

Making a permanent gelli plate

<https://thefrugalcrafter.wordpress.com/2013/05/25/a-permanent-gelatin-printing-plate-nectograph-an-annoying-project-a-birthday-card/>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eSWARB2QXFk>

I looked at several videos and settled on these two. I found the frugal crafter to be a bit confusing so watched the next one which seemed to be a condensed version of the frugal crafter's version.

I used

- 2 bottles of glycerin 6 oz each which equals 1 ½ cups -first aid aisle at Walmart
- 8 packets of gelatin (I added one for luck and strength) – baking aisle at Walmart
- 1 ½ cups of boiling water (as measured in the glycerin bottles) – I funneled in the hot water which also helped clean out the bottles.

I put the 8 packets of gelatin into a bowl and stirred in the glycerin. I let it sit about 10 minutes after stirring and then stirred again so the gelatin granules would absorb the gelatin. Then I measured the boiling water by pouring it into the glycerin bottles using a funnel and then stirred it into the gelatin mix slowly. It gradually starts looking like a darkish gelatin. I then poured slowly and directly into the 8x8 cake pan. I set it on the front porch where it was between 35-40°. After it was poured I skimmed the bubbles with a piece of paper towel. I also ran my finger along the sides which seems to break up the bubbles. When I was happy with the surface I let it sit for about 2 hours. Then I transferred it to the garage for overnight. I put a large magazine on top of it to keep anything from falling into it. Probably best not to use saran wrap or waxed paper or anything that would cause condensation. The next day (about 24 hours later) I ran a knife along all edges and then tweaked a corner with my finger. Once the seal was broken, it popped out pretty easily. I'm storing it inside a label box but it is sitting on the shiny side of a transparency sheet and there is another transparency sheet sitting on top of it shiny side down so it won't stick to the box. So far, so good. I did not try the alcohol as several videos said it smelled so bad. This was the slightly costlier way to go. I have not noticed any odor with it unless I get real close and sniff it. There was a faint odor of cooking gelatin while making it. Not a bad smell but not roses either.

2 bottles of glycerin at Walmart 3.88 each	7.76
8 packets of gelatin at .31625 ¢	2.53
Total cost	10.29
Tax at 6.500%	.67
Total	<u>\$10.96</u>

I have a Gelli Arts plate in the 8x10 size and it currently costs about \$29.17 on Amazon.