

Care of picture frames & gilded objects:

Making Rabbit skin Glue (RSG)

Rabbit skin glue can be purchased ready made, but the method of making RSG is simple, this old recipe pre dates the Renaissance.

You require a kitchen stove or laboratory hot plate, and a bain-marie. This is just one process in the making of a gilt frame.

Making Rabbit Skin Glue:

- Sold as dried flakes/granules.
- Mix one-part granules to 10-parts water.
- Cover and leave the mixture to soak overnight
- Heat slowly on low heat in the Bain-Marie and occasionally stir.
- Don't allow to over-heat or boil - 50-55c degrees max.
- Make sure all the granules are dissolved.
- It will become clear and yellowish in colour and slightly viscous.
- Reheat if the glue starts to solidify.
- Sieve the mixture through a muslin cloth
- Store in small airtight containers in the fridge for max of 1 week

For more information or if you would like to attend a course contact:

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Insitju Framing and Conservation Ltd offer a range of long and short courses that can be group booked or one to one.