

Notes from Max Doerner & Jacques Maroger

MAKING YOUR GLUE SIZING

Traditional Canvas Sizing

Objective

Identify the different types of Hyde Glue. Why use only filtered or distilled water. How you should prepare your glue for heating. What to do when heating your glue, and why you should never heat your glue to above blood war. How to avoid cracking and crazing in your grounds. Why you should store your glue in the refrigerator.

Key Points

1. The Various Types of Hyde Glue and Best Practices
2. How to Prepare Your Glue Steps A & B
3. Heating your Glue
4. Do Not Over Heat Your Glue, Will Cause Weakening. This Can Lead to Cracking and Crazing
5. Storing Your Glue
6. Where To Buy Your Glue Pellets
7. Final Note on Glue Strength

Materials List

1. Double Boiler
 2. Electric Burner
 3. Hyde Glue Pellets
 4. Measuring Cups
 5. Sealed Jar
 6. Stirring Instrument
 7. Distilled or Filtered water
-
1. Hyde glues are the preferred glue, often referred to as Rabbit Skin Glue. The Rabbit Skin Glue most likely is a less strong cow skin glue.
 2. Rabbit Skin Glue comes in three basic forms. Granular like a powder, little pellets like gravel and sheet form. The granular can be too strong and is more difficult to get positive results. I prefer the pellet type of glue. The sheet glue has to be broken into small pieces. Store your glue in a dry form so moisture won't affect it.

3. Glue Strength - This is the most important step in preparing your canvas. If the glue is too strong, it will destroy and twist your stretcher bars. Too weak it will not provide a proper barrier.
4. Strength may vary from batch to batch and may vary among manufacturers. One should do a test sample with each batch of glue before laying out canvasses to stretch.
5. Preparing Your Glue
 1. Use filtered or distilled water refrigerated cold water! 8 ounces of water to 1/4 of cup of pellets. You can graduate these proportions as you can experience. Let it sit and refrigerate for a minimum of 6 hours, it may be best to do this the night before.
 2. Using a double boiler allow the solution to become liquid. Caution do not over heat, cook until blood warm. Test the temperature by putting a little on the back of your hand. At first you will feel the cold, the cold will start to warm up. When you cannot feel the temperature difference that will be what is referred to as blood warm. *** Heating should only be done when you are ready to apply the sizing.*
6. Store your glue in a Jar in the refrigerator, mark do not eat. It will store for a week to 10 days.