

Creating epoxy resin coasters can be a fun and creative project. Here's a step-by-step guide on how to make epoxy resin coasters:

**1. Gather materials:** Prepare the following materials: epoxy resin and hardener (make sure to choose a food-safe resin if you plan to use the coasters for drinks), silicone coaster molds, release agent (optional), pigment or alcohol ink (optional for adding colour), stirring sticks, mixing cups, heat gun or torch, and any additional decorative elements like dried flowers or glitter (optional).

**2. Prepare the molds:** Clean the silicone coaster molds thoroughly and ensure they are dry. Apply a release agent (such as a mold release spray or a thin layer of petroleum jelly) to the molds if desired. This can help in releasing the cured resin easily.

**3. Mix the epoxy resin:** Follow the manufacturer's instructions to mix the epoxy resin and hardener in the correct ratio. Use a clean mixing cup and stir thoroughly to ensure the components are well combined. Take care to minimize the introduction of air bubbles while stirring.

**4. Add colour (optional):** If you want to add colour to your coasters, you can mix in pigments or alcohol ink into the epoxy resin mixture. Start with a small amount and gradually increase until you achieve the desired colour. Stir well to ensure the colour is evenly dispersed.

**5. Pour the resin into the molds:** Pour the mixed epoxy resin into the prepared silicone coaster molds. Fill each mold to the desired thickness, usually around 1/4 to 1/2 inch. If you wish, you can layer different colours or add decorative elements like dried flowers or glitter between the layers. Use a stirring stick or toothpick to arrange the elements and ensure they are submerged in the resin.

**6. Remove air bubbles:** To remove any air bubbles that may have formed during mixing and pouring, use a heat gun or torch on low heat. Pass the heat source over the surface of the resin in a sweeping motion, keeping it a few inches away from the coaster. This will help the bubbles rise to the surface and pop. Continue this process until most of the bubbles are eliminated.

**7. Allow curing:** Place the molds in a dust-free area with minimal disturbance and allow the epoxy resin to cure. Follow the manufacturer's instructions for the curing time, which typically ranges from 24 to 48 hours. Ensure the coasters remain level during the curing process to prevent any unevenness.

**8. Demold the coasters:** Once the epoxy resin has fully cured, gently flex the silicone molds to release the coasters. If you applied a release agent, they should come out easily. If any coasters stick, you can carefully push them out from the bottom or use a mold release spray around the edges.

**9. Finishing touches (optional):** After demolding, inspect the coasters for any rough edges or imperfections. You can use sandpaper or a rotary tool to smooth any rough spots. If desired, apply a clear resin topcoat to further enhance the appearance and provide a glossy finish.

**10. Enjoy your coasters:** Once any additional coating or touch-ups have dried, your epoxy resin coasters are ready to use! They make great gifts or personal additions to your home decor.

Remember to read and follow the instructions provided by the epoxy resin manufacturer for the specific product you are using. Safety precautions, such as wearing gloves and working in a well-ventilated area, should be observed throughout the process.

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