



# Creating Fun Resin Jewelry

A step by step guide to creating your  
own amazing resin jewelry



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# **Creative Resin Jewelry Design**

**Create your own fun, unique resin jewelry**

## **Creating Resin Jewelry – Tips, Tricks, and Step by Step Instructions**

Resin is a very versatile medium for creating fun and unique jewelry. But it can be a little complicated and overwhelming when you're first starting. This tutorial will tell you all of the tips, tricks, cost savers, time savers, and everything you wish someone would have told you about resin sooner! It can be hard to find resin tips online or from resin jewelry artists. Many resin artists refuse to disclose the secrets to how they make their gorgeous jewelry. Not me! I'm here to share with you everything about resin that no one will talk about. I've learned everything in this tutorial through years of experience and trial and error.

In this tutorial:

**\*Getting Started**

**\*The Basics**

**\*Layering \*Sanding Drilling and Finishing**

# Getting Started

The materials you will need will vary depending on your project. First, let's discuss what type of resin you should use.

I have experimented with many different types and brands of resin, and the brand that is BY FAR the best and easiest to use is EnviroTex Lite Pour On Resin. Why EnviroTex Lite? A lot of other resins use a catalyst that requires an eye dropper or very precise measuring. EnviroTex Lite resin is a 1:1 ratio, using an equal amount of resin as hardener. This is much easier than trying to calculate the amount of catalyst you'll need every time you want to use your resin. The package should look exactly like the photo below. Notice the white cap and black cap on the two bottles. The white cap is the resin and the black cap is the hardener.



But not all boxes of EnviroTex Lite are created equal. Notice how clear the bottles are in the image above. You should always open the box and take out the bottles before you purchase your resin. I've bought resin, gotten home, and opened the package and found yellow, discolored hardener that was virtually unusable. Take a look at the photo below. If you open your package and notice the hardener is yellow or orange, do not purchase it. This usually signifies that the hardener is very old. If

you have old resin lying around, you'll probably notice that it has started yellowing. Using yellow hardener may leave your pieces sticky and could potentially ruin your molds.



**\*\*Cost Saving Tip\*\*** Go to <http://michaels.com> and sign up for their email list. Every few weeks, I get a

40% off coupon in the mail, and I always use the 40% off coupon to buy my resin! I haven't found a Michael's yet that doesn't sell resin, and this will save you about \$12!

Now let's talk about molds. Not sure what type of molds you can use with resin? There are a few basic types of molds that will work with resin. The first type of resin molds are molds that are specifically made for resin. These will say on the packaging that they are resin molds, and they usually look like clear plastic.



Another type of mold you can use is silicone or rubber. These molds do not have to say that they're specifically for resin. Any type of silicone or rubber mold will work. I like to search online for unique silicone soap or candle molds that would make cool resin jewelry molds. Be creative when silicone mold shopping! The silicone heart mold shown below is actually a candy mold. It's one of my favorite molds and works perfectly for resin jewelry!



Another supply you will need to invest in is a mold release spray. Silicone molds will not need a release spray, but the plastic resin molds will.



The next supply you will need is a cup, or cups, to pour your resin in. There are specialty measuring cups for use with resin. They're single use disposable cups and they range from about \$8-\$12 for a set.





**\*\*Cost Saving Tip\*\*** I don't use any fancy measuring cups. Why? Because I'm cheap! If you're cheap, too, you'll love this next tip! Instead of tongue depressors and clear measuring cups, I use Dixie cups, chopsticks, and lollipop sticks. Now, you're probably saying to yourself, "WHAT?!" But let me explain.







In the first image, you can see the cups that we will be using. They're just simple Dixie cups. The second image shows a red permanent marker and a chopstick (yep, I said a chopstick) that I have made red lines on. The lines will be used to help me measure the resin. (You don't have to use a chopstick. You can use any long object that you can make a mark.) The third photo shows my lollipop sticks that we will use to stir the resin with. Some people use tongue depressors, but I MUCH prefer lollipop sticks. They're smoother, smaller, and easier to use.

There are many more supplies that can be used in resin jewelry making, but a lot of them depend on what type of project you're doing. Some examples are:

- \*Glitter and Confetti
- \*Dye or Paint
- \*Photo Paper and Ink \*And much more!

# The Basics

Now that you have all of your basic materials, let's start learning how to mix and pour the resin.



Grab two Dixie cups, one for the hardener and one for the resin. This photo shows the chopstick in the Dixie cup and, as you can see, I've made a mark on the inside of the cup where the lowest line on the chopstick is. You will then do the same thing with the second Dixie cup. Make sure the lines you make in the cups are the same depth in both, so you'll end up with an equal amount of resin and hardener.



Once you've made a mark on both cups, pour the hardener in one cup and the resin in the next. Then take the cup with the resin, and pour it into the cup with the hardener. Make sure to get as much out as you possibly can. Now it's time to mix the resin.



Take the lollipop stick (or whatever your stirring object you decided on is) and slowly stir the resin. You'll notice a lot of bubbles forming, but that's ok. Mix and stir for as long as you can, scraping the sides and making sure it's completely mixed. If the resin isn't mixed all of the way, your pieces may not harden and could potentially ruin your mold.



