

How to make glue from common items

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# Does anyone know how to make glue from house hold items?

I have found several websites, but require things that the normal person doesn't keep in stock in their kitchen at all times. If anyone has a link or a how-to on making basic glue for kids to use in crafts, I would appreciate it.

- 1 year ago

## Additional Details

1 year ago

Yes I know it is less than a dollar at Walmart or Kmart, but I want to teach my kids how to make their own. This also help reduce waste in the landfills if you make your own. I asked for how to make it, not where to buy it. But hey, you got a point for answering though didn't you. :)

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by [Moose](#)

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October 09, 2007

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## Best Answer - Chosen by Asker

The following glue and paste recipes use a variety of ingredients and methods. Choose the one that best suits your project. For variety, add food coloring before using. Store all glues and pastes in airtight containers in the refrigerator.

## Glue

### Materials

- \* 3/4 cup water
- \* 2 tablespoons corn syrup
- \* 1 teaspoon white vinegar
- \* Small saucepan
- \* Small bowl
- \* 2 tablespoons cornstarch
- \* 3/4 cup cold water

### Directions

1. Mix water, corn syrup, and vinegar in saucepan.
2. Bring to a full, rolling boil.
3. In bowl, mix cornstarch with cold water.
4. Add this mixture slowly to the hot mixture, stirring constantly until the mixture returns to a boil.
5. Boil for 1 minute, then remove from heat.
6. When cooled, pour into another container and let stand overnight before using.

## Homemade Paste

### Materials

- \* 1/2 cup flour
- \* Cold water
- \* Saucepan
- \* Food coloring (optional)

### Directions

1. Add cold water to flour until mixture is as thick as cream.
2. Simmer and stir in saucepan for 5 minutes.
3. Add a few drops of food coloring, if desired.
4. This wet, messy paste takes a while to dry.

## Papier-Mache Paste

### Materials

- \* 1 cup water
- \* 1/4 cup flour
- \* 5 cups lightly boiling water

\* Large saucepan

#### Directions

1. Mix flour into 1 cup water until mixture is thin and runny.
2. Stir this mixture into lightly boiling water.
3. Gently boil and stir 2-3 minutes.
4. Cool before using.

#### No-Cook Paste

#### Materials

- \* Bowl
- \* 1/2 cup flour
- \* Water
- \* Salt

#### Directions

1. In bowl, mix flour with enough water to make a mixture that's gooey, but not runny.
2. Add a pinch of salt; stir.

- 1 year ago

#### Source(s):

<http://fun.familyeducation.com/crafts/to...>

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#### Asker's Rating:

\*\*\*\*\*

#### Asker's Comment:

Thanks for all the great different ways to make it. Also putting the link on there was great, I bookmarked it.

Thanks a bunch!

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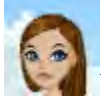
flour and water, add food coloring to give it a kick,

- 1 year ago

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maint man

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- by [sally](#)

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I have used flour mixed with water in the past, but only for paper mache.

Dont know if thats useful or not?!

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- by [lost24-7](#)

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Why bother? Elmers glue is only \$.96 anyway.

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Walmart.

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- by [VW](#)

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Beaten eggwhites work well. Here are some other suggestions if you haven't already looked at them. They are basically made from ingredients most have at their home.

#### Homemade Glue

##### Ingredients:

3/4 cup water  
2 tablespoons corn syrup  
1 teaspoon white vinegar  
1/2 cup cornstarch  
3/4 cup cold water

##### Directions:

Mix water, corn syrup and vinegar in a saucepan. Bring to a rolling boil.

In a small bowl, mix cornstarch and cold water. Add this mixture slowly to first mixture, stirring constantly.

Let stand overnight before using.

#### Waterproof Glue

##### Ingredients:

2 packets (1/2 ounce) unflavored gelatin  
2 tablespoons cold water  
3 tablespoons skimmed milk

##### Directions:

In a small bowl, sprinkle gelatin over cold water and let sit until softened.

