Picking the Right Adhesive for the Right Material.

by Rita Sharma

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Selecting the right adhesive for the right job can be quite a task and youâ€™ll first need to know the requirement of the material to use it on. Adhesives work differently on different materials and that is why youâ€™ll need to establish the properties of every article that you want to bind or seal. Quality depends on the adhesive manufacturer in most cases, but success of job done depends on choice of the adhesive. The wrong choice will certainly give false results and you may either need to redo or do away with whatever you are binding because sometimes you may be working with an instant adhesive which once removed damages the item.

Adhesives come in various forms and it is up to the user to determine which one of them suits them best according to how they intend to use them. Here is a run down of the most common ones in the market today.

â€¢ Epoxy adhesives can be used on quite a number of materials and in most cases will be used in engineering due to its strength of bonding. It is highly water resistant and extremely durable so it is more ideal for the toughest climatic conditions.

â€¢ Cyanoacrylate adhesives also vary in forms. Ideally they are manufactured for the hard job of bonding metal, silicone, rubber and many other materials. Simply, they are the ultimate adhesives for tough-to-bond substances. Super glue is a type of these adhesives which range from high temperature resistant to massive impact.

â€¢ Ultra Violet Light Curable adhesives can be used for binding glass, metal, and plastics. They react fast to exposure of UV light set to a specific intensity to form a very strong bond. This type is not an instant adhesive as it has to be manipulated to bind.

â€¢ Anaerobic adhesives are those which are in form of a liquid but instantly turn solid upon bonding. They make very strong bonds especially for metals and they are also high temperature resistant. Unlike PVC glue which takes time to bond after two pieces are joined together, anaerobic will make an instant impact and dry on the spot.

When making the choice of adhesive to buy from the shop, you think in different lines. Youâ€™ll have to know the materials you are binding together so you may get the right adhesive. The strength needed for the bond should also be considered, and this depends on how active the items being bonded will be. In some cases the adhesive manufacturer will even advise you to reinforce bonds for active materials.

Materials like wood do not require anything beyond PVC glue because tough adhesives may cause a huge damage in the event that the wood or furniture is to be dismantled. Epoxy adhesives are so strong that for them to be removed, the wood has to be sacrificed. Light materials which need semi-permanent binding can do well with super glue. It is quite strong and rigid but it is not entirely permanent.

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