

## Tack Free Diamond Fine UV Resin

Reviewed by Ian Cox



Jay Smit sent me a sample of this a month or so ago on behalf of [The African Fly Angler](#) and I have been trying it out. This stuff claims to be tack free and for once that claim is in fact true.

I have used a lot of these UV resins over time and they all have the same problem, until now that is.

- They dry tacky meaning that the beautiful shiny look you see in the photographs is quickly lost the moment you get your hands on them. You also get sticky fingers which given the fact that this stuff smells awful can't be good if you transfer that all over the fly.
- They are not the easiest things to use. Some like Clear Goo try to solve this by selling the stuff in syringes with special applicators. I find syringes are like tomato sauce bottles. First you get a little, and then you get a lottle! I also find that those applicator things gum up meaning that you have to buy a lot of them. I have solved this by squeezing the stuff onto a piece of paper and using a toothpick to transfer the goo to the fly.

I found the Loon product to be the best around at least that is until I tried Deer Creek's Diamond Fine UV Resin. Loon's UV resins dry hard and fast and have minimal tack. Application is not that easy, however, hence the use of a toothpick.

I got to use Deer Creek's Diamond Fine UV Resin pictured to the left of the above picture. This resin is formulated specifically for coating buzzer bodies and coating fly heads. If you are

looking at creating a shell back or coating the head of a saltwater fly then the Diamond Hard UV resin the product for you. Similarly the flex version is probably what you want for those shrimp patterns.

I did not test the hard and flex versions of this product but am happy to say that you get none of the normal application problems with Deer Creek's Diamond Fine UV Resin. In truth it is damn fine stuff.

- The bottle has a built in nozzle that does not clog and which dispenses the resin one microdot at a time or in a thin controllable stream. You can actually transfer the goo from the bottle onto the fly without the previous likelihood of a total disaster. This is a huge advance. I drip the resin onto the fly drop by micro drop and then use a toothpick to spread it about.
- The other big advance is that it is actually tack free. I mean it really is free on any tackiness. None at all! It is truly amazing and it cures pretty well instantly that is if you use the right torch. This is very important when using UV resins. They are formulated to cure under a specific wavelength of UV light. Thus a light sold by one manufacturer may not work on the resin supplied by another manufacturer.

Jay and I compared Deer Creek's Diamond Fine UV Resin with a number of other resins and it was far and away the best at what it claims to do. The only niggle I had and this may not be a problem at all is that it is not as translucent as some of the others when under a UV light. In the normal visible range the resin is totally clear but under UV light it is opaque so much so that it masks the underlying structure that is covered by the resin. We compared it to other UV resins and with the exception of Loon all show some signs of this problem, with Deer Creek's Diamond Fine UV Resin being the most opaque. As I said this probably does not amount to anything, especially if you are fishing for trout as they lose whatever ability they have to see ultraviolet light when they are very young.

---