Now it's time to spray your mold with the mold release spray. Don't spray too much but make sure you cover the whole mold.

You'll notice that there's a lot of bubbles forming in the mold. Wait about 30 seconds and most of the bubbles will rise to the top.

Now, the only thing left to do is to mix them all together with your lollipop stick! Make sure everything is mixed. When you're finished, don't forget to blow on the pendant to get the bubbles out again (or use your heating tool. The only thing left to do is wait! Depending on the humidity of your room, you should wait about 8-12 hours. Do not attempt to remove the pendant if the back still feels sticky.





You'll probably notice that the mold release has pooled in certain areas. Take your finger and rub it around the mold to make sure it's evenly distributed and rub off any extra spray.



Now it's time to pour the resin. Pour it directly in the mold and fill to the top of the mold. Try not to overflow the mold or the sanding process will be a bit harder.



**\*\*Cost Saving Tip\*\*** To get bubbles out of resin most people use either a heat tool for embossing, a blow dryer, or sometimes even a torch. I use nothing more than hot air. I simply breathe hot air all over the pendant until all bubbles are popped. It works like a charm every time!

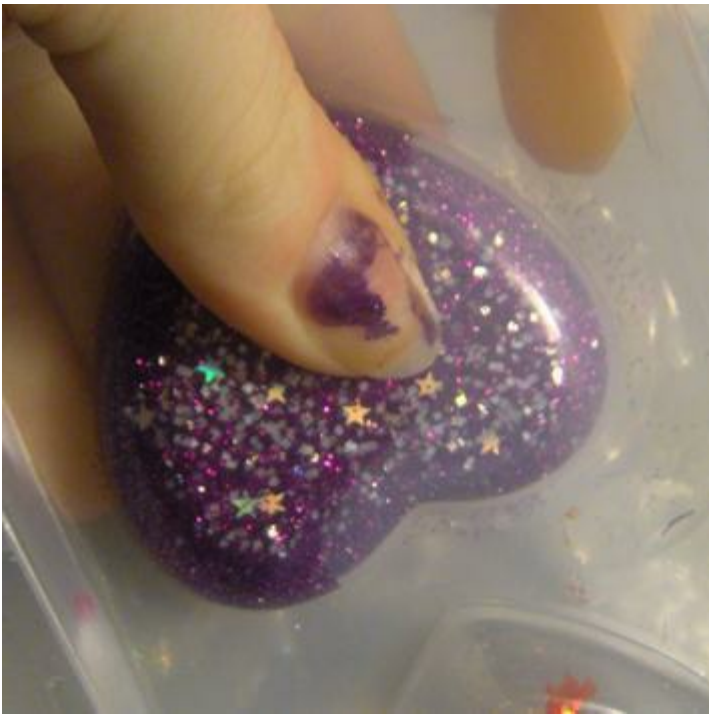




Now it's time to decide what you want inside your piece. I've decided to go with a simple sparkly purple! I have poured quite a bit of purple glitter into the mold on top of the resin. I decided that wasn't enough pizzazz so I added a bit of silver sparkles.



Even the silver glitter wasn't enough pizzazz for me, so I'm adding some holographic silver confetti stars. These Lazer Gems are amazing and they work in so many different projects, too!



Now it's time to pop the pretty purple pendant out of the mold! This is always the most exciting part! Just make sure you're not trying to do it too soon before the pendant is fully hardened. Push lightly on the back of the mold until the pendant starts to come free.

**\*\*Awesome Tip\*\*** Let's say you forgot to use your mold release spray. Or maybe you did use your spray, but the pendant still won't come out of the mold no matter how hard you try. Put the mold in the freezer! Leave it in the freezer for no longer than 5 minutes. Then wait 30 seconds to 1 minute and try popping it out of the mold again. It should come right out! Don't leave it in the freezer for too long or it could break when you try to pop it out of the mold if it's frozen. (I know from experience. Haha!)



Here's what our pendant turned out like! Isn't it pretty? But it's not quite finished yet. In a later chapter we'll discuss sanding and finishing your pieces.

**\*\*Awesome Tip\*\*** Don't try to sneak a peek at your pendant while it's still drying. I've made this mistake over and over, and it usually messes up my pendants. If you try to take a look at the underside of the mold to see what the front of the pendant will look like when it's done, you run the risk of spilling the resin out of the mold...which is exactly what I did. Notice the left side of this pendant. There's a lot of excess resin that will need to be sanded down because I was impatient and needed to peek.

# Layering

Now that you've learned how to make a single layer pendant, it's time to try multiple layers. It's actually a lot more simple than you might think.

Why multiple layers? If you want an image or design in your pendant and you also want to use glitter or dye as a background, without multiple layers the glitter or dye will seep in front of your image and your pendant won't turn out the way you want it to. Multiple layers will solve this issue.



Mix your resin just like you did for the single layer pendant and make sure to spray your mold release. Now it's time to pour the resin. This time, we're only going to pour resin into the mold halfway filling it. Make sure not to pour too much resin into your mold.

Now you get to pick the star of your pendant! This is the most fun and creative part. You could choose anything. If you have

stickers or images, pick one that you'd like to use (but make sure it's not going to be too big to fit in your mold). I've chosen an awesome red t-rex sticker because dinosaurs rock!



