



INSTRUCTIONS FOR USING JESMONITE

WHAT IS JESMONITE?

JESMONITE is a non-toxic, water-based resin system that is made up of 2 parts – a mineral resin powder and an acrylic liquid. It is not the same as traditional epoxy resin because it is an opaque material that does not have a shiny surface unless it is polished, varnished or waxed. However, it is very user friendly because of its non-toxicity - it is solvent free and contains no VOCs.

JESMONITE creates surface textures beautifully when cast into moulds and jewellery mounts. It can be fragile but is reinforceable with special quadaxial glass fibres.

Pigments can be added to it to give a range of dense opaque colours and it can be used for internal sculptures and in some jewellery applications.

*resin*⁸
JESMONITE
AC300 LIQUID 80g

For use with JESMONITE Base

A non-toxic, water-based, acrylic polymer/mineral resin system
for casting jewellery and sculpture
Resin8 Craft Supplies Ltd, Unit B4, Withytree Farm, Winchcombe, GL54 5NT
www.resin8.co.uk, info@resin8.co.uk, 01242 603624

*resin*⁸
JESMONITE
BASE 200g

For use with JESMONITE AC300 Liquid

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HEALTH AND SAFETY

- The manufacturers recommend working in a well-ventilated space
- Wear neoprene gloves if you intend to touch the material with your hands
- Wear an appropriate respiratory mask if using in large quantities and if rubbing down with abrasive papers
- Do not eat, drink or smoke when working with the materials
- May cause skin irritation (mechanical effect). Skin contact: Wash the affected area carefully with soap and clean water.
- May cause irritation in case of eye contact. Eye contact: Wash eyes immediately with plenty of clean water and seek medical advice if irritation persists.

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TECHNIQUE

Mixing Ratio

The standard mix ratio for Jesmonite is as follows:

**2.5 parts BASE : 1 part AC300 LIQUID
by weight**

For an easy calculation we suggest you weigh out 10g of BASE and 4g of LIQUID. This will make several pendants or castings.

Weigh out the BASE and the AC300 LIQUID into a plastic cup and mix with a mixing stick. It is important to stir until there is no dry powder in the liquid. If you are mixing large quantities, the manufacturers recommend that you use a special tool to blend but with small amounts a lollipop stick is sufficient.

Working Time

The time you have to work with the Jesmonite once mixed is 20 minutes. However, RETARDER can be added to the pre-weighed liquid to double the pot life of the mixed material (giving you a 40 minute pot life).

For the quantities suggest above we recommend adding a couple of drops of retarder. Please be aware that the RETARDER must be added to the neat AC300 LIQUID before it has been mixed with the BASE.

The temperature of the room will also come into play. The warmer the room, the less working time you will have.

Adding Colour

Pigment can be added to Jesmonite. Make sure you add pigment to the AC300 LIQUID before adding to the BASE - a drop of pigment will be enough for 4g of liquid.

Glitter and sequins can be embedded into Jesmonite easily while it is curing.

Using on a curved surface

If you want the mix to coat a curved surface, add THIXOTROPE to the mixed material. Add it drop by drop until it reaches the required thickness.

Strengthening

Jesmonite can be strengthened by adding fibres of quadaxial glass fabric. This is particularly important when making castings such as bangles, that will expect heavy wear and tear.

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Curing

Leave to cure in a warm place, which will help evaporate the water - it needs this evaporation to reach full strength. (Remember the water evaporation may affect any epoxy castings that are curing in the same confined space so it is best to have separate curing areas).

Jesmonite has a much shorter curing time than most epoxy resins. It will cure with a matt finish and it can be polished with a clean cotton cloth, and also with wax polishes, and coated in water based sealers and varnishes.

Care should be taken at the point of de-moulding, as the material can break easily if put under too much strain. Soft, flexible rubber moulding materials must be used for delicate objects with thin sections.

Once de-moulded place the objects in a warm, dry environment. Dependant on thickness full strength will be achieved in 24 hours. Ensure that objects are placed in a suitable rack, or on a shelf where air can circulate. Staining can occur if objects are placed against plastic before all excess water has evaporated.

Once it is completely dry, Jesmonite can be covered in a layer of epoxy resin but only if the epoxy resin does not have VOCs or a styrene content. Do not cure the epoxy resin in a curing cabinet as this will draw air out of the Jesmonite and create air bubbles in the epoxy layer.

Storage and shelf life

As a basic rule, Jesmonite containers should be kept well sealed to prevent water evaporation and skin forming. They should be stored at a constant temperature between 5 – 25°C and used within six months. Freezing must be avoided. Base should be kept dry and stored at 5 – 25°C.

FURTHER INFORMATION

If you have any questions don't hesitate to contact us. Please visit the web site (www.resin8.co.uk) for news of latest products.

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