

Epoxy Resins: Keep Uncured Material Off Skin

Todd Jerome Jenkins | v1.0 | October 12, 2026 | Discussion + field verification

Why this matters

A glove can spread epoxy to a phone, handle or bare wrist. Prevent contact throughout mixing, application and cleanup.

Objective: Confirm a workable barrier between uncured components and skin.

Key hazards or failure points

Sensitization; contaminated gloves and tools; splashes; unsuitable cleaning methods; uncontrolled mixing.

Practical controls

- Review each component and cleanup product. Use the assessed dispensing and mixing method, following actual product instructions rather than a remembered ratio or batch size.
- Use tools and containment to avoid contact. Select gloves and clothing for the actual chemicals and task using supplier performance information; generic glove names are insufficient.
- Separate clean items from the work zone. Prepare safe glove removal, replacement and washing arrangements; follow the SDS after contact and report symptoms promptly.

Verify It in the Field

Match resin, hardener and cleaner to the current SDSs and instructions. Locate the specified mixing limits and required ventilation before opening containers.

Check the selected glove model, condition and replacement basis. Rehearse handling and removal with clean materials; never test chemical resistance on a hand.

Trace the operator's clean exit to washing facilities. Identify contaminated handles, waste and reusable tools, and confirm their approved cleaning or disposal route.

Stop and reassess

Hold for missing compatibility information, failed protection, unexpected heating or changed products. Stop exposure for skin or breathing symptoms; follow first-aid instructions and seek medical advice. Do not use solvent to clean skin.

Ask the crew

1. Where could a dirty glove transfer resin?
2. What supports our glove selection?
3. How will we leave the station clean?

Use this HOP tool — Self-checking: Using clean props, pause before the mixing step and identify each component, the instruction and intended outcome. Trace the next hand movement to a tool, phone or face. Redesign any transfer path before handling real resin, then confirm the clean exit.

Sources: OSHA/NIOSH references and DOE Vol. 2; full source list on the topic webpage. HOP concepts adapted from DOE-HDBK-1028-2009, Vol. 2 (June 2009). No claim to original U.S. Government work; no government endorsement implied.

Free next step: JHA/JSA planning and field-verification worksheet

Expanded guidance and separate forms: toddjeromejenkins.com/toolbox-talks/epoxy-resins-skin-contact