

Slime Recipe Cards

12 easy slime recipes with exact amounts, the activator chart and the Fix-It chart

The Base-Bond-Body Formula

Every slime recipe = a Base + a Bond + a Body



Sticky slime = too little Bond • Hard slime = too much Bond

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Slime Activator Chart

Three ways to make the Bond, with amounts for 1/2 cup of glue



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1. Basic Slime with Contact Solution

Base: white glue · Bond: contact solution + baking soda · Body: a little water for stretch

Texture: smooth and stretchy. Time: 10 minutes. Lasts: about a week in an airtight container.

YOU'LL NEED

- 1/2 cup (4 oz) white PVA school glue
- 1/4 cup water
- 1/2 teaspoon baking soda
- 1 tablespoon contact lens solution (with boric acid and sodium borate)
- 2 to 3 drops food coloring (optional)

STEPS

1. Mix the glue and water: Pour 1/2 cup white school glue and 1/4 cup water into a bowl and stir until smooth.
2. Add color: Stir in 2 to 3 drops of food coloring now. It's much harder to mix in once the slime firms up.
3. Stir in the baking soda: Add 1/2 teaspoon baking soda and stir until it disappears.
4. Add the activator: Add 1 tablespoon contact lens solution and stir. The slime will start pulling away from the sides of the bowl.
5. Knead it: Pick it up and knead for 2 to 3 minutes. It's sticky at first and gets smoother as you knead. Still sticky after 3 minutes? Add 1/2 teaspoon more contact solution and knead again.

Tip: add the contact solution slowly. Too much at once makes slime rubbery, and you can't take it back out.

2. Borax Slime

Base: white glue · Bond: borax solution · Body: water

Texture: firm and very stretchy. Time: 10 minutes. Lasts: about a week sealed.

YOU'LL NEED

- 1/2 cup white or clear PVA school glue
- 1/2 cup water (mixed into the glue)
- Activator: 1/4 teaspoon borax powder dissolved in 1/2 cup warm water

STEPS

1. Stir the glue and 1/2 cup water together until smooth. Add color now.
2. An adult stirs 1/4 teaspoon borax powder into 1/2 cup warm water for about a minute, until it fully dissolves.
3. Pour the borax activator into the glue a little at a time, stirring. The slime forms almost instantly, and you may not need all of it.
4. Lift the slime out and knead. It starts stringy and turns smooth. Pour any leftover activator down the drain.

Tip: this is the strongest slime activator, so it is the one to use sparingly. Adults should handle the borax powder, and slime makers should wash their hands after playing. See the safety section below.

3. 2-Ingredient Liquid Starch Slime

Base: white glue · Bond: liquid starch · Body: optional water

Texture: soft and pulpy. Time: 5 minutes. Lasts: several days sealed.

YOU'LL NEED

- 1/2 cup white PVA school glue
- 1/4 cup water (optional; skip it for a true 2-ingredient slime)
- About 1/2 cup liquid laundry starch

STEPS

1. Pour the glue into a bowl and stir in the water and color.
2. Add the liquid starch a little at a time, stirring after each pour.
3. When it clumps into a ball, take it out and knead. It's sticky at first and firms up as you work it.
4. Still sticky? Add a few more drops of starch and keep kneading, but not too much or it turns stringy.

Tip: this is the classic 2-ingredient slime most schools use. It is the quickest slime recipe on the list.

4. Fluffy Slime

Base: white glue · Bond: contact solution + baking soda · Body: shaving cream

Texture: airy, puffy and soft. Time: 15 minutes. Lasts: fluffiest on day one, playable for about a week.

YOU'LL NEED

- 2/3 cup white PVA school glue
- 1/4 cup water
- 1/2 teaspoon baking soda
- 2 to 3 cups shaving cream (the foam, not gel)
- 1 1/2 tablespoons contact lens solution
- Food coloring

STEPS

1. Stir the glue, water and baking soda together in a large bowl.
2. Fold in 2 to 3 cups of shaving cream, then stir in the food coloring.
3. Add 1 tablespoon contact solution, stir, then knead for about 5 minutes.
4. Add the last 1/2 tablespoon of contact solution and knead until it's soft and puffy.

