

RESIN PROFIT LAB · STARTER KIT

YOUR $20 STARTER KIT: WHAT TO BUY



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Everything you need for your first pour costs **about $20 to $25**. No studio, no expensive machines. This is the exact list I would buy again if I started over today.

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4 + 2
kit items + first-piece tools

$20 to $25
for your first pour

1
evening to set up

◆ THE ONE RULE OF THIS GUIDE

This kit is a shopping list, not a package. Nothing is mailed to you: you buy these few things at a store near you or online, and the rest waits for your first sale.

THE LIST

Your $20 starter kit, item by item

Four things. Most 16 oz kits already come with **measuring cups, wooden sticks and gloves**, so check the box before you buy them again.

ITEM	HOW MUCH	WHERE	ABOUT
Epoxy resin kit, 16 oz, 1:1	1 kit (8 oz resin + 8 oz hardener)	Walmart, Michaels, Amazon	$16 to $17
Mixing cups, stir sticks, gloves	Usually inside the kit	Extra cups: Dollar Tree	included
Mica powder set	1 small set with teal, blue, white and gold	Amazon, Walmart, Temu	about $5
Small silicone mold	1 keychain or coaster mold, for practice	Michaels, Amazon, Dollar Tree	about $3
Total			**about $24.50**

Approximate US prices in 2026. A 16 oz, 1:1 kit at Walmart was $16.47 when this guide was written. Prices change by store and by week.

1 Why 16 oz

Enough for your **practice keychain and your first tray** to sell, with a little left over.

2 Why a mica set

One small set gives you **the whole ocean**: deep blue, teal, white foam and gold sand.



One mica set gives you the whole ocean.

◆ EMMA'S TIP

Kits sold as **"casting and coating"** with an easy **1:1 mix** are the most forgiving for beginners. One cup of this, one cup of that. No scale needed yet.

PRINT IT OR SCREENSHOT IT

Buy this first

Items 1 to 4 are your $20 kit, for practice. **Items 5 and 6** are the two tools for your first piece to sell. Anything that isn't on this page waits for your first sale.



☐	**1 Epoxy resin kit, 16 oz, 1:1** Two bottles. The box says "1:1" and "casting and coating"	**$16 to $17**
☐	**2 Cups, sticks and gloves** Check: most resin kits already include them	**included**
☐	**3 Color: mica or pigment set** Teal, blue, white and gold. A small set is enough	**about $5**
☐	**4 Small silicone mold** Keychain or round coaster, glossy inside	**about $3**
☐	**5 12-inch round tray mold** For your first piece to sell. Used 20 times or more	**about $10**
☐	**6 Craft heat gun** Bubbles and the white lace on the waves	**about $10**

◆ FINDING IT FAST

At the store, the resin is usually in the **art or craft aisle**, next to paints and molds. At a hardware store, look near the glues and wood finishes.

CHOOSING YOUR RESIN

Read 5 things on the label

Every resin box has the same five numbers. **If one of them is missing, choose another box.**

ON THE LABEL	WHAT YOU WANT	WHY IT MATTERS
Mix ratio	1:1 by volume	Easiest to measure with a cup
Working time	30 to 45 minutes	Time to color and pour before it thickens
Max pour depth	Look for the number on the label	Pour deeper than this and it can overheat and crack
Cure time	24 h to touch, about 72 h full	At 75 to 85 °F (24 to 29 °C)
UV resistant	Yes	Slows down yellowing near windows

THREE KINDS OF RESIN, THREE JOBS

TYPE	FOR	EACH POUR
Coating / art resin	Thin layers, top coats	about 1/8 in per layer
Casting / deep pour	Thick pieces in molds: sinks, tables	1/2 in to 2 in, slower cure
Casting and coating, 1:1	Your kit: keychains, coasters, trays	Check the label, often up to 1/2 in



◆ ONE MISTAKE TO AVOID

UV resin is not the same thing. The little bottles cured with a lamp are great for jewelry, but too expensive and too thin for trays and sinks. For this course you want **two-part epoxy**.

FREE

What you already have at home

- [ ] A **level table** near a window you can open
- [ ] A **trash bag or plastic sheet** to protect the table
- [ ] **Paper towels** and a small trash bag
- [ ] A **clear storage bin** to cover pieces while they cure
- [ ] A bowl of **warm water** to warm the bottles before mixing
- [ ] Your **phone timer** for the 3 minutes of mixing
- [ ] Soap and water for your hands. **Never alcohol or acetone on skin**



A kitchen table is all the studio you need.

WHAT ONE 16 OZ KIT MAKES

PIECE	RESIN PER PIECE	FROM ONE KIT
Practice keychain	about 0.3 oz	50+ from one kit
Set of 4 coasters, 4 in	about 7 oz	2 sets per kit
Round tray, 12 in	about 12 oz	1 tray + practice

◆ EMMA'S TIP

Cold resin makes bubbles. **Put the closed bottles in warm tap water for 10 minutes** before you mix. It is the cheapest trick in this whole course.

NEXT STEP

Your first piece to sell: 2 tools to add

The keychain is practice. Your first sale is **a 12-inch ocean tray**, and for that you add two tools you will use for years.

TOOL	WHY	ABOUT
12-inch round tray mold	Your first piece to sell. With care, it lasts 20 pours or more	about $10
Craft heat gun	Pops bubbles and opens the white lace on the waves	about $10



The heat gun sweeps above the resin: bubbles pop and the surface turns to glass.

$25
starter kit

+ $20
tray mold and heat gun

$95
your first tray's price

◆ EMMA'S TIP

Exactly which mold to buy, in which size and from which shop, is a topic of its own. **Start with these two** and let your first sale pay for the next molds.

BEFORE YOU CLOSE THIS GUIDE

Your kit, ready for Day 2

- [ ] I bought my **16 oz 1:1 resin kit**
- [ ] I have my **mica set** and a small mold
- [ ] I checked the **5 things on the label**
- [ ] My **table and window** are ready
- [ ] I ordered my **tray mold** and **heat gun**

◆ A NOTE FROM EMMA

I started with $16 of materials and a lot of fear. You don't need more money to begin. You need one kit, one evening and the courage to pour. The rest comes with your first order.

Emma Miller



Next: Where to Buy Supplies in the US. The stores, what each one is best for and how to pay less.