

Recipe for Homemade Gelli Plate

I love printing with a Gelli plate to create one of a kind, hand printed papers using amazing colors, textures, and layers. The process is so much fun, and the results are amazing. There is no way to mess up.

Gelli plate printing is economical and great for beginners. You can make colorful backgrounds, textured pages, multiple layers, basic borders, and masks. Using stencils, found objects, texture tools and stamps, you can create interesting and practical works of art.

You can purchase Gelli Arts printing plates, but you can also make your own using easy to find ingredients. You will need a nonporous pan or container that is at least 2" deep. I like to use acrylic photo frame boxes in varies sizes. But any flat bottom container will work fine.

Use the recipe below to make your own.

Materials:

7 packets Knox gelatin (1ounce each)

1 ½ cups glycerin

1 ½ cups boiling water

Mix gelatin with glycerin and stir well. Slowly stir in boiling water. Mix well. Pour into mold. Push air bubbles to the edge of the mold. Let set overnight. Run a knife around the edge to loosen. Remove from mold.

Note: It is best to carry and store the plate on a sturdy nonstock surface such as a sheet of acrylic (Plexiglas) cut 0.5" larger than the plate on all sides.

Supplies:

- Gelli Arts plate or you can make your own
- Brayer
- Acrylic paints, soft body, heavy body, fluid acrylics, and open acrylics, printing inks work well
- Cotton fabrics, muslin, cut to the size of your plate
- Old newspapers, freezer paper, paper towels, baby wipes, vinyl gloves, pan of water
- Dollies, stencils, stamps, found objects, outdoor fencing, roller stamps, netting, texture of any kind
- File folders or paper for clean up