Pour milk into a saucepan and bring to a boil.

Pour milk into softened gelatin and stir until dissolved.

#### Homemade Paste

Ingredients:

1/2 cup flour

Cold water

Directions:

Add flour to a sauce pan. Add cold water until a thick cream forms.

Simmer on stove for 5 minutes. Allow to cool before using.

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- by [M1](#)

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Flour and water makes a wall paper paste like substance and if the little angels decided to eat it it won't hurt them.

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- by [bunbun](#)

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try this one:

<http://www.recipezaar.com/118849>

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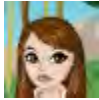
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ordinary cooking flour and water mix together into a paste and use.

its great for paper mach'e

HAVE FUN

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- by [rikarooo...](#)

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boil flour and water

and its done

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- by [peter p](#)

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if you had a horse you could use it's hooves.

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- by [AuntieM](#)

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the only way to make glue at home is to use flour and water...put the flour in a bowl and add water slowly till you get the consistency of glue...if you over water, it will not be glue anymore...it's like of like making slurry for making a gravy...so be careful with the amount of water...then you will have glue at your fingertips anytime you need it...very fun for kids to watch you make it...

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- by [poorguy](#)

Member since:  
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You can use the styrofoam, the one used to protect packages inside a box. get a piece of styrofoam, slowly pour in small quantity of gasoline. the styrofoam will melt down...mix it slowly with any kind of stick available, add gasoline drop by drop if needed. it will turn into a sticky substance. Try a small amount first to practice.

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- by [Shelley B](#)

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October 07, 2007  
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<http://answers.yahoo.com/question/index?qid=20071011060843AApJNlo>

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Commercial glue can be expensive, especially if you're working on a large project or with a large group of kids. You can make glue in many different ways, but this method is easy. Follow these steps to make homemade glue.

- 

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Instructions  
Difficulty: Easy

## Things You'll Need:

- Measuring spoons
- Measuring cup
- Rubber band
- Paper towels
- Vinegar
- [Baking soda](#)
- Skim milk

### Step1

Put one cup of skim milk in a small bowl and add four tablespoons of vinegar. Stir and let sit for two minutes. Notice the vinegar makes the milk [protein](#) form curds.

### Step2

Strain the whey, or liquid, from the curds. Place a paper towel over a large cup or glass and attach it with a rubber band. Make a dip in the middle by pushing down.

### Step3

Pour the mixture into the cup. The curds will remain on top.

### Step4

Scoop curds and place them on a paper towel. Press them from the top with another paper towel to remove all the liquid.

### Step5

Place the curds in a small bowl. Add two teaspoons of baking soda and four teaspoons of water. Listen to the bubbles as the vinegar reacts with the baking soda to produce carbon dioxide. If the mixture is too thick, add some water.

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## Tips & Warnings

- If you find that this glue doesn't work well with your project, look online for some other easy recipes.
- Another easy glue recipe uses flour and alum, but you will probably need to go to the store for the alum.
- Don't eat it. Although nontoxic, you could end up with a tummyache.

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Glue is one household item that you never seem to be able to find when you need it. If this dilemma threatens to delay your craft projects you can solve it by making what you need. Follow these instructions and you can make glue at home whenever you need it.

### Materials:

½ cup milk  
1 tablespoon white [vinegar](#)  
1 teaspoon hot water  
2 teaspoons baking soda  
2 small microwaveable bowls  
Spoon  
1 cup or jar with airtight lid  
Coffee filter  
Microwave

1. **Heat milk in microwave.** Pour the milk into a small microwaveable bowl. Then place the bowl in the microwave for twenty seconds to heat the milk.

