

## **Recommended (to me) recipe for homemade permanent gelatin (aka gelli) plate**

by Alice-ART (Ruth Alice Kosnick on YouTube)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JnPv-XrIsXM&t=61s>  
German and English captions

*Translated from German via Google Translate with a few edits by me*

### **To make a permanent gelatin plate you need the following ingredients:**

- 9 packets of gelatin powder (each 9g = approx. 80 g),
- 250 ml of water,
- 125 ml of isopropyl alcohol and
- 125 ml of glycerin (you can get this in the pharmacy, but cheaper on eBay).

This is enough for a mold that can hold about 1/2 liter of liquid. Depending on the size, a baking sheet will fit about 1 1/2 to 2 liters. So increase the recipe accordingly.

Fast gelatin does not work, so only use the gelatin powder. The video shows how residues (old plates and trimmings from previous plate-making) are melted down. If you start from scratch, simply measure the ingredients as indicated and use the recipe without any residues.

Please note that the mass is only heated very slightly, otherwise too many harmful vapours will escape. As shown in the video, you still have to be able to hold your finger in the liquid. The whole thing must of course not be heated on a gas stove, since the isopropyl alcohol is flammable. The warmth of a simple warming plate is enough.

**This mixture is very hard-wearing and durable after drying. It does not mold, can be stored well between two acrylic sheets and – if it should tear – just melt it again.**

*Important note:* With some plates it happens that the colour (ie your paint) will dry quickly on the first two or three prints made from a freshly cast plate. But I have found that this is only the case with the freshly cast plates and as soon as they have been used for a few (or several) prints, this quick-drying disappears. I always apply extra paint when printing from new plates or add retarder\* (to delay drying) so that this effect disappears quickly.

However, it can also be due to the characteristics of some paints. There are paints that are quicker-drying. Lukas's "liquid series" is such that it dries too quickly with this technique. Retarder also helps because this prevents it from drying too quickly.

**Kim's note:** alternatives to retarder include: Golden Open Medium, Golden Glazing Liquid, or glycerin (aka glycerol).