Push the image or sticker into the resin using your lollipop stick (or tool of choice). This is very important: make sure you place the image backwards!! Remember that you're creating this pendant backwards. So the image should be face down, and everything will be mirrored once the pendant is completed.





I decided that the dinosaur needed a bit of something more. So I added a little blue star. When adding more images, try to

place them in an empty space so the pendant won't look too crowded.

Our first layer is complete. Wait about 8-10 hours before adding your second layer. I know it's tempting to add it before the piece is dry, but if you add your layer too soon, the layer will sink and go into your first layer (trust me on this one. I know from experience.)



Now let's take a look at a pendant that I have one layer completed already, and we'll add the second layer. Turn your mold around and look at your first layer. Get an idea of the colors that are in the first layer, and start thinking about what color would match for your second layer. The pendant that I will be adding the second layer to has a lot of pink and yellow, so I'll be adding some pink glitter for my second layer. I thought about adding a mixture of yellow and pink glitter for the background, but the yellow and pink mixed



together would just create an orange background color. These are things you will need to think about and work out before you get started.



I've decided to go with this iridescent pink color of glitter which has flakes of silver and yellow.



First, pour your second layer of resin the same way you poured the first layer. Pour it right on top of your first layer, but do NOT use any mold release spray. Fill the mold completely with the resin up to the top without overflowing. Then add a generous amount of glitter or dye (we'll discuss dye later) into the resin and stir it into the resin with your stir

stick.

Make sure to either use your heating tool or blow hot air onto the back to get all of the bubbles out. Your finished pendant should look similar to this. Wait 8-10 hours before trying to pop the pendant out of the mold. The finished pendant below turned out pretty awesome, right? Once again, we'll get into sanding and finishing the pieces in a little while.



# Sanding, Drilling, and Finishing Your Pieces

Now that your pieces have hardened, it's time to sand them and turn them into jewelry.



This piece has a lot of extra resin on the sides. So before I start sanding, I'm actually going to use a pair of scissors to trim off the excess resin. Use a pair of scissors that you won't mind dulling. I use cheap scissors, so if they dull, it wouldn't bother me.



Now, I've trimmed off all of the excess resin with my scissors. But as you can see, the edges still aren't completely smooth. They're jagged and uneven. So now it's time for sanding.



Using your sandpaper

(choose a medium sandpaper, not too smooth and not too rough), sand only the edges of your pendant. Try not to sand the front of the piece. This will cause scratches.

# Drilling

**(not everyone will have a drill or a clamp, but we'll get to alternatives later)**

You'll need a clamp, a small drill bit, drill, a mini eye screw, and a bail or jump ring.



Place your pendant in your clamp and tighten your clamp. Then using a 1/16" drill bit, start drilling into the top of your pendant. Do NOT drill too far. Only drill up to .5 inches into the pendant, but try to drill less. Then take the pendant out of your clamp.





You're ready to insert the screw. There's no trick to it, just screw it right into where you drilled.



Now you can add either a jump ring to the screw or a clip on bail. I chose a fancy sterling plated clip on bail. Isn't it pretty? Now our pendant is complete!!

Don't have a drill? Don't worry! You can still turn your piece into a pendant using glue-on bails. But I find that it's much cheaper in the long run to just buy a drill and clamp. Glue-on bails can be pretty expensive.







I'm using some simple glue-on bails. Make sure you use a strong glue to glue it on to your pendant. I use E6000 glue. You could also use a dab of resin instead of glue, but it will take many more hours to dry. Simply add a dab of your glue, or resin, to the bail and stick it on the back of your pendant in the center. It's as simple as that!





# Unique Project Ideas

## Zebra Strips and Animal Print









Now that you have learned all of the basics, it's time to get creative! In this tutorial, you will learn how to create unique pendants with an animal print pattern. For this project you will need:

- \*Resin
- \*Mixing cups
- \*Resin mold
- \*Stir stick

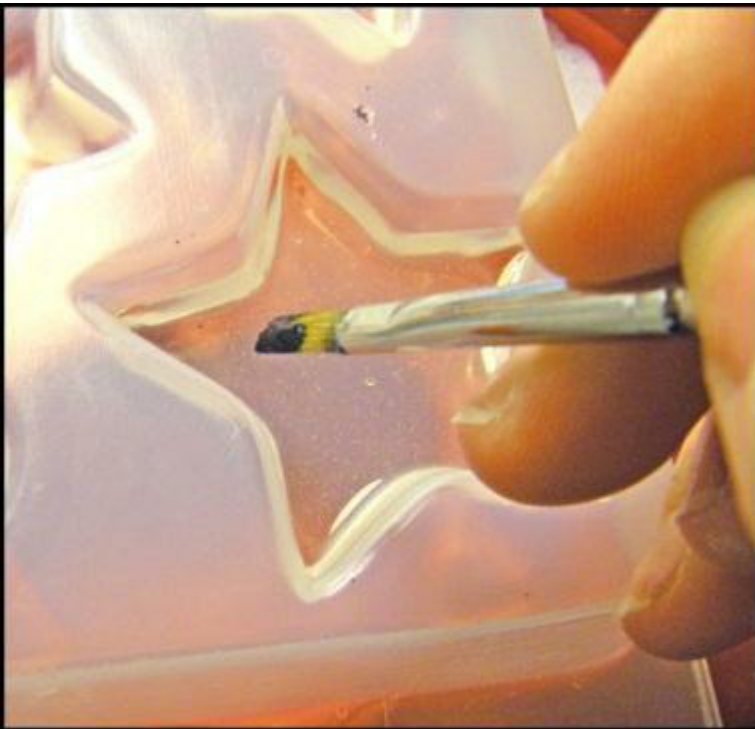
\*Acrylic Paint (in any color)