2. **Add vinegar.** Pour the vinegar into the milk.
3. **Set the bowl aside for a few minutes.** This step allows the milk to separate into curds and whey. The milk should start to appear cloudy and you should see the separation.
4. **Separate the milk curds.** The curds are the thick white chunks that separated from the clear or yellowish liquid whey. Place the coffee filter over the second bowl. Pour the separated milk over the filter. The whey should filter through while the curds are captured. Once you have emptied the first bowl, fold the coffee filter closed to capture the curds then squeeze lightly to get any remaining whey to filter out.
5. **Place the curds in the airtight cup or jar.** This container needs to be airtight to keep your glue from drying out.
6. **Mix in hot water and baking soda.** Stir with a spoon as you add these two items. By stirring consistently you should be able to remove the clumps of the milk curds and create a creamy glue consistency. Add water for more liquid glue and baking soda to stiffen the mix if it is too watery.
7. **Close lid and store container in the refrigerator.** Since milk was used as the base of your glue it will need to be refrigerated or it will spoil quickly. The glue is ready to use after a minute or two in the fridge.

Making glue at home is a quick and easy solution when you find yourself without needed [adhesive](#). This glue recipe should be used in place of typical white glue. Do not use this glue if you are looking for glue for wood projects, projects that need a watertight seal or for projects that will be outside in a tropical climate. For common household craft projects, this glue [recipe](#) will work in a pinch.

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## [How to make glue slime](#)

29 07 2008

The slime that we made in camp this week with Elmer's Glue with Borax and water produces a putty-like material. It's easy to make, fun to play with, and will teach you something about the properties of polymers. Go ahead, give it a try!



**Materials:** 2 baggies, bottle of food coloring, eye dropper, bottle of glue, water, borax (find it at the grocery store with the laundry detergent)

1. First mix 2 teaspoons of borax and 1/2 cup of water in a bowl. Set aside for later.
2. Put 1 Tablespoon of glue into a baggie.
3. Scoop 1 Tablespoon of plain water and add it to the bag.

4. Puts 2 drops of food coloring into the bag.
5. Squeeze the bag gently with hands to mix it.
6. After mixing, get the bowl of borax water, stir it vigorously, tilt it, and scoop a Tablespoon of the borax water from the very bottom and add it to your baggie.
7. Seal the bag and squeeze for 2 minutes in order to thoroughly mix the liquids. (now is a good time to observe what is happening to the runny glue. What changes are taking place?)
8. When the slime is thoroughly mixed, over a garbage can, turn the bag inside out and scrape the slime together into a ball with your hand. Throw bag away immediately.
9. Get a fresh baggie to put your glue slime in when done. Wash your hands and try to keep it off your clothes and the carpet or it will stain!

What's going on here? Glue is a polymer, which means it's made up of long chains of molecules. Borax causes the glue chains to link together, making a stretchy, gooey slime!

What cool things can **YOU** do with slime? Let us know by leaving a comment!

-----

Mending things is a part of human nature. Broken interpersonal matters are usually fixed with a good conversation. Ironically, the simpler task of reconnecting objects and gadgets is something that a man cannot do on his own. He has to rely on a simple item to do the mending for him. That item is called glue.

### **Types of Glue**

Glue is a liquid compound that bonds two surfaces together. It is made from a variety of items, depending on the applications set for the finished product. Here are some of the basic types of glue with the corresponding items that they mend:

- **paper mache glue** – wallpaper, paper mache, simple art projects
- **edible paste** – paper, paper mache, paper crafts
- **waterproof glue** – paper, fabrics, and thin leather
- **glass glue** – fairly light glass objects
- **dish and pottery cement** – dishes, china
- **plaster of Paris cement** – dishes, china
- **liquid cement** – wood, glass, cardboard

Making each type of glue is easy. You just have to mix and heat the ingredients, until the resulting mixture becomes sticky enough to join stuff. Choose which type of glue to make, depending on the items that you need to fix or create.

### **Paper Mache Glue**

Paper mache and other paper-based art projects require an adhesive that is lightweight and can totally harden paper. It does not have to be too sticky, as long as it can join paper to create one solid structure. The amount of each ingredient is critical to produce such an effect, so you have to create the solution carefully.

