

# AntWorks®



# Sculpture Kit

Created by ants



# INSTRUCTIONS

ANTWORKS SCULPTURE

wonders created by physicists®  
**Fascinations®**

Thank you for purchasing the AntWorks® Sculpture Kit. **Before using, it is necessary to review these instructions completely.** This product contains chemicals which can be harmful if misused. **Be certain you have read and understand the Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) before using this product. Keep these instructions and the Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) as they contain important information.**

**Please note that this product is not intended for children. Only adults should handle the chemicals herein.**

The AntWorks® Sculpture Kit allows you to create a permanent sculpture from an existing tunneled AntWorks® habitat for ants. It is necessary that you currently have an AntWorks® habitat in which the ants have created a tunnel network (note: this product does not include the AntWorks® habitat for ants).

Using this kit, you will perform something akin to a ‘lost wax casting’, where a sculpted piece of wax is entombed in liquid plaster. When the plaster hardens, a drainage hole is created and the piece is heated. The wax melts, leaving a cavity in which liquid metal is poured. When the metal hardens, the plaster is broken away, leaving a hard, metal replica of the original sculpted piece. In creating your AntWorks® Sculpture, you will pour a liquid resin into tunnels that have already been created by the ants. When the resin hardens, and the gel is removed, you have a permanent, artistic sculpture.

Directions for use:

1. Remove the AntWorks® Sculpture components. These components include:
  - One bottle of resin (part A)
  - One bottle of the curing agent (Part B)
  - One mixing stick
  - One mixing cup
  - One thin plastic sleeve
  - One each illuminated base and sculpture holder
  - One AC adaptor

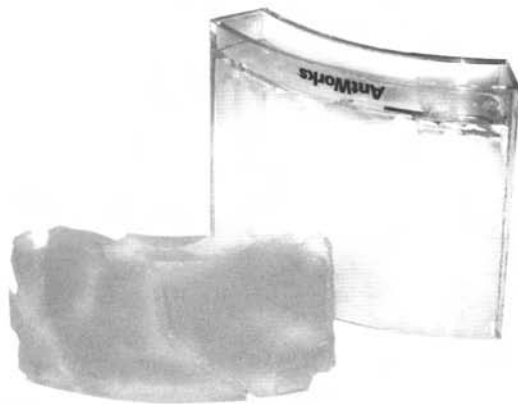
Remove the resin and curing agent bottles, mixing stick and cup, and plastic sleeve. Place these items in a clean, well-ventilated work area. Your work area should be at room temperature (68 degrees Fahrenheit or warmer).

**If the bottles of resin and curing agent have previously been in a cooler environment, allow them to warm to room temperature before using.**



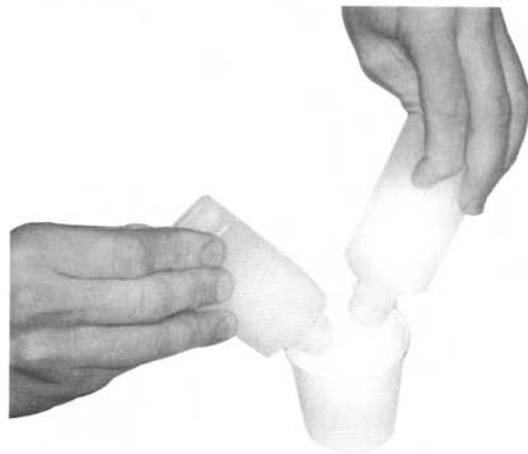
2. Take your AntWorks® Habitat for ants to a kitchen or bathroom sink. This AntWorks® habitat should already have a completed tunnel network. Rinse out the habitat using a kitchen or bathroom faucet until the tunnels and surface are cleared of debris. Either warm or cold water can be used.

3. Next, the gel needs to be removed from the AntWorks container by turning the container upside-down and vigorously tapping it against a clean hard surface. The gel should begin to dislodge from the container and slide out. If you have difficulty getting the gel to slide out of the container, try flushing the container out with warm water for several minutes.



4. When the gel 'block' is free of visible moisture (allow it to dry for several hours), carefully slide it into the clear, plastic sleeve which has been provided. Slide the gel block in 'right-side-up' (same orientation as the gel was inside of the AntWorks® container). If you have used cold water, or the gel is cooler than room temperature, allow the gel block to warm up to 68 degrees Fahrenheit or warmer before proceeding to the next step. Place the sleeve (with the gel block inside) back into the AntWorks® container. This is done to help ensure that the gel will be held tightly against the plastic sleeve thus preventing the resin from seeping out of the gel block.

5. In a well-ventilated area, open the bottles of resin and curing agent. Pour the entire contents of the two bottles into the mixing cup. Using the mixing stick, slowly but thoroughly (try to avoid creating air bubbles in the resin) stir the contents together until thoroughly blended together (stir for at least 3 minutes).



6. After mixing, pour the resin mixture onto the gel block which is contained in the plastic sleeve. Pour slowly to allow the resin to flow down into all of the tunnels. It is somewhat helpful to tilt the container in different directions while pouring in order to coax out air that becomes trapped in the tunnels. Pour at least enough resin to fill the tunnels. To create an esthetically pleasing finished appearance of the sculpture, it is suggested that enough resin be added to fill the tunnels plus an additional height of between 1/4 to 1/2 inch above the top of the gel.



7. Your AntWorks® Sculpture will continue to cure and harden for up to 5 days after pouring. Please allow at least 24 hours before attempting to remove your sculpture from the container. While your sculpture is curing, be sure to store it in a secure place at room temperature (68 degrees Fahrenheit or greater). As curing resin can be somewhat sticky, keep your sculpture away from dirt and dust during this time.

8. Properly dispose of your empty bottles, mixing cup and mixing stick. See MSDS for reference.

9. A pair of scissors will be required to remove the gel with the embedded sculpture from the plastic sleeve. Cut the sleeve so the gel/resin can be easily removed. Take care not to break the hardened resin tunnels during this process. After the sleeve has been removed, use your fingers to remove the chunks of gel from around the sculpture tunnels. You may find this easier to do under running water.



10. Your AntWorks® Sculpture is now finished. For the best effect, place your sculpture on the LED illuminated base. Plug the AC Adaptor into the base and the bright, blue LED's will follow the tunnels like 'light tubes', creating a beautiful glow. Note: Your AntWorks® sculpture may develop a slight yellow tint over time. This is a natural effect of the resin and does not affect the integrity of the piece. Keeping your sculpture away from sunlight will reduce the yellowing rate.



**WARNING:** The AntWorks® Sculpture Kit is not a toy. Keep the Chemicals enclosed out of the reach of children!

**Precautions: URETHANE CASTING RESIN** Avoid skin contact with the liquid resin. Should contact occur, wash thoroughly with soap and water, twice. Use in well-ventilated work areas. Avoid confined areas where casting has just been performed, as harmful vapors may build up. Read Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) prior to using this product.

In case of eye contact, seek medical attention. Do not take internally.

Always use in a well-ventilated area.

In case of accidental ingestion, contact the National Poison Emergency Hotline immediately: 1-800-222-1222

Emergency Telephone: Chemtrec 1-800-424-9300 In case of a medical emergency, call: 911

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