\*Paintbrush

\*Glitter or dye

\*Screw or bail

If you haven't done so already, read through the resin pouring basics. For the first step of your zebra striped pendant, you will need to pour resin into your mold filling it halfway. Don't forget to spray your mold release before pouring your resin. Allow the resin to completely dry for around 12 hours or until it is no longer sticky.



Now it's time for the acrylic paint. You should have an

idea in your mind already for the color that you'd like your zebra stripes to be. For the pendant that I created, I chose black. Dip your paintbrush into your acrylic paint.



Now it's time to start painting your stripes. Here's where your creativity comes in. No two pendants will be exactly alike since you will be freehand painting right onto the resin. Try not to get paint on the mold while painting your stripes.

Painting the stripes randomly on the resin, this is the pattern I ended up with. Allow your paint to dry for at least 10-15 minutes.





Now it's time to add the second layer. Mix your resin and pour it over your stripes filling to the top of the mold. Do NOT use any mold release spray over your stripes.



Now it's time to mix in your background color. I have chosen some hot pink glitter. But you could use just about any color of glitter or resin dyes. Add a generous amount to your resin. Try not to add too much or it could make a mess when you start stirring.

Start stirring your glitter (or dye). Stir slowly so the glitter doesn't overflow out of the mold and make a mess. While stirring, try not to scrape the painted stripes. You could risk scraping the paint off.



Now that your glitter is completely mixed in, wait around 10-12 hours and your pendant should be ready to be taken out of the mold.



Don't forget to sand your edges and finish by adding a screw or bail. Now your pendant is complete. And doesn't it look fantastic?!

# Unique Project Ideas

## Real Candy Sprinkle Pendants









Now that you have learned all of the basics, it's time to get creative! In this tutorial, you will learn how to create unique pendants filled with tons of real cupcake sprinkles. For this project you will need:

- \*Resin

- \*Mixing cups

- \*Resin mold

- \*Stir stick



\*Cupcake sprinkles (any color or shape)

\*Screw or bail



Using the resin basics tutorial as a guide, completely mix your resin. Now it's time to add the resin to your mold. Don't forget to first use your mold release spray!



Fill your mold almost completely to the top with resin. Leave a little space, and don't fill your mold completely. If you completely fill your mold, it will overflow once you add your sprinkles.



Now it's time to add your sprinkles. For this pendant, I have decided that I will add three different types of sprinkles. Get creative! Adding different shapes of sprinkles will give your pendant more dimension and flare! Always start with your smallest sprinkles. The heavier sprinkles will sink, so if you don't add your lightest first, you won't be able to see them since the heavy ones will already have sunk to the front.

Now it's time to add your second variety of sprinkles. Don't add too much all at once. You will be repeating this process multiple times until the pendant is full, so if you add too much right away, you'll have too much of one type of sprinkles in the front.



Repeat the same process and add your third type of sprinkles. You can add a fourth or fifth type if you'd like, but I think three is a good number so your pendant won't seem so busy and cluttered, but it will still have dimension. After you have added your third type, repeat the previous steps and add all three types of sprinkles again until your mold is completely full to the top with sprinkles.



Now it's time to push all of the sprinkles down with your stir stick. Make sure that every sprinkle is completely covered in resin. Some will try to float to the top, so make sure to coat every single one. If you don't make sure they're all covered, they might not get preserved and could end up rotting or getting moldy. Your mold should be completely filled with sprinkles and every sprinkle should be completely

covered in resin as shown in the photo above. Allow the pendant to dry for 10-12 hours.



Your finished pendant should look just like the pendant above! Doesn't it look colorful and delicious!? The sprinkles are now preserved forever. Don't forget to sand the edges of your pendant and add your bail.



# Unique Project Ideas





# Colored Swirls





Now that you have learned all of the basics, it's time to get creative! In this tutorial, you will learn how to create unique pendants with gorgeous swirls of color for a marbled effect. For this project you will need:

