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How to use epoxy resin for beginners

Using epoxy resin for beginners can be an exciting and creative process. Here are some general steps to help you get started:

- 1. **Prepare your workspace:** Set up a clean, well-ventilated area to work in. Protect your work surface with a plastic sheet or wax paper to prevent any accidental spills or damage.
- 2. **Gather your materials:** You will need epoxy resin, a hardener, mixing cups, stirring sticks, silicone molds (if desired), and any additional items you want to include in your project (such as pigments, glitters, or objects to embed).
- 3. **Measure and mix:** Follow the instructions provided by the manufacturer to measure the resin and hardener in the correct ratio. Clearpox epoxy resin is a 2:1 ratio. Pour the resin and hardener into your mixing cup. Use a stirring stick to thoroughly mix the components for the recommended amount of time.
- 4. Add colour and additives: If you want to add colour or other additives like pigments or glitters, mix them into the resin thoroughly. This is where you can get creative and experiment with different combinations.
- 5. **Pour or cast:** Carefully pour the mixed resin into your desired molds or onto your surface. If you're working on a flat surface, you can use a brush or a spreader tool to evenly distribute the resin. If you're using molds, make sure they are clean and free of dust or debris. You can also layer different colors or add objects between layers for more depth and interest.
- 6. **Eliminate bubbles:** After pouring, you may notice small air bubbles trapped in the resin. To remove them, you can use a heat gun, a hair dryer, or a small torch to gently pass over the surface. Alternatively, you can exhale gently through a straw to create airflow over the resin, which helps the bubbles rise and pop.
- 7. **Curing time:** Follow the instructions provided by the manufacturer for the recommended curing time. Generally, epoxy resin takes anywhere from 24 to 72 hours to fully cure. Make sure to keep your project undisturbed during this time to avoid any imperfections.
- Finishing touches: Once your resin has cured, you can sand any rough edges or imperfections if needed. Apply a clear sealant or varnish to enhance the shine and protect the surface if desired.

Remember, it's important to always read and follow the specific instructions provided by the manufacturer of the epoxy resin you are using. Additionally, keep in mind that working with epoxy resin requires caution, so be sure to wear protective gloves and work in a well-ventilated area to minimize any potential risks.