

Frequently asked questions about Super Glue

1. How do I remove Superglue from skin?

You can use either Acetone or nail polish remover, alternatively soak the bonded area in warm soapy water, or allow the glue to naturally exfoliate from your skin which will take a day or two. Never pull superglue off your skin, and if your fingers are glue together, don't pull the area apart as this will damage your skin.

Once it has dried on your hands, you will naturally exfoliate after a day or two.

We recommend the use of latex or rubber gloves when working with superglue.

2. What is the difference between Bostik Blits Stik superglue and the gel variety?

The main difference is that the Bostik Blits Stik Gel is more viscous and is therefore non-drip, which makes it easier and less messy to use. It can also be used to glue surfaces together that may not fit perfectly together. The standard Blits Stik superglue sets slightly faster and must be used for well-mated surfaces.

3. How do I remove superglue from clothing / table top?

Use acetone (alternatively, use nail polish remover, which is acetone). However, acetone is not suitable for non-colour fast fibres and certain synthetic fibres, or painted surfaces. Wherever you intend using it, you must test first on an inconspicuous place for surface damage. If surface damage is an issue, warm soapy water is the next best thing to use.

If you find traditional superglue messy to work with, try switching to Blitz Stick Superglue Gel, in a red tube – which does not run or drip like a normal superglue. Alternatively, Bostik supplies a blue mini pack of single use / one-application tubes. This also cuts down on spills.

4. What adhesive can I use to bond hard plastics such as polyethylene and polycarbonate?

These are very difficult surfaces to glue and it is difficult to achieve a long lasting durable bond. Epoxies and superglues may give a temporary bond to small parts. The best adhesive to use is Bostik Hard Plastics, which is a 2-part superglue, consisting of superglue and special surface primer which is applied to the plastic surface just prior to gluing to enhance adhesion of the superglue.

5. How do I use Superglue?

Superglue is easy to use. It dries in 30-60 seconds and no clamps are needed. Clean the surfaces of the items you wish to bond, getting rid of any dust, dirt and grease. Apply a small drop of Superglue, then put your pieces together and hold for 30-60 seconds. You can handle the glued up object after 1-5 minutes.

6. What surfaces does a superglue bond to?

Wood, metals, glass, ceramics, and many plastics, e.g. polycarbonate, hard PVC, fibreglass, etc.

7. How does the bond of an epoxy adhesive compare to that of a superglue?

An epoxy adhesive forms a much stronger and more durable bond compared to a superglue. A superglue however is ideal to use when an instant bond is required.

8. Can I use Superglue on paper?

No, superglue does not work on paper and other very porous surfaces. Superglue works best on non porous surfaces such as metal and glass.

9. Is Superglue heat and water resistant?

Superglue works well up to temperatures as high as 90°C and have good water resistance, however, too much exposure to extreme heat will cause the strength of the bond to weaken and similarly, exposure to too much water, especially warm water will also cause the bond to weaken.

10.

How do I extend the shelf life of my Superglue?

Storage of your superglue in a fridge is the best way to extend the shelf life. Be careful however to ensure that the superglue is out of reach from small children, and definitely do not store next to a bottle of eye ointment! There have been many incidents of people squirting superglue into their eyes, as containers often look very similar! Superglue used straight out of the fridge will take a little longer to set due to its low temperature.