Tip: fluffy slime slowly deflates as the shaving cream bubbles pop. That's normal. It still stretches after it loses its puff.

5. Clear Slime

Base: clear glue · Bond: contact solution + baking soda · Body: water

Texture: glassy and see-through. Time: 10 minutes, plus 2 to 3 days to clear. Lasts: about a week sealed.

YOU'LL NEED

- 1/2 cup clear PVA school glue
- 1/2 cup water
- 1/4 teaspoon baking soda
- 1 tablespoon contact lens solution

STEPS

1. Stir the clear glue and water together until completely mixed.
2. Stir in 1/4 teaspoon baking soda. Clear glue needs less than white glue.
3. Add the contact solution slowly and stir until the slime pulls away from the bowl.
4. Knead briefly, then seal it in a container and leave it alone for 2 to 3 days. The bubbles rise out and it turns glass-clear.

Tip: the less you knead clear slime, the clearer it stays. Stretch it gently once it has cleared.

6. Glitter Slime and Galaxy Slime

Base: clear glue · Bond: contact solution + baking soda · Body: glitter

Texture: sparkly and stretchy. Time: 15 minutes. Lasts: about a week sealed.

YOU'LL NEED

- Everything for recipe #5 (clear slime)
- 1 to 2 tablespoons fine glitter
- For galaxy slime: purple, blue and pink (or black) food coloring

STEPS

1. Glitter slime: make the clear slime recipe, but stir the glitter into the glue before you add the baking soda.
2. Galaxy slime: split the glue and water evenly between three bowls and color each one differently.
3. Add a pinch of glitter, a third of the baking soda and a third of the contact solution to each bowl. Knead each color.
4. Lay the three slimes side by side, twist them together and stretch. Stop before the colors blend into one.

7. Butter Slime

Base: white glue · Bond: contact solution + baking soda · Body: soft air-dry clay

Texture: soft, smooth and spreadable like butter. Time: 20 minutes. Lasts: 4 to 5 days in a zip bag.

YOU'LL NEED

- 1 cup (8 oz) white PVA school glue
- 1 1/2 tablespoons hand lotion
- 1/2 teaspoon baking soda
- 2 tablespoons water
- 2 teaspoons contact lens solution
- 4 oz soft air-dry clay, such as Crayola Model Magic

STEPS

1. Stir the glue, lotion, baking soda and water together.
2. Add 2 teaspoons contact solution and stir until it thickens. It will still be sticky.
3. Press the clay into the slime and start kneading. It's messy at first.
4. Keep kneading until the clay disappears and the slime turns soft and buttery. If it's still sticky, add contact solution a few drops at a time.

Tip: the clay has to be soft and air-dry. Firm modeling clay won't blend. If you have clay left over, try our air dry clay ideas.

8. Cloud Slime

Base: white glue · Bond: contact solution + baking soda · Body: instant snow

Texture: drizzly, snowy and soft. Time: 15 minutes. Lasts: several days sealed.

YOU'LL NEED

- 1/2 cup white PVA school glue
- 1/2 teaspoon baking soda
- 1 tablespoon contact lens solution
- 2 drops food coloring
- 1 teaspoon instant snow powder + 1/4 cup water

STEPS

1. Stir the glue, baking soda and food coloring together.
2. Add the contact solution and stir until thick and goopy. Set it aside.
3. In a second bowl, stir the instant snow powder into 1/4 cup water. It puffs up into fake snow.
4. Sprinkle a few spoonfuls of snow over the slime, fold it in and knead. Keep adding snow until it feels like a cloud.

Tip: pull cloud slime apart slowly over a bowl. It drizzles down like snow, which is what makes it so satisfying.

9. Crunchy Slime

Base: clear glue · Bond: contact solution + baking soda · Body: foam beads

Texture: bumpy and crunchy when you squeeze it. Time: 10 minutes. Lasts: about a week sealed.

