

When using alcohol ink pigments with epoxy resin, here are some tips to help you achieve successful results:

1. Choose compatible pigments: Ensure that the alcohol ink pigments you select are compatible with epoxy resin. Not all alcohol inks work well with resin, so it's important to choose ones specifically formulated for resin applications.

2. Test on a small scale: Before applying alcohol ink pigments to a larger resin project, it's advisable to conduct a small test on a separate resin sample. This allows you to assess the color intensity, blending capabilities, and compatibility with the resin before committing to a larger piece.

3. Mix pigments with resin: Prior to pouring the resin, mix the alcohol ink pigments with the epoxy resin thoroughly. Use a stirring stick or spatula to ensure the pigments are evenly dispersed throughout the resin. Avoid overmixing to prevent the introduction of air bubbles.

4. Control ink dispersion: Alcohol ink pigments tend to spread and disperse quickly in resin, especially if they are highly fluid. To have better control over the ink dispersion and achieve desired patterns or effects, you can use various techniques:

- **Drop Technique:** Drop alcohol ink pigments onto the resin surface and allow them to spread naturally. Tilt the surface or use a heat gun or blowing technique to manipulate the ink movement.

- **Brush or Tool Technique:** Use a brush, sponge, or other tools to apply and manipulate the alcohol ink pigments on the resin surface. This allows for more precise placement and control over the ink spread.

- **Masking Technique:** Use masking tape, stencils, or barriers to create defined areas or boundaries for the alcohol ink pigments. This technique can help create distinct patterns or prevent colors from blending excessively.

5. Layering and Blending: Alcohol inks can create beautiful layered and blended effects. Allow each layer of alcohol ink to dry or partially cure before adding subsequent layers. This technique allows for greater control over color intensity and helps prevent excessive blending or muddying of colors.

6. Seal the alcohol ink: Once the alcohol ink pigments have been applied and have dried, consider sealing the surface with a clear epoxy resin topcoat. This will protect the alcohol ink and create a smooth and glossy finish.

7. Safety precautions: When working with alcohol inks, ensure proper ventilation and wear protective gloves to avoid direct contact with the ink. Follow the manufacturer's instructions and safety guidelines for both the alcohol inks and epoxy resin.

Remember that alcohol ink pigments are highly concentrated, so a little goes a long way. Start with small amounts of pigment and gradually add more as needed to achieve the desired color intensity. Practice and experimentation will help you develop your technique and create stunning effects with alcohol ink pigments and epoxy resin.

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