



Epoxy resin

Your patch tests indicate you have a contact allergy to epoxy resin. This means that you should avoid all products containing epoxy resin

Epoxy resins are chemicals used to make plastics and glues. They are widely used in the electrical, building and manufacturing industries. Epoxy resins do not cause problems when fully set. Some people call this hardened or cured. Most problems with epoxy resins occur at work if you are exposed to the ingredients of a glue or plastic. This is when the epoxy resin has not yet set (uncured or not fully hardened resins).

Usually the rash in people allergic to epoxy resins is on the hands. Sometimes fumes in the air may cause a rash of the face and neck.

To protect your hands wear nitrile gloves but remember to change your gloves frequently. Some types of gloves, such as latex and neoprene, will not actually protect you from epoxy resin.

In industry, epoxy resins are used in :

- Some vinyl gloves
- Manufacturing circuit boards and electrical insulation
- Building materials such as grouts, mortars and fixings
- Flooring products
- Paints and printing inks
- Glass fibre composites in car and aircraft manufacture,
- Model making and tooling
- Construction panels for garage doors, cladding, roofing
- Lining and coatings of cans used for drink, food and hairspray
- Manufacturing sports rackets, surfboards, helmets
- Coil coatings for electrical appliances
- Sealing paintings and art work
- Boat building and repair, lining of cargo tanks, underwater hulls

At home epoxy resins are found in:

- Two-part glues such as Araldite
- Some vinyl gloves