

Tutorial: Making your own Biomaterials with Gelatine and Glycerine



Supplies:

- 16 g gelatine powder
- 2,5 g glycerine
- 80 ml of water
- a few drops of Cosguard or essential oil tea tree, mint or lavender
- To personalise it: coloured chalk or other powder, crushed eggshells, seeds

Material:

- a bowl
- a scale
- a pan
- an hotplate or microwave
- moulds to pour the mixture into or embroidery circles and plastic.

Steps:

1. Prepare the embroidery circles by clamping the plastic between the two circles
2. Add the decoration (colour, eggshell etc) to the embroidery circles.
3. Weigh all the ingredients and add them to the pan
4. Dissolve gelatine: Mix the gelatine with water in a bowl. Stir well until the gelatine is completely dissolved. Heat the mixture in the microwave or on the cooker until warm, but not boiling.
5. Adding glycerine to the heated gelatine mixture. Stir gently to avoid air bubbles. Glycerine will make the biomaterial more flexible. Remove the pan from the heat when the mixture has the consistency of syrup.
6. Add the Cosguard or essential oil to prevent moulding.
7. Pour the mixture into the embroidery circle or mould.



8. Cool and cure: Allow to cool and harden for one hour.
9. Remove the plastic from the embroidery circle. Bring the two rings back together and hang it up to allow the plastic to cure on both sides. Full curing may take several days.



Maintenance:

Store your biomaterials in a cool and dry place to keep them in good condition and do not submerge it in water.

Tips:

Experiment with the proportions of gelatine, glycerine and water to obtain different properties (e.g. firmer or more flexible material).