YOU'LL NEED

- Everything for recipe #5 (clear slime) or recipe #1
- About 1/2 cup foam beads

STEPS

1. Make the clear slime or basic slime recipe.
2. Before the slime cures, sprinkle the foam beads over it.
3. Fold and knead until the beads are spread all through the slime.
4. Squeeze and poke it to hear the crunch. Add more beads for more crunch.

Tip: clear glue shows off the beads best. Keep crunchy slime away from little kids because the beads are a choking risk.

10. No-Glue Slime

Base: cornstarch · Bond: none · Body: dish soap

Texture: soft and doughy. Time: 5 minutes. Lasts: the same day.

YOU'LL NEED

- 1/2 cup cornstarch
- 1/3 cup liquid dish soap
- A few drops of food coloring (optional)

STEPS

1. Put the cornstarch in a bowl and pour in the dish soap.
2. Stir until it starts to clump together.
3. Add the food coloring and knead by hand for about 5 minutes.
4. Too sticky? Add a pinch more cornstarch. Crumbly? Add 2 to 3 drops of dish soap.

Tip: this is the easiest way to make slime without glue or activator. It dries out quickly, so make it, play with it and toss it the same day.

11. Oobleck

Base: cornstarch · Bond: none · Body: water

Texture: runny when you go slow, solid when you squeeze. Time: 5 minutes. Lasts: the same day.

YOU'LL NEED

- 1 cup cornstarch
- 1/2 cup water
- A few drops of food coloring (optional)

STEPS

1. Pour the cornstarch into a bowl.
2. Slowly stir in the water. Use a 2-to-1 ratio of cornstarch to water.
3. Mix with your hands until it feels like a thick liquid.
4. Squeeze a handful and it turns solid. Open your hand and it melts through your fingers.

Tip: oobleck is a non-Newtonian fluid, so it acts like a solid when you hit it and a liquid when you don't. Too runny? Add more cornstarch. Scrape it into the trash, never down the sink, because it can clog the drain.

12. Edible Marshmallow Slime

Base: marshmallows · Bond: none · Body: cornstarch

Texture: chewy and stretchy. Time: 10 minutes. Lasts: the same day.

YOU'LL NEED

- 6 jumbo marshmallows
- 1 tablespoon cooking oil
- 1/2 to 1 tablespoon cornstarch

STEPS

1. Put the marshmallows and oil in a microwave-safe bowl.
2. Microwave on high for about 30 seconds, until they puff up. An adult should do this step.
3. Stir in 1/2 tablespoon cornstarch.
4. Let it cool until it's comfortable to touch, then knead and stretch. Add the rest of the cornstarch for firmer slime.

Tip: this is the only slime recipe here that's safe if a little one takes a lick. It's taste-safe, not a snack, and it hardens as it cools.

Fix-It Chart & Safety

Slime Fix-It Chart

Find your slime problem, then try the fix

PROBLEM	WHY	FIX
 Too sticky	Too little Bond	 Knead 2 more minutes, then add activator 1/2 tsp at a time
 Hard or rubbery	Too much Bond	 Knead in a few drops of warm water or 1 tsp lotion
 Runny, won't form	No borate in the Bond	 Check the contact solution label and add baking soda
 Dried out	Left uncovered	 Knead in warm water, a few drops at a time
 Fluffy slime went flat	Shaving cream popped	 Normal! It still stretches
 Clear slime is cloudy	Air bubbles	 Seal it and let it rest 2 to 3 days
 No-glue slime crumbles	Too much cornstarch	 Knead in 2 to 3 drops of dish soap

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Slime safety

- An adult handles borax powder. Only use it dissolved in water.
- Wash hands before and after playing. Stop if skin gets red or itchy.
- Kids who still put things in their mouth: make taste-safe marshmallow slime.
- Keep slime away from food and take breaks from borax slime.
- Worried someone swallowed slime or borax? US Poison Help: 1-800-222-1222 (free, 24/7).