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## Elmer's E305 Washable is a Great Glue for Crafters to Use

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# **Review by** [**riseley**](http://www.epinions.com/user-riseley)

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### Pros:Crystal clear after it dries!

### Cons:Takes just a little bit too long to dry.

### The Bottom Line:I do not have to spend the extra money for the high-end crafting glues because Elmer's Washable Clear does everything I need it to do.

# I am one of those home artisans who crafts the gifts he gives to friends at birthdays and holidays throughout the year. Most of my projects involve collage or affixing paper or canvas to glass magnifying beads. Sometimes I will build an intricate model out of toothpicks or popsicle sticks. The one thing that all of my projects have in common is that they require me to have a strong, fast-drying glue that will be invisible when it dries. I have tried almost every brand of glue out there and have settled exclusively on using Elmer’s Washable Clear School Glue because it is just the best.

# **PRICE:**

# I do not usually place the discussion of price first in my product reviews, but in the world of crafting glues, price becomes very important. There are some brands of glue that craft stores sell costing ten, fifteen and even twenty dollars for just a few ounces. I have tried these overpriced brands and they are not in any way superior to Elmer’s Washable Clear School Glue. The five ounce bottle of this glue can be bought for anywhere from $1.99 to about $3.50 at the most expensive places and even that expensive price is a big savings over the other more costly brands that offer nothing more in terms of quality.

# **STICKINESS:**

# This is not airplane glue or super glue. It’s not for affixing heavy items to other heavy item. This glue works great for putting paper onto cardboard or attaching paper onto glass, wood, or metal. I use this glue to line the boxes of my dioramas with colorful backgrounds. I use it with cotton balls all the time. It works well for toothpick and popsicle stick sculptures. I have run into some problems with this glue when I have attempted to add heavier elements to a toothpick sculpture. I once tried to add a little metal skull to a Dia De Los Muertos piece I was working on and the glue just wouldn’t hold the metal skull. I found a lighter weight plastic skull and the glue worked perfectly.

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# **DRYING TIME:**

# It’s pretty obvious that I am raving about this product, and yet I do have to concede that this is the criteria where this glue loses a star from me. There are other faster drying glues out there. It turns out that when I am crafting, I am usually making five or ten of the same thing, and so it does not bother me that this glue can take a half an hour or an hour more time to dry than some other brands. I usually just apply my glue to the item I am working on and then I go to the next item, and then the next. By the time I get back to the first item, the glue has dried and I can move onto the next element I need to create.

# **APPLICATION:**

# We are all familiar with the tops of Elmer’s glue bottles; they have the orange twisty top. This bottle does too, and it turns out that if you keep the top clean, it can be adjusted so that the thinnest line of glue can be applied to the most fragile of projects. The tapering tip actually allows a patient crafter a great deal of control over where the glue goes. I’m a big fan of this method of applying the glue.

# **CLEANING UP:**

# I am not a big fan of how tough the glue is to clean out of the orange, twisty top, applicator tip if I let the glue dry up inside of there. That’s just a pain. We all remember being kids and reaching for a bottle of Elmer’s and getting frustrated with how hard it was to get the glue out. There is a lot of crafter hate aimed at these bottles for that reason alone. I have to say that if a person knows how to clean the cap on these bottles after each use, the glue will never dry up inside the tip and the tip will never get stopped up. Anyone who hates these tips just needs to remember that the cleaning up part of the crafting process is just as important as the creation part.

# **PRESENTATION:**

# This criteria is the moment of truth for me in terms of why I love this glue. This glue goes on clear and stays clear. Even the white Elmer’s glues dry clear so it should be no surprise that this brand dries crystal clear. This glue dries clear even when an eighth of an inch thickness is needed for a section of a project. I am deeply impressed with this glue and I wonder where it has been all my life. I sure could have used it back in high school when I was just beginning as a crafter.

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