#### **Materials Used:**

- 1 ½ cups flour
- 2 cups hot water
- 1 cup cold water
- 1 tbsp alum
- ½ cup sugar
- mixing bowl
- oven
- kettle
- saucepan
- airtight container (covered jar, ziplock bag, etc)
- spoon

#### **Procedure:**

1. Check your cupboard for the availability of ingredients. Purchase any missing items at a convenience store.
2. Mix the flour and the sugar in a mixing bowl.
3. Slowly add cold water, while continuing to stir the mixture. Use a spoon to keep the mixture flat.
4. Once the mixture has been thoroughly mixed, transfer it in a saucepan. Set the oven to the produce a medium flame.
5. Heat some water in a kettle. When the water boils, get two cups from the kettle and place it in the saucepan.
6. Stir the solution in the saucepan, until it stiffens.
7. Remove the solution from the pan and transfer it in a mixing bowl. Add alum to the mixture.
8. After mixing the solution, store it in an airtight container, if you are not going to use it.

The airtight container will preserve the paper mache glue for several weeks. If ever the glue hardens, just add hot water to loosen its base.

### **Stronger Paper Mache Glue**

If you are planning to make large paper mache structures, you must use sturdier ingredients. Using merely flour and sugar will not hold, four or five-foot paper mache

fixtures. You need to add powdered resin glue to the mix. The resin's components will make the solution more viscous and will further strengthen the glue's hardening capability.

The only drawback for this strengthened version of the paper mache glue is, it will only last for a few days even when stored in an airtight container. Just make this adhesive right before doing a paper mache project.

**Materials Used:**

- ½ cup flour
- ¼ – ½ cup powdered resin glue
- 1 ½ cup hot water
- ½ cup lukewarm water
- 4 drops of cinnamon oil
- mixing bowl
- saucepan
- spoon
- oven
- airtight container

**Procedure:**

1. Place the flour and the resin glue in a mixing bowl. Stir the two ingredients thoroughly.
2. Slowly add the lukewarm water, while continuing to mix the solution. Remove lumps with your spoon, to maintain the consistency of the solution.
3. After mixing the solution, transfer it in a saucepan. Set the oven at low heat.
4. Add the hot water, then stir the solution vigorously, until it becomes thick and partially stiff.
5. Return the solution to the mixing bowl, then add the cinnamon oil.
6. Mix the solution well.
7. Place it inside an airtight container.

Just like the previous recipe, you can use hot water to soften the glue, once it hardens. You must use it as soon as possible though. Before the week ends, you may need to make another batch.

**Edible Paste**

Except for the basic paper mache glue, the edible paste may have the lowest holding power among the bunch. The whole purpose of making this weak adhesive is to give kids a chance to make their own works of art (solely paper-based). Kids have a knack of putting things in their mouths, which is why the edible paste is purely made of edible ingredients. You can even add flavorings if you want to turn the adhesive into an unconventional snack.

**Materials Used:**

- 1 ½ cups flour
- ½ cup powdered milk
- 2 tbsp sugar
- ½ cup cold water
- 1 ½ cups hot water
- mixing bowl
- spoon
- saucepan
- oven
- jar with lid

**Procedure:**

1. Put the flour, milk and sugar into a mixing bowl. Mix the ingredients with a spoon.
2. Add cold water to the mixture. Continue stirring until a thick liquid solution is formed.
3. Tap the solution with your spoon to prevent the formation of lumps.
4. Transfer the solution onto a saucepan, then set the oven to produce a low flame.
5. Add hot water.
6. Stir the solution until it becomes stiff.
7. Store the glue in a tightly covered jar.
8. Whenever the glue hardens, you can add hot water to make the adhesive usable.

**Waterproof Glue**

Glue normally weakens when it is frequently doused in water. It will still hold objects together but a weak bump can practically separate the things joined by the adhesive. You can work around this dilemma by creating waterproof glue.

