

GUIDE TO TROUBLE FREE ELEGANT GLASS APPLICATION

LIFTING

The reason Elegant Glass will lift is 50% preparation and 50% application. The first important information you need to trouble shoot is to know where the lifting is.

1. Lifting at cuticle and side walls

A. This problem usually stems from product being applied too close to the cuticle area and sidewalls. Nail technicians are use to applying acrylic down to the cuticle area to hide the fill ridge bump, line. However, if you apply product too close to the cuticle area it will lift, because of the oil in the skin. Elegant Glass should be applied no closer than 1/8" from the cuticle area and 1/16" from the sidewalls. It should be applied very thin. You should not be able to see where the Elegant Glass nails ends and the natural nail begins. All nail products should be applied away from the cuticle and they should be very thin around the cuticle area and side walls. This would cure lifting in most nail products.

B. Applying too much product can cause lifting also. It is better to apply 2-3 thin coats of Resin Gel, than one thick coat. Another time in the procedure when too much product is applied, is during the basing process (pre-basing the natural nail). If you apply too much Resin Gel during the basing procedure, you can already start a lifting problem. You will have too much product on the nail. Always use more thin coats than less thick coats.

C. Not preparing the natural nail properly can also cause this same type of lifting. Use the pumice stone to completely erase the pterygium from the back of the nail and on the sides of the nails. This membrane contains of oil and anything applied near it or on it, will lift. Orangewood sticks and plastic cuticle pushers do not remove the pterygium, they only push back the cuticle exposing the membrane.

D. Not using the Thymol Septic or using too much, can also cause lifting. Do not interchange antiseptic solutions!! Thymol Septic does not contain water and contains the correct amount of Thymol to not cause lifting.

2. Nails pop off clean shortly after application.

If the nails pop off clean where the natural nail looks like they never had any product on them, this can be caused by some kind of residue left on the nails. There are certain antiseptics including some commercial alcohol's that can leave a residue on the natural nail.. Some antiseptic soaps contain lotion and if the nails are not completely rinsed with warm water, traces of lotion can stay on the nails. Another reason a nail might "pop off" completely without any trace of left over product on the nail is if the tip that was applied is too small. All tips are made with a "memory" and when too small of a tip is applied to a nail, the tip will revert to it's original shape after about 2 or 3 days. This can cause a few different things to happen. The nail "pops" off clean as if no product was ever on the nail, you get an air bubble in the center of the nail, (and we usually perceive this as lift). When the nail grows out, there are notches on both sides where the tip is smaller than the natural nail.

To prevent all of these from happening, choose a larger tip. To determine if the tip is too small you simply lay the tip on the natural nail. If you need to apply pressure downward to get the tip to fit from side to side, it's too small. When you are in between a tip that's too large or one that's too small, always use the larger tip and customize it's size with the red/peach file. (Adhering the tip with Resin Gel also assures better adhesion of tip to natural nail). For clients with flat nail beds, you need to cut a "V" cut in the well area with straight edge toenail clippers.

3. Too oily of a nail bed can cause lifting.

Some clients, who have an excess oily nail bed, have a lifting problem with any product they use. Our Affix Adhesion Enhancer solution can cure this problem, as long as the technician remembers not to apply Elegant Glass too close to the cuticle, because their cuticles are oily also.

4. Lifts from the free edge over natural nails.

This problem occurs when the technician or clients file the free edge of the nail after the final coat of product has been applied. To prevent this problem, apply Elegant Glass as you normally would. After you apply the Thin Glue over the mesh and you have applied the first coat of Resin Gel, use the Roller Buff to lightly remove any rough edges and bevel the resin at the free edge. Then apply the second or third coats of Resin, always making sure you swipe the free edge with the brush and you can even go under the nail to create a total seal around the free edges. Use only the pink cube to finish the nail. Instruct the client that she should not use a file on her free edges or she will break the seal you have created. Retail the Forget Me Not Collection to her to maintain her nails along with a Miracle Mate Buffer, and 1/4 oz Control Brush on Glue.

Teach your client how to swipe the free edge of her nails with the control-brush on glue 2 or 3 times in the between visits to you This will keep the edges sealed. Let her know that she can use the control even if her nails are polished because control will not turn her nails white. You also want her to re-seal her nail after any filing on free edges she may have done.

**You may also want to use Natural Finish by Elegant Glass for your natural nail clients.
(refer to Natural Finish portion of this guide)**

YELLOWING

There are only a few reasons Elegant Glass would yellow:

1. With certain but not all tanning accelerators.

Tanning accelerators have been known to yellow most artificial nails. Avoid contact with tops of nails and wash hands as soon as possible. Elegant Glass does not yellow in tanning beds with regular tanning oil.

2. Too strong of polish remover

If you have removed polish with a strong polish remover and did not file or buff the nail, then applied a dark polish. This can cause the surface of the Elegant Glass nail to become porous, which will discolor the surface of the nail. When removing polish use a non-acetone remover and before polishing, buff nail using the Pink Crystal Cube and Elegant Glass Shiner.

3. Top coat has yellowed

Sometimes certain topcoats yellow, giving the appearance that the product has yellowed. Remove polish and use Perfect Finish Quick Dry Sealer, to inhibit yellowing.

Always check to see if yellowing can be removed with Miracle Dissolve and the Roller Buff. This process normally solves the problem by removing any topical yellowing caused by one of the above.

BURNING

Very seldom do we ever hear of anyone getting a burning sensation. These would be possible causes.

1. Too much Resin Gel

Too much Resin Gel can cause a burning sensation on some people, especially those who have thin or damaged nails. Reduce the thickness of the lines of Resin and apply a third very thin coat for strength, if necessary.

