

ACTIVA Liquiché

An unbelievably smooth and detail oriented painting surface...*Liquiché*! Originally designed to be a casting material with porcelain bisque like features in an air dry slip this remarkable liquid has other hidden talents.

It still has no equal for dimensional work like cast paintable figures and objects – doll making and any non-fired ceramic like application. Light weight, resistant to breakage and crazing. Simply stir to ensure evenness after storage – and pour into any porous mold. When the *Liquiché* level in the mold drops down and the “wall” is as thick as desired – pour excess back into original container. Allow molded portion to dry down until ready to separate from the mold, easily. Let dry thoroughly and you are ready to paint – with any paint, marker, dye, stain or varnish. The surface finishing options are endless.

To smooth and strengthen Rigid Wrap surfaces for superior masks, sculptures and more – simply paint on a layer – 2 if you'd like – of *Liquiché* let dry and paint as usual. Add-ons of cardboard or puffy areas made from batting take on an instant hard shell surface – a single layer of Rigid Wrap being enough to ensure a homogenous surface.

It is a new age marvel for grounding stretched canvas or other fabrics. That extra fine smooth surface you need for extreme detail and portraiture is now available without sanding or hard-to-find special fabrics.

Stretch the unprimed canvas of choice on stretchers as usual. (Staples or tacks to the back, please.) Fold newspaper to fit into the well formed by the stretcher at the back of the canvas. *Liquiché* transforms from its liquid state to its hard smooth and break resistant form by “wicking”...the water content is literally sucked away (by the porous mold – or in this case the newspaper) Dampen the canvas so it will easily and consistently absorb – sponging with warm water is easiest. Brush a heavy coat of *Liquiché* onto the surface. It is self leveling so you need not worry about brush strokes. If some texture is desired – you can work into it as it becomes firm with a stiff brush, palette knife or scrapers. To accelerate the surface drying – exchange the wet newspapers for dry several times during the curing process.

Tinting : In its natural color *Liquiché* will be a warm ivory toned ground. If other shades are desired – the product can be tinted before application. Dry fabric dyes or Pure Pigments® work the best. Remember that the tone will darken as the water is wicked away. (HINT: tinting the *Liquiché* for casting will probably stain your molds and therefore is not recommended, unless you desire to dedicate the mold to that particular color castings).

Draping: Subtly shaped forms are easy to do with plaster drape molds or any other plaster form (such as a balloon – mix plaster – pour into plastic gallon jug - blow up balloon – twist neck to hold in the air while you snap the balloon neck onto the top lip of the jug – Holding the balloon for support – let the plaster trade places with the air in the balloon. Take balloon off of jug – careful not to splash plaster – stretch the neck and pat the balloon to disperse any trapped air and tie off the balloon. You can manipulate the shape of the form by propping draping – pinching and holding at this point. The plaster will cure in side – once cooled after releasing heat the balloon may be “popped”...allow form to dry until no longer cold to the touch before using.) Cut your canvas or other fabric form (consider burlap if you want dramatic texture). Dampen fabric and place over the form – brush apply the *Liquiché* as you would for the stretched canvas above. This technique is deal for mask shapes.

Dip ‘N’ Drape : For totally draped forms – like ghosts and doll dresses select and cut fabric – remember that cotton laces are also fabric that will absorb and produce a fine rigid lace. Dip into hot water and wring as dry as possible. The dip in *Liquiché* and drape to complete wicking and cure. Layering pieces while wet will attach them to one another.