a mask and use water when sanding plastics of any kind. As a final step you can also use Fabuluster on a rotary polishing machine with a sewn muslin wheel.

Troubleshooting and Helpful Tips

- 1) If you have problems getting the resin to cure, try thin layers and cure each one before adding more
- 2) Incandescent lights do contain a small amount of UV so try to work where there is less light or fluorescents
- 3) Store gel in a cool, dark place away from sunlight. The storage life of this gel is about 4 months. The sun is a UV light and will cause the gel to cure if exposed for any length of time.
- 4) UV resin gel is sticky. Wear gloves if possible and apply resin on a surface that can be disposed. Otherwise you'll need to use the UV Resin Prep and Cleanser to remove the sticky residue.

