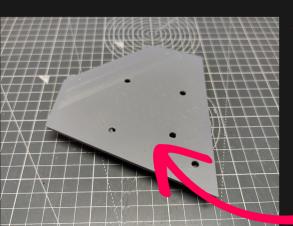


Tips for preparing your 3D prints for paint!

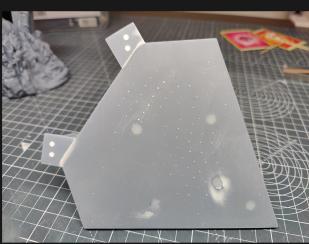
TIP 1: Let's take care of those drain holes



Plug up the holes with styrene rods and cut them to the surface. Sand the surface with a hard edge file or sanding block



Apply and sand down a filler putty to smooth out any imperfections





Apply a thin coat of fine primer to reveal any imperfections that may need re-filling or sanding. Don't be disheartened if you need to do some more work, this is often the case!



Consider
filling your
base parts with
a two part
casting resin to
increase
weight





Tips for preparing your 3D prints for paint!

TIP 2: Gaps?! Not a problem

For a quick and easy solution get yourself a precision glue applicator bottle and fill it with some of your printer resin. You'll also need a UV torch to cure the resin.









Carefully apply the resin to your chosen gap. Take your UV torch and cure the resin. Simple and satisfying!





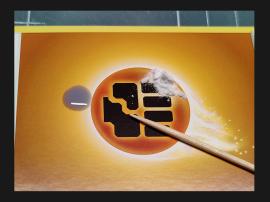


Tips for preparing your 3D prints for paint!

TIP 3: Bigger gaps and part separation

Some gaps may be too large for the previous technique. You can mix your printer resin with baking soda or baby powder to give it a little extra bulk!

Apply with a toothpick or other tool and follow the same curing method







Some sanding will be needed due to the roughness of your new filler.
Once the gap is filled you can use the first method to smooth it further











Want to fill a gap but have the parts separate after for easier painting? fou can achieve this by using masking tape and the first technique (liquid mask also works). You may need to apply a few thin layers.



Tips for preparing your 3D prints for paint!

TIP 4: Print failures... become a sculptor!

From time to time, we all experience some degree of print failure, whether it be a small lost detail or an entire section of a print. You could re-print the part but, in some cases, we can re-sculpt what is missing











Using your epoxy clay of choice, start to re-sculpt what is missing. A cape is a good example due to the surface being smooth. I find using Vaseline helps prevent my tools from sticking to the clay. Refine the shape until you are happy and let it cure for the recommended time







Once cured, sand that clay into submission! I would highly recommend using a fine filler putty to remove any imperfections from the newly sculpted sections



Tips for preparing your 3D prints for paint!

TIP 5: Re-scribing lost detail

On occasion some details may be filled by primer or putty. These can be re-scribed with a scribing tool -





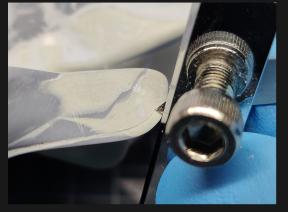


Lines that need to continue over sculpted parts can be made by using a scribing jig. You can choose to use an adjustable version or make your own!

Once the guide line is made, use your scribing tool to scribe the line



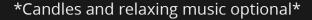






Bonus tip:

Before applying your favourite primer, treat your parts to a nice bath. A soft bristle toothbrush and some hand soap (or dish soap) will remove all the excess dust.







Tips for preparing your 3D prints for paint!

TIP 6: Don't forget to have fun!





There is no right or wrong way to build your 3D prints, all that matters is that you have fun and enjoy the journey. If you would like to see a 'Volume Two' with more tips and tricks let us know!

