

Embedding a Picture in a Resin Pendant

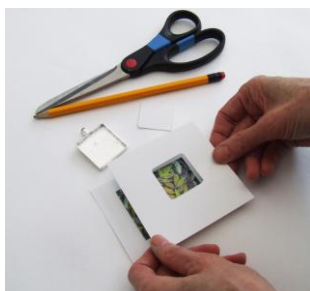
By Clare John



Clare has been making silver and resin jewellery for many years. 'I love the versatility of resin' says Clare 'I started using it as an enamel and I have been developing other techniques, such as embedding photos or postcards in clear resin and adding beads, sequins and glitter. When I teach classes there is always something to learn from the students!'

STEP BY STEP INSTRUCTIONS

STEP 1



Choose a postcard or photo and decide which part of the picture you want to use by placing a 'window' over the picture. Remember to observe copyright laws when using postcards.

STEP 2



Cut out your shape and make sure it fits into your pendant. Put your cutout onto newspaper and seal it well on both sides with hairspray. This will stop the inks bleeding into the resin and air bubbles coming out of the paper. When the hairspray is dry, glue the cutout into place using epoxy glue such as Araldite. Do not use super glue as this will react with resin.

STEP 3



Fix the pendant to an acrylic block with Blu tack and make sure the pendant is lying flat. Resin is liquid and will pour out if the pendant is uneven. The acrylic block is great because you can move the pendant without risk of getting your fingers in the wet resin and spoiling your piece.

STEP 4



Protect your hands by using a pea sized amount of barrier cream and rub it in well. Do not eat or drink when working with resin. Put a plastic cup on the scales and turn them on to zero. Carefully measure out 2 gm of resin (in the white bottle) and add 1 gm of hardener (in the brown glass bottle). Stir the mix well with a wooden mixing stick.

STEP 5



Now add the resin to the pendant by dripping it gently from your mixing stick into the middle. It will find its own level and you can encourage it to the edges with your stick. At this stage you can add beads, glitter, fabric etc. A thin layer of resin is all you need. Remember to wash your hands when you have finished.

STEP 6



Leave the pendant to set in a warm dust free place –preferably overnight.

Mix another batch of resin as above and put another layer on the pendant starting from the middle again. This final layer will be like a magnifying lens and will intensify the colour and image.

Leave to set as before. The next day your pendant is ready to wear- try it on a ribbon choker.

TOOLS AND MATERIALS



Pendant blank*
15gm bottle of clear resin and 15gm bottle of hardener*
digital scales*
photo or postcard
epoxy glue
hairspray
plastic cups
mixing sticks*
acrylic block*
kitchen roll
Blu tack
Scissors
thin card
pencil
newspaper
barrier cream
cook's torch(optional)

*Available from Clare's web site

DESIGNER TIPS

Tip 1: put a drop of resin next to the pendant so you can test it to check its set rather than testing your pendant.

Tip 2: scan photos so that you keep the original.

Tip 3: if you have bubbles in the resin, quickly pass a cook's torch flame over the top and the bubbles will burst.

CONTACT DETAILS

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