- \*Resin

- \*Mixing cups

- \*Resin mold

- \*Stir stick

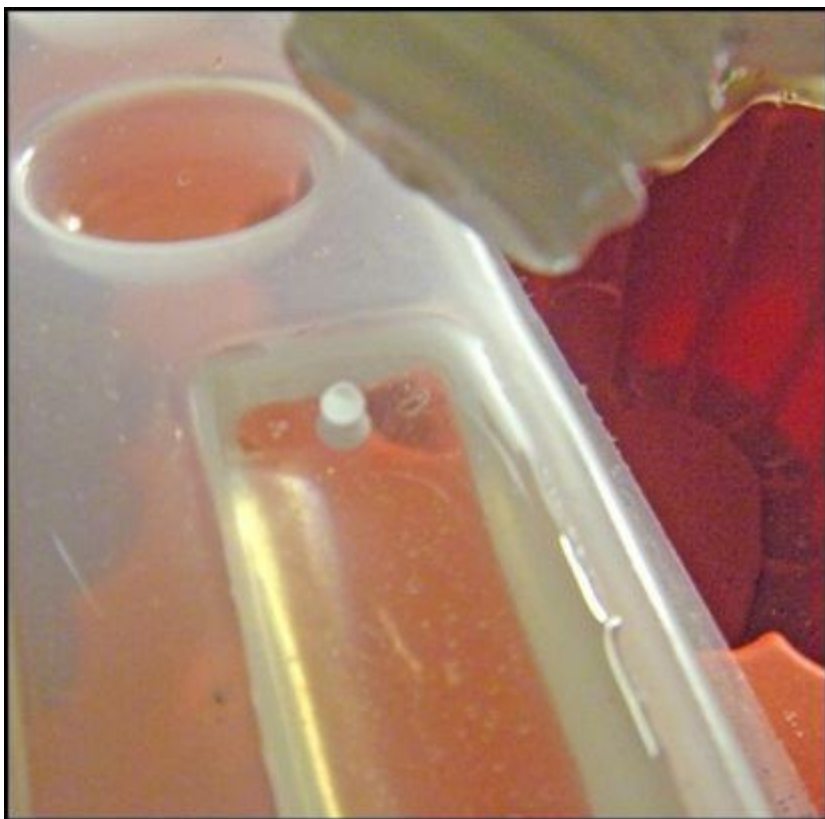
\*Resin dye or acrylic paint

\*Screw or bail

\*Sandpaper

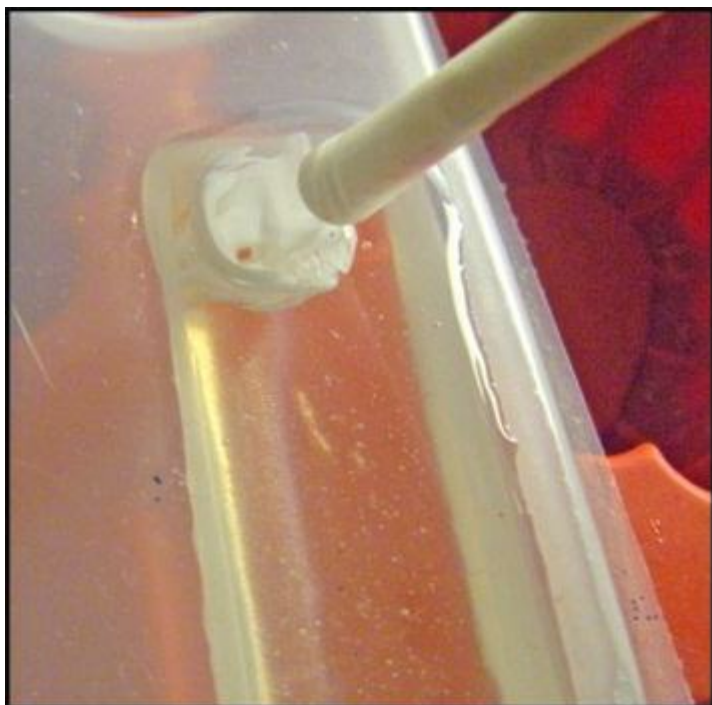


After you have chosen the mold you would like to use, fill it completely to the top with resin. Don't forget to use your mold release spray first! Decide what colors you're going to use and have them ready. You can use resin dyes, acrylic paints, and liquid gold leaf.



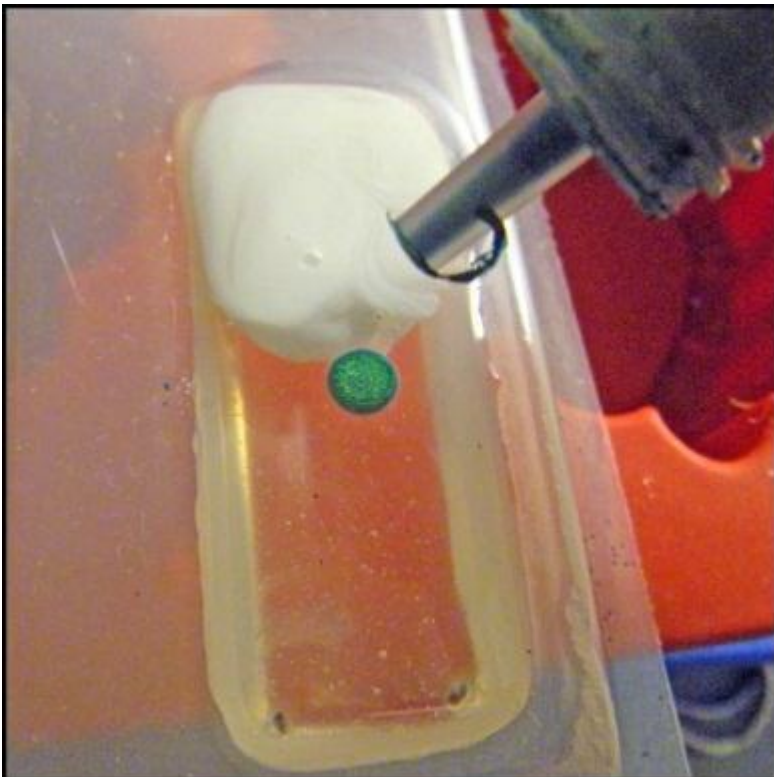
Determine which color you're going to use for the top part of your pendant. I have chosen an opaque white resin dye. Pour a tiny little drop at the very top of your pendant. Don't pour too much! You'll only need a tiny little drop. It might not look like much, but it will be enough.





