

## **Tools and Materials Needed**

- Paint thinner or acetone
- Denatured alcohol
- Measuring cups
- Wood stirrer
- Hot water
- Bucket

## **Step 1 - The Heating Method**

Heating is, by far, the best method for thinning epoxy resin as it doesn't weaken the properties of the epoxy resin even in the slightest. Think of it as heating canned cake frosting. In its natural and cool state is very thick but once you heat it in the microwave for a few seconds it becomes very thin and pourable. Once it has time to relax it hardens again. The same idea applies to epoxy resin. Fill a bathtub or bucket with very hot water. If you can get the water boiling then that is the best case scenario. Take the can of epoxy resin and place it inside the hot water. Allow it to sit in the water for several minutes. The heat of the water combined with the conductivity of the metal can will allow the epoxy resin to become much thinner. You will have to work quickly though because also decreases setup time.

## **Step 2 - Paint Thinner or Acetone**

Paint thinner and acetone are relatively the same with very minute differences between them. It is for this reason that using them is interchangeable for the purpose of thinning out epoxy resin. Using either of these products to thin epoxy resin will weaken the finished project or completely ruin it if you mix it incorrectly. The general rule of thumb is to only thin the epoxy resin at a ratio of 10 to 1. If you have 10 gallons of epoxy resin then thin it using 1 gallon of paint thinner or acetone.

## **Step 3 - Denatured Alcohol**

Denatured alcohol is ethanol that has been made poisonous. It's used as a solvent but it is safer to use to thin epoxy resin than paint thinner or acetone. The properties found in denatured alcohol allow you to thin the epoxy resin more than you could otherwise. Mix the denatured alcohol the same way as paint thinner or acetone but by 15-percent to 20-percent.

Read more: <http://www.doityourself.com/stry/how-to-thin-epoxy-resin#ixzz1Ju6wB28b>