

HOW TO MAKE A GELATINE PLATE

Make your own Gelatine plate and get the shape and size you want. This plate is used for creating Gouache monotypes, Chine Colle and making decorative papers without a press.

65 Grams or 7 tablespoons Powdered Gelatine

1 Cup cold water

1 Cup boiling water

½ cup Glycerine

1 Cup Isopropyl or rubbing alcohol

Baking or cake tin, make sure it has a smooth base and good corners.

- You need to be able to microwave the mixture - use a Pyrex bowl to mix the gelatine with cold water, pour on the boiling water and stir well. This may take some persistence to mix evenly.
- Put the bowl into microwave for 1 minute, stir well and microwave an extra minute to dissolve any lumps. You may need to microwave a further minute but watch that it does not boil over, maybe put a dish underneath to catch it if it boils over.
- When the mixture is completely dissolved add the glycerine & isopropyl alcohol combine well and pour into a cake or baking tin. Leave to cool, the Isopropyl alcohol smells strongly so leave in a cool place until it is set. Once it is cool it can be placed in a sealed plastic bag & refrigerated. Condensation may occur if you cover it before it's cooled affecting the surface.

The plate can be renewed by melting in the microwave or on the cook-top and reset in the baking tin. Because the mix contains glycerine & isopropyl alcohol it has “plasticised” and does not need refrigerating but keep the plate in a ziplock sealed plastic bag in a cool place. Glycerine and Isopropyl Alcohol can be purchased in supermarkets and pharmacies.

To print these plates, apply gouache to the surface and place dampened paper over and rub a flat hand across the back of the paper. Wipe over with a dampened sponge to clean. How easy is that!

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