Now you'll need to mix the white into the resin. This is the mistake most people make. A lot of

people would think that they should put all of their colors in the mold before they stir the resin, but that can lead to problems. If your dye isn't completely mixed into the resin, your pendant might not dry properly. Stir slowly and carefully. Make sure you stir ONLY at the top end of the mold, keeping all of the white at the top. Make sure you stir even the deepest part. Your dye will sink to the bottom, so if you don't stir the bottom, your pendant could end up sticky. Stir until you are sure the color you're using is completely mixed in with the resin.



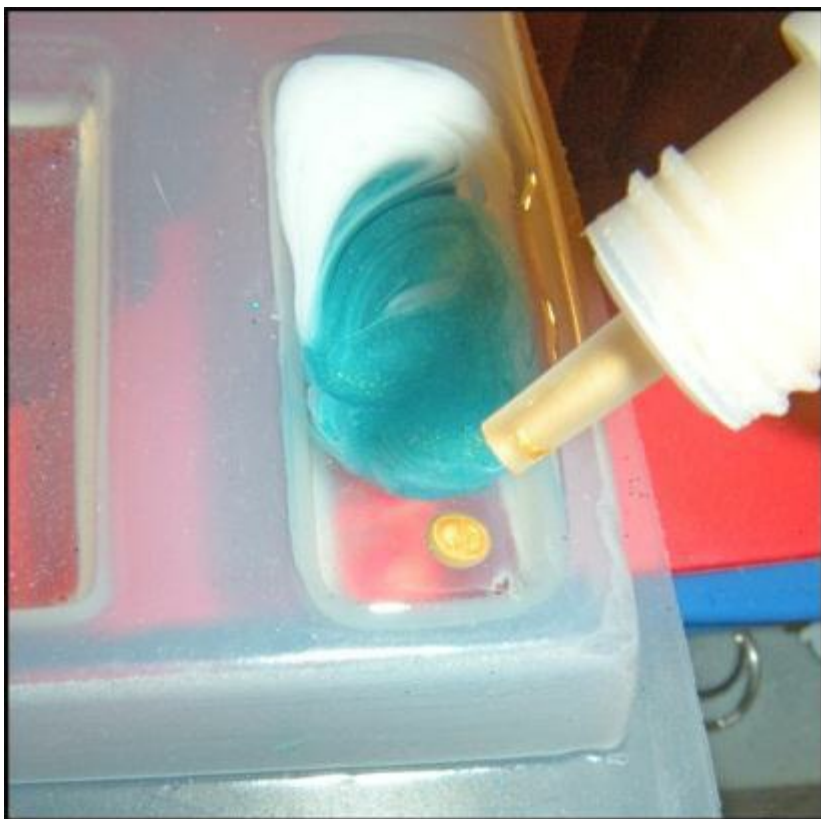
Now it's time to add your next color. I decided to go with

a shimmery teal blue acrylic paint. Again, add only a tiny drop to your resin. Add this color to the middle of your pendant right under your first color.



Stir your second color the same way you stirred your first color. Make sure all of the paint or dye is completely mixed in with the resin. Try not to mix it in with the white (or color you have chosen) yet. Also, make sure you leave space at the bottom for your third color.





Finally,  
add a tiny drop of your last color to the bottom of the mold. I  
have chosen a shimmery gold acrylic paint.



Stir just your bottom color until it's completely mixed in. Try not to mix it with your other two colors yet. A little swirling will probably occur, and that's completely fine. But try to save most of the swirling for the next step.





It's finally time to start swirling your colors together! This is the part where your creativity can really shine. Swirl very slowly, making sure to swirl deep into the mold. If you don't swirl all the way to the bottom, your swirls won't show since the bottom will end up being the front of your pendant. Swirl as little as possible! If you swirl too much, your colors will all blend together into one color and you won't have a nice marbled effect.



Here's the finished pendant. Look how gorgeous it turned out! The colors are swirled together perfectly. Don't forget to sand the edges and add your screw or bail.

**\*\*** When choosing your colors, keep in mind what they will look like swirled together! I have chosen white, blue, and gold. Notice how the gold ends up being more of a green. If you know your color wheel, you should already know that yellow and blue creates green. Stay away from swirling colors that will create an ugly brown. Avoid red and green, purple and yellow, and blue and orange. And I always find that adding white to any color palette makes a big impact!



# Unique Project Ideas

## Rainbows and Stripes









Now that you have learned all of the basics, it's time to get creative! In this tutorial, you will learn how to create unique pendants filled with tons of real cupcake sprinkles. For this project you will need:

- \*Resin

- \*Mixing cups

- \*Resin mold

- \*Stir stick

\*Glitter (in at least 4 different colors)

\*Screw or bail



The first thing you will need to do if you're using a plastic mold is spray your mold release. If you're using a silicone or rubber mold, you won't need a mold release.



Now it's time to add your resin. You'll want to only fill the mold  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the way full.





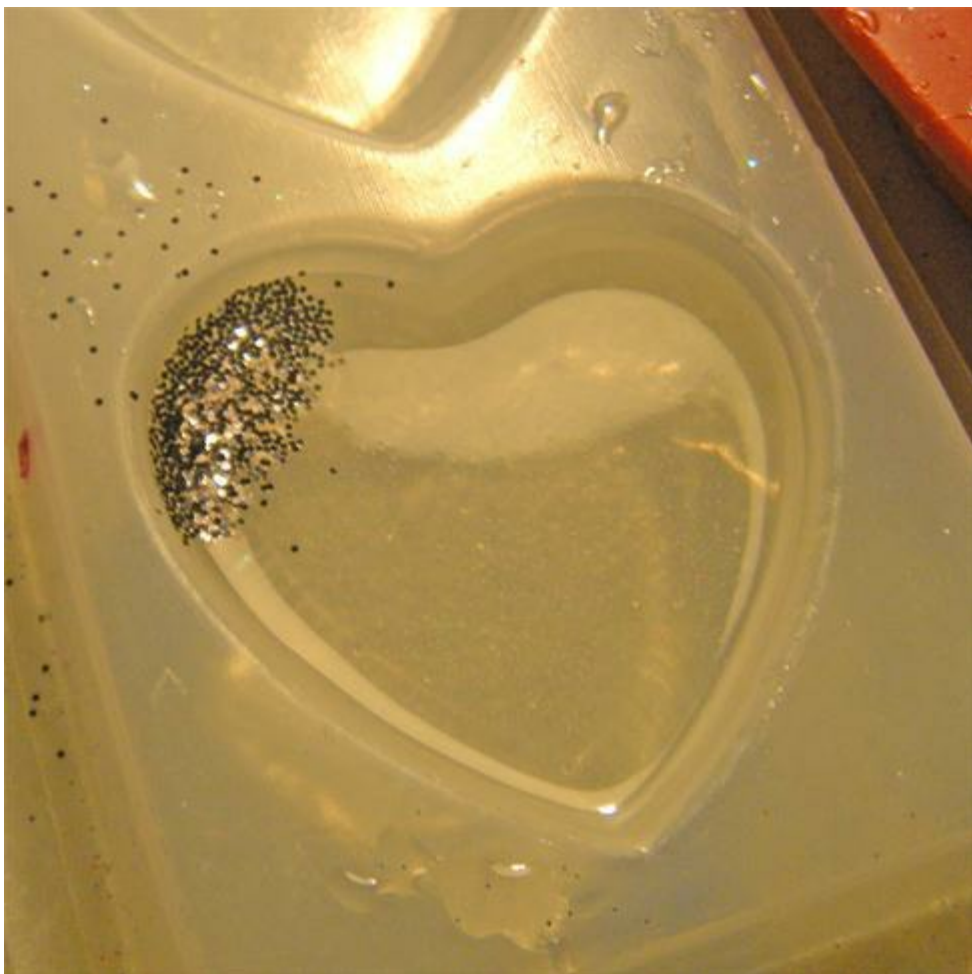
Next, it's time to pick out your glitter colors. I suggest using five different colors at the most. I have chosen green, hot pink, dark blue, purple, and black. But you can use red, orange, yellow, green, and blue if you're going for a rainbow effect. To get ready to create your stripes, uncap all of your glitter

colors you chose.