2. The control brush-on thin glue

The Control thin glue can give a warm sensation to some thin damaged nails, because the thin viscosity of the glue. It should pass in a few seconds. Tell your client this will not happen once the damaged nail has grown out.

3. Burning sensation in eyes from the Control brush-on thin glue.

The viscosity of the thin glue can irritate some people's eyes. Technicians should check their postures if they are getting burning in their eyes, they can sometimes get too close to their work. Clients should be warned that they should keep their hands away from their eyes while the technician is applying the glue.

MESH STILL SHOWS AFTER THIN GLUE IS APPLIED.

There are many reasons that the mesh could still show after the glue has been applied. All possibilities need to be looked at.

1. Applying the Fiberglass.

Too much handling of the mesh with your fingers can put dust and oils on the mesh. Glue can not penetrate dust, so the mesh still shows because of the dust on the self-adhesive side of the mesh. Avoid contact with the mesh as much as possible. Use the Polypro Bonding Sheet to press the mesh down on the nail. If your hands are extra oily or moist, you can use tweezers to hold the mesh while you cut it off the box. Also a helpful hint is to put the mesh on the tip of your Gemini II Edge shears after you cut it and then use your shear like a stick to place the mesh on the nail.

2. Leaving dust on the nail

Because glue can not penetrate dust, you must remove all dust from the tip before mesh is applied. Use the Elegant Glass "Just a Brush" to do this, so that you will not put oils back on the nail.

If a client has placed visible oils, as in make-up from leaning on one the hand while you work on the other, you will want to spray some Thymol Septic onto a Lint Free Brush Wipe and wipe off the nails prior to placing your mesh on. This removes any make-up or oily residue that may have transferred to the nail.

3. Not using enough Control brush-on glue

The Control is very thin and because of the unique bottle design that is spill proof, you can sometimes not get enough glue on the mesh the first time to penetrate all of the fibers, especially if you are using double coat of mesh. Apply a second coat of Control to the spots where it is needed. If a long period of time passes before you apply the Resin Gel over the thin glue, the mesh could turn back to the original white color. This is not a problem just reapply the Control and follow with the Resin Gel immediately. Always apply the Resin Gel while the Control is still wet. This allows for transparency of your mesh.

4. Nail bed is very red.

Some clients have a very red nail bed, and even if you do everything just right, the mesh will still show. These clients will have to understand this problem and we have found that in some people the mesh will show immediately but after the body has warmed the product to their temperature, the mesh will begin to disappear. This can sometimes take up to a week. If this is a problem for the client, the silk will always disappear better than the fiberglass, however it is not quite as strong. You will have to ask the client which is a stronger priority.

5. When should you use the Pink Resin Gel?

The pink color is great when filing over acrylics, because if the acrylic has yellowed, the pink helps to hide the demarcation lines. Over natural nails the pink gives a softer look. Do not feel that on a normal application of Elegant Glass you need to apply pink on the nail bed and clear on the tip to give a French manicure look. Most of the time the client has a natural French manicure look and you can always use Perfect Finish for a French manicure. Pink is also good to "pre-base" the natural nail with prior to adhering your tips. Always remember that the pink is only for color so you only need a small amount.

ACTIVATOR GETS CLOUDY AND BRUSHES GET HARD

There are several reasons why this can happen, all which are easily corrected.

1. Not using the Brush Wipes or using the wrong type of wipe

There is no substitute for our Lint Free Brush Wipes. They must be used after each single use of the Brush-on Activator. You must wipe your brush thoroughly in a circular motion on the wipes and place it back into your Activator bottle immediately after. You should do this procedure twice to insure a completely clean brush. You can not use just any white wipe. Many wipes are lint free but not absorbent or absorbent but not lint free. Some items that cause trouble are the Kimberly Hands Down towels, they have small white wipes that can be confused for our Brush Wipes but do not absorb the way ours do. Some technicians use Terry towels but they are full of lint and can ruin your Activator very quickly. The Lint-Free Wipes will remove all traces of Resin and Activator from your brush.

2. Leaving your brush out of the Activator too long.

You must place the brush back into the Activator within 15 seconds. Your Activator will not soften your brush if it has gotten hard.

3. Not switching brushes between Miracle Dissolve and Activator or switching too often.

You must switch your brushes after over 10 applications of the Resin Gel. This means after you base all ten nails you switch, after the first coat of Resin Gel on all ten nails, you switch again and after the second coat you switch again. However, technicians sometimes switch too often. The activator brush has not been in the Miracle Dissolve long enough for it to completely clean the brush and if you switch before it is clean, it's like not using the Miracle Dissolve at all. On the other hand, technicians forget to switch at all and leave the Activator brush in the Activator too long and deposit too much Resin Gel into the Activator. Also, using too much Resin Gel can cause the brush to harden because the brush wipe can get all of the Resin out.

4. Not keeping your Activator bottle full.

You must keep your Activator bottle full at all times, this keeps the Activator diluted. If your Activator becomes thick, pour out what will come into a paper towel, and then put a 1/2" of Miracle Dissolve into the bottle. Shake until it is clean. Pour out all of the Miracle Dissolve, and let dry. Fill the bottle with the used Activator and fill to the top with new Activator. If this is too time consuming, we sell empty Activator and Miracle Dissolve bottles for \$1.00 and you can still use the same procedure. We also sell extra brushes for \$.40.

5. Leaving your bottle open overnight.

If you leave your bottle uncapped overnight can evaporate, leaving the thick gel mixture. There is no easy way to fix this except to buy a new bottle.

6. Using too much Resin Gel

If the above procedures are being followed, and your Activator is still getting thick, then cut back on the amount of Resin Gel you are using. A 1oz bottle of Resin Gel should easily complete 50 full sets of nails. This normally stops any thickening of your Activator.