



crucible

Piggly No Wiggly Glue

8 ounces (by volume)

Made in the United States in Covington, Kentucky

Ingredients: Water, food-grade gelatin, uniodized salt

Piggly No Wiggly is a simple protein-based glue that is formulated for furniture makers. Among its other characteristics, Piggly No Wiggly:

- Is reversible with heat
- Cleans up with hot water, even when dried
- Offers a 15-minute open time for complex assemblies
- Is transparent to most traditional finishes
- Dries clear
- Contains no toxic ingredients
- Lasts indefinitely if stored properly
- Has little odor.

How to Use It

Piggly No Wiggly is simply hide glue that has been modified to make it easier to work with by furniture makers. Traditional hide glues gel in minutes (sometimes seconds), which makes them tricky to use when gluing up a cabinet or chair. For thousands of years, woodworkers have added a variety of ingredients to add open time, including urea, vinegar, glycerin and salt. After hundreds of experiments, we found we preferred salt.

At room temperature, Piggly No Wiggly has the consistency of a gelatin dessert. To use it, first warm the bottle in warm water so the glue flows. You can use a glue pot, a slow cooker, a bottle warmer or even a coffee mug warmer. 140° to 150° F is the ideal temperature. Higher temperatures will break down the glue.

When the glue flows nicely, apply it to your joinery just like you would any other glue. Clamp and let the

glue sit for an hour. All water-based glues are sensitive to the humidity and temperature. Now poke at the squeeze-out. If it is tacky, leave the clamps on. If it is rubbery or hard like plastic, remove the clamps. We usually wait overnight until we stress the joint.

The glue cleans up with warm or hot water.

Modifying the Glue

One of the things we love about protein glues is the ability to modify them. If you want more open time, add a tablespoon of fine salt to a full glue container. Heat and mix before using it. A tablespoon will add another 10-15 minutes to the open time. If you need a glue that is more flexible (such as when using it in cross-grain situations), add a tablespoon of glycerin to the mixture. And if you want the glue to flow more easily, add a tablespoon of ethanol and mix. Note that additives beyond these can reduce the strength of the glue.