Waterproof glue can withstand the loosening properties of water since its main ingredient is gelatin. Water will simply bounce off the gel-based adhesive, without affecting its ability to stick items together. Waterproof glue also has a strong grip, making it a good adhesive for cardboard, paper, plastic.

**Materials Used:**

- at least 6 tbsp water
- 2 packs gelatin
- 2 tbsp glycerin
- 2 tbsp vinegar
- bowl
- kettle
- airtight container

**Procedure:**



1. Put water in a kettle, then place the kettle on your stove.
2. Once the water boils, get six tablespoons and place it on your gelatin.
3. Stir the jello until it melts.
4. With the gelatin dissolved, add the glycerin and vinegar onto the mixture.
5. Stir the solution vigorously so that ingredients will merge.
6. Store in an airtight container.

Waterproof glue is best used when it is in its liquefied state. You can use it to hold a fairly heavy material like leather.

### **Glass Glue**

Not all adhesives can hold a heavy and slippery material like glass. Regular adhesives are either too weak to carry glass' weight or too rough to latch on to the glass' surface. The logical solution is to make an enhanced version of the waterproof glue. The creation procedure is nearly identical to that of the waterproof glue. The only difference is the ingredients used.

Instead of using vinegar, you can use a thicker ingredient to strengthen the glue's grip. Skim milk or powdered milk is a good candidate. You can also use cold water, in place of hot water when dissolving the gelatin. Cold water will make the adhesive slightly thicker and prevent milk from evaporating, when creating the adhesive. Add a few drops of clove oil to maintain its consistency.

When the glass glue hardens, place it in a covered jar, then submerge the jar in warm water. The glue should return to its gelled state shortly after.

### **Dish and Pottery Cement**

Dish and pottery, being heavy materials, can only be fixed by a strong adhesive. That adhesive comes in the form of a gum arabic-based solution. Surprisingly, such a strong solution is probably the easiest to make among the bunch.

#### **Materials Used:**

- 4 tbsp gum arabic
- 1 tsp water
- 2 tbsp glycerin
- airtight container
- spoon
- mixing bowl

#### **Procedure:**

1. Get glycerin and gum arabic from the condiments section of a grocery store.
2. Place the gum arabic, glycerin and water into a mixing bowl.
3. Stir the mixture well, until it becomes viscous.
4. Store the solution in an airtight container.

The dish and pottery cement will last for about a year, if you store it properly. Keep it away from extreme temperatures so that its holding power is maintained.

### **Plaster of Paris Cement**

Due to the varying properties of dishes and porcelain, an enhanced version of the dish and pottery cement was created. This deviation is believed to be more effective on dishes, while the previous recipe is better performer when mending porcelain. You can just make the two recipes, since they are both easy to create.

When making the enhanced version, all you need to do is switch glycerin with plaster of Paris. Follow the same procedure and you'll create the enhanced adhesive. You can add dye or pigment so that the glue will match the color of your dishes.

### **Liquid Cement**

Liquid cement is a powerful adhesive. It can easily connect heavy materials like wood and glass. Preparing the adhesive is simple. You just have to mix the ingredients and you'll get a solution may be as powerful as superglue.

#### **Materials Used:**

- 1 gallon waterglass
- 1 pound shellac resin
- 2 quarts water

#### **Procedure:**

1. Purchase the waterglass and shellac from a hardware store.
2. Heat the shellac on your oven. Stir the resin deviation until it completely dissolves.
3. Mix the waterglass with water. Slowly add the dissolved shellac, while stirring the water and waterglass mixture. When the solution thickens, your liquid cement is ready.

You might be asking, why should you bother making glue when it is available in many stores nationwide. Knowing how to make glue is important. In the event where your stock of glue runs out, you can easily create efficient substitute items. If you noticed, most of the ingredients are readily available in many households. The creation process of each glue variant is also educational for kids.

## **[Watch The Video](#)**

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