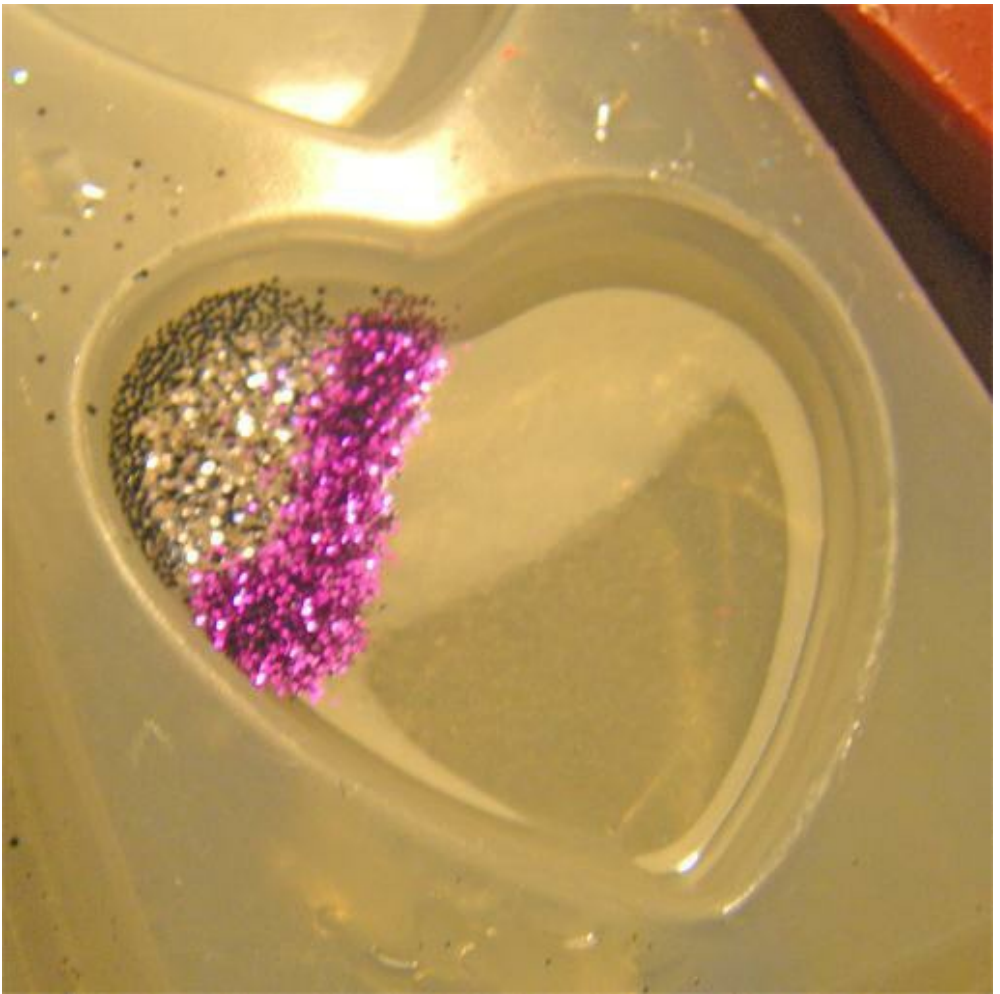


Grab your first color of glitter. I have chosen black. Be careful not to knock over your other glitter tubes since they're all open.





Holding the glitter over the left edge of the mold, use your index finger to tap out a very, very thin layer of the glitter in the upper left corner, as shown in the photo. Make sure you don't add too much glitter. If you add too much, the glitter will sink to the bottom, and it won't end up looking even. Also, make sure to add the glitter in as straight of a line as possible. Don't add as thick of a stripe as you think you'll need. The glitter will spread pretty fast towards the right side. So you will need to grab your next color quickly!



Now it's time to add your second color. I have chosen a dark purple. Add your second color in a straight line as close to your first color as possible. Again, make sure to only add a little so it doesn't sink.



Next, add your third color. Notice how the black and purple have spread out towards the right and the stripes are thicker than they were in the previous photos? The glitter will spread extremely fast, so while doing your stripes be as quick as you can.



Add your fourth color, again try adding it as close to your third color as possible while making sure not to add too much.





It's time to add your last color. Fill in the rest of the empty space. The glitter should all spread out and become even. You may be tempted to lift your mold and look underneath to see how your pendant is turning out. But do NOT move your mold. Any slight movement of the mold could cause the resin to move and ruin your stripes. Allow the resin to dry for 10-12 hours.



Once the first layer is dry, it's time to add the second layer. If you don't add a second layer, the glitter will rub off the back of the pendant and get all over the person wearing it. You can keep the second layer clear if you'd like. I prefer to add a touch of shimmery iridescent glitter for some added visual interest. Add your glitter and stir until it's completely mixed in.





Allow the pendant to dry for 10-12 more hours. Pop the pendant out of the mold, sand and finish your piece, and you now have a fun, striped pendant! Since this is a more advanced technique, it may take you a few tries to get the hang of it. Don't worry if the first few pendants you attempt don't turn out perfect. With a little practice, you'll have amazing rainbow or striped pendants in no time!



# Polishing Dull Pendants

Have you ever popped a pendant out of the mold to find that it's dull and lacking any shine? I know I have. I noticed that when using silicone or rubber molds my pendants didn't turn out nearly as shiny as the rest. One day, completely by accident, I discovered a way to polish and shine these dull, boring pendants! Now, all of my pendants shine, shimmer, and sparkle!

Believe it or not, all you will need to polish your pendants to a perfect shine is a stir rod/stick and more resin!



I chose this rainbow sparkly star pendant. It's such a fun pendant, but I wish it was a lot more sparkly. After all, what's the point of so much glitter if the pendant won't even sparkle?! You will first need to mix together some resin. You won't need much. You'll only need about a teaspoon sized amount. Next you will need to dip your stir stick or rod into the resin you just mixed. Now apply a small amount of the resin on to the top of your dull pendant. Start in the middle and work towards the sides.





Start spreading the resin around on the top of the pendant. Go all the way to the edges. Don't add too much resin or it could spill over the sides. Spread the resin from the middle to the edges.



You may notice small air bubbles. They should all pop by themselves after they rise to the surface, but if they don't, simply breathe a bit of hot air on the pendant (slowly so you don't move the resin too much) and the bubbles will all pop. Make sure your pendant dries on a very flat surface. If your pendant isn't on a flat surface, the resin will all drip to one side and make a mess and your pendant could get ruined. The resin will level itself out in a few seconds and be perfectly flat and super shiny. Look how fantastic this pendant